



CORRESPONDING LEVEL WEB #s

Defenders: 041106



Detectives: 041106



Developers: 041106



GOD'S WORK – PAST AND PRESENT



MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible; Teacher Preparation Guide
(optional supplements: K4T songbook and PowerPoint files of lyrics)



SUGGESTED ORIGINAL KIDS 4 TRUTH SONG

“His Great Master Plan”

SUGGESTED HYMNS

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past!”; “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”

OTHER SONG SUGGESTIONS

Older kids: “Draw Me Nearer,” “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Younger kids: “He Lives!”; “Amazing Grace”



THE BASICS

PRIMARY TRUTH

God’s plan in the world today is still that His chosen people would bring glory to His name.

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

1 Peter 2:9

WHAT THIS DOCTRINE REVEALS ABOUT GOD

God continues to call out a group of people so that He can glorify Himself through them in the world. It does not matter to Him that those people are of themselves undeserving people. God is deserving enough. He deserves all the credit and honor and glory that are due to Him. His people were not chosen because they are special. They are special because He has chosen them! This plan of God’s to magnify His name through His chosen people is the biggest reason why He continues to sustain and uphold all things. He keeps Creation going partly because He is not finished working out His purposes for Creation or His people yet.

KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES – By God’s grace...

- The child will understand better what it is that God is at work accomplishing in the world today.

ATTITUDE OBJECTIVES – By God’s grace...

- The saved child will be glad and grateful to be one of God’s people.
- The unsaved child will desire to become one of God’s people.



PRAYER



TEACHING PHASE – INTRO

(about 5 minutes)

OPENER*

Q. What has God been doing since the New Testament until now?

A. He has been showing His glory through those who have put their faith in Him (Christians). A group of Christians who gather together for local meetings is called a “church.” All the Christians, past and present, are part of a group known as Christ’s “Church,” or the “Bride of Christ.”



BIBLE DRILL (#1) – How does the Bible describe Christians?

• 1 Peter 2:9a

COMMENTARY

God has always chosen people to belong to Him in a special way and to bring Him glory. His desire to glorify His great and good character through the lives of a called-out group of people has never changed! And it is still how He works today.

In the last lesson, we learned that during Old Testament times, God chose the nation of Israel as His own people. He “identified” Himself with them, told them He would be their God and told them they would be His people. He made promises to them and always kept them. But the Israelites did not always treat God with trust and obedience, and they certainly did not always honor Him with their choices.

In the history of the Jewish (Israelite) nation, God has glorified Himself as a faithful, loving God. He Himself has never changed! But after Jesus Christ came, God chose to glorify Himself through more and more people. Anyone who comes to Him wanting His salvation can be saved (“whosoever will may come”), and anyone who repents and believes on Jesus Christ as Savior becomes a “child of God.”

Every creature God ever made belongs to Him because He created them. But throughout history, God has always chosen a certain group of people to belong to Him in a special way. In the Old Testament, it was the Israelites (the Jews). After the New Testament, God works in that special way for *all* those whom He chose to draw to repentance and faith – their salvation came by grace through faith, not because of themselves but because God gave it. No matter what a person’s nationality or skin color or family situation or wealth or anything, if that person is a repenting believer, we can be sure that person was chosen by God to bring Him glory.

*NOTE: In the intro, we want to recap the primary truth and set the stage to use the primary truth to point the learners back to God.



INSTRUCTION & REINFORCEMENT

(about 10-20 minutes)



BIBLE DRILL (#2) – Whose *seed* (offspring, descendants, children) does the Bible teach Christians are?

• Galatians 3:29

Although “physical” Israel is God’s chosen people, God also says that all believers are Abraham’s *seed* (offspring, descendants, children). There is a sense in which every believer is part of “spiritual Israel.”



COMMENTARY / DISCUSSION

Right now, God is actively working in the world to *establish* (set up, make firm) His rule in the hearts and lives of believers. He is saving people and calling out a people for His name. This is God’s plan in the world today – and He will not stop until He has *accomplished* (finished, fulfilled) His will completely.

How can knowing about what God is doing right now in the world affect the goals you might have for your own life? Does it affect whether you really view your life as “your” life? Do you think that the way you are living lines up with God’s plans? Why, or why not? Are you here to glorify and enjoy Him forever? Is that what you are doing?



BIBLE DRILL – What do the following verses have in common?

- **Philippians 1:11**
- **Ephesians 1:14**
- **Ephesians 1:6**
- **Acts 15:14**
- **Ephesians 3:5-6**



DISCUSSION

Do you (or does anyone) *deserve* to be a part of God’s chosen people? Is it a right? Why, or why not?



(Now might be a good time to draw from the curriculum a few Q&A on the topics of Israel’s failure to inherit God’s promises, what the Bible says about believers’ identity, and whether or not God observes superiority distinctions among ethnic groups.)



(Here would be a great place to insert what you learned from your Teacher Truth Study.)



GETTING BACK TO GOD*

{Recap **WHAT THIS DOCTRINE REVEALS ABOUT GOD:** God continues to call out a group of people so that He can glorify Himself through them in the world. It does not matter to Him that those people are of themselves undeserving people. God is deserving enough. He deserves all the credit and honor and glory that are due to Him. His people were not chosen because they are special. They are special because He has chosen them! This plan of God’s to magnify His name through His chosen people is the biggest reason why He continues to sustain and uphold all things. He keeps Creation going partly because He is not finished working out His purposes for Creation or His people yet.}

God is calling people from all nations and all people groups. He is choosing people who speak all different kinds of languages, who grew up in all kinds of family situations, people who are good-looking and talented AND people who are *ugly* and totally *untalented*. After all, He made them all, with all their unique differences. And their being chosen is not about them, anyway. It’s about HIM.

The people God wants to use for His glory are not special because of themselves. They are special because of the work He is doing in their hearts to change them and to make their lives into something that will honor and magnify His greatness and His goodness. That’s why we say that God is working to call out a people for His name. His reputation is at stake! If you are saved, you can never “pay back” God for His gift of salvation. But you *can* live in a way that honors your Savior – and if you are saved and still alive on this Earth, then that’s what you should be doing with the life God has given you: Glorifying Him! Are you one of God’s people in the world today? If so, are you acting like it?

*NOTE: Teachers, please remember that this section should include the fruit of your Teacher Truth Study and one or two personal illustrations or anecdotes from the “Personalize It!” activity in the Teacher Preparation Phase.



APPLICATION & ASSESSMENT

“INTERNALIZE IT!” from Teacher Preparation Phase
(about 5-10 minutes)

You might begin this section with:

“Boys and girls, as I’ve been preparing for this TruthTime Lesson, here’s what God has been showing me....”

You might continue by saying:

“Because of what God is teaching me, here’s what is going to be different in my life during this next week....”

You might conclude with something like this:

“Finally, here’s what God has taught me about Himself through these truths....”



DISCUSSION TIME QUESTIONS

- Today, who are God’s chosen people?
- If you are, in fact, a Christian, how does it make you feel to be one of those whom God has specially chosen?



APPENDICES OR “IF TIME”

(optional)

NONE SUGGESTED AT THIS TIME