

Bible Story Text—Luke 15:1-7; John 6; 9:1-7; 10:1-18

Lesson Aims

1. To inform students of some of the names Jesus called Himself, and to help them understand what these names reveal about Jesus.
2. To encourage the children to ponder what Jesus' various names mean for them personally.
3. To teach that Jesus is the only way to God and Heaven.

Memory Verse

I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12.

Inspiration for the Teacher

He is a path, if any be misled;
 He is a robe, if any naked be;
 If any chance to hunger, he is bread;
 If any be a bondman, he is free;
 If any be but weak, how strong is he!
 To dead men life he is, to sick men, health;
 To blind men, sight, and to the needy, wealth;
 A pleasure without loss, a treasure without stealth.

-Giles Fletcher

Related Lesson Scriptures: Psalm 23; Romans 8:1-11; Philippians 2:12-16

Supplies You Will Need

- Pencils, erasers, and colored pencils

Optional Supplies

- Photocopied Optional Worksheet for each student from page 88 if you decide to use it
- A rock, a sponge, and a pitcher of water if you plan to use the Optional Lesson Introduction
- A bouncy ball if you use the memory drill suggestion on page 44
- Bread rolls and butter, enough for your class to share with another class, if you choose to do the snack suggested on page 49.
- Items needed for any of the extra projects you have chosen to do from Appendix E

Praise and Worship God

Pray with the students. Thank God for His gift of eternal life. Ask God's blessing on the class.

Optional Lesson Introduction

- Pour a little water over a rock and then over a sponge. Ask the class what is different about how the rock behaves toward the water and how the sponge behaves toward the water. Explain that in this demonstration, the water is the words of Jesus, and the rock and sponge are the hearts of people. Many Jews of Jesus' time didn't want to accept His teaching about being their Saviour—they just wanted to see His miracles. Jesus spent much of His time telling who He was, and that He wanted to save them from their sins. Today's lesson gives examples of some of the different ways that Jesus explained who He was.

The Bible Story

Lesson Background for the Teacher

Jewish language, culture, and mannerisms build on the use of word and story pictures. These mental images and understanding lie at the heart of Jewish culture. Jesus used these methods when He taught. Expressions such as “I am the shepherd . . . I am the living water . . . I am the way” stirred up Jesus’ listeners to consider the verity of His position, His ministry, and His Messiahship. Jesus’ listeners understood the meanings behind the word plays.

Jewish Passover celebration in Jesus’ time included this symbolic ceremony: A band of priests proceeded to the pool of Siloam, collected a pot of water from the pool, and then returned to the Temple. There they poured out the water as a picture of Messiah who would come to pour out His life upon the

nation of Israel and quench Jewish thirst forever. When Jesus attended the Passover ceremony, He stood up among the crowd to declare, “If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” To the Jewish “picture mind” He was teaching “I am the Messiah.”

Class Discussion

-  Why did Jesus compare Himself to these different things?
-  How are you and I like sheep?
-  How is Jesus like a door into the kingdom of heaven?
-  How would you describe Jesus to someone who doesn’t know about Him?

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— Luke 15:1-7; John 6; 9:1-7; 10:1-18 —

Jesus Teaches Who He Is

Jesus was the Son of God, and He had many important things He wanted to tell people. He told them about God His Father, and about the kingdom of heaven. He also taught the people about Himself. He gave Himself different names to describe who He was and what He could do.

Jesus told a story about a shepherd who had one hundred sheep. One evening the shepherd realized that one of his sheep was missing. Although he still had ninety-nine sheep, the shepherd did not want to lose even one.

Leaving his flock, the shepherd went looking for the sheep that was lost. He wanted to find it before some hungry animal did.

In the story, the shepherd found the sheep and brought it back to safety. He called his neighbors and told them, “Celebrate with me, for I’ve found my lost sheep.”

Jesus told the people that He was the Good Shepherd. Like the shepherd who cares for his sheep, Jesus cares for us. Like the shepherd who went looking for his lost sheep, Jesus doesn’t want us to be lost in sin or lonely without Him. Jesus said that as our Good Shepherd, He would give His life to help us.

In those days, a shepherd kept his sheep in a sheepfold during the night. The sheepfold had walls that kept the sheep safe from hungry

animals like wolves. “I am the Door of the sheepfold,” Jesus told the people.

Jesus is like a door because no one can enter the safety of the sheepfold unless they know Jesus. No one can be in the kingdom of heaven unless they believe in Jesus.

One time Jesus took five loaves of bread and two fish and made them into a meal that fed a crowd of over 5,000 people. After that miracle, the people wanted to make Jesus into a king. Jesus didn’t let them; He slipped off to be alone.

The next day, crowds of people searched for Jesus. When they found Him, Jesus told them, “You’re looking for Me only because you got a good meal yesterday.” He knew that most of them were not serious about learning from Him.

Jesus kept talking. He told the people, “I came down from Heaven to give life to the world. I am the Bread of Life. He that comes to Me will never get hungry. Everyone who believes in Me will live forever.”

Many of the people listening didn’t understand Jesus. At first they thought Jesus meant He would give them a special kind of bread that would enable them to live forever. But Jesus didn’t mean that.

All of us need food to live, and Jesus was saying that He is like bread because He brings life. Just like food gives us energy, Jesus gives us



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Workbook Activities

Learn the Memory Verse

Work with the students as they complete this exercise. Discuss each phrase of the verse. At the end of the discussion, the students should write the suggested translation on the lines for a full paraphrase of the verse.

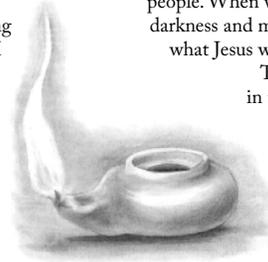
-  Is this world a light place or a dark place? Why?
-  What happens when you walk in the dark?

Lesson 6

strength to do what is right. And without Jesus, we would not be able to have the life that lasts forever. We would not be able to live forever in Heaven.

Later, Jesus met a man who had been blind from the day he was born. This man had lived in darkness all his life. Jesus brought light to the man by healing his eyes. Jesus told His disciples, "I am the Light of the world."

Jesus taught that wrong and evil are like darkness. A person who does things he knows is wrong is like a person walking in darkness. Walking in the dark



makes it easy to become lost and afraid, because there is no light to see by.

When we obey Jesus, He brings light to our hearts. Like light chases away the dark, the sin in our hearts is taken away. Instead of doing wrong things, we now love to do good for other people. When we do good things, there is less darkness and more light in the world. That is what Jesus wants.

There are many names for Jesus in the Bible. Jesus told us these names to help us understand Him better. As we understand more about Him, we can better follow Him.

Memory Verse

I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12

Draw a line from each phrase to the box that best translates that phrase. Then use the new words from the boxes to write the meaning of the verse on the lines below.

I am the light	•	→	If a person obeys Me,	
of the world:	•	→	I am the one who brings understanding	but shall have
he that followeth me	•	→	his life will not be sinful anymore.	→
shall not walk in darkness,	•	→	to people's hearts.	the light of life.
				→
				Instead, he will have
				My power to do right.

I am the one who brings understanding to people's hearts.
If a person obeys Me, his life will not be sinful anymore.
Instead, he will have My power to do right.

Suggestion for drilling the verse:

Recite the verse aloud together several times. Then have the students form a circle with you. Say the first word of the verse and bounce a ball to the next person in the circle. That student catches the ball, says the next word of the verse, and bounces the ball to the next person, and so on around the circle until the verse is finished. Play as many times as necessary to keep the words (and the ball) moving smoothly from one to the next, and the students have memorized the verse.

Rhyming Review of Jesus

The rhyming couplets should be read aloud for full enjoyment. Let students take turns reading the verses and supplying the rhyming answers.

 Which of these names is the hardest for you to understand?

Lesson 6

Rhyming Review of Jesus

Fill in the blanks with words that complete the rhymes about Jesus.

1. Though with the people Jesus trod,
He surely is the Son of God.



2. Good shepherds go to any cost
To save each single lamb that's lost.

3. So Jesus will do all He can
To rescue every sinful man.

4. And He can keep us rescued, for,
He's both the shepherd and the door.



5. More than five thousand Jesus fed
With just a bit of fish and bread.



6. For fish and bread and good teaching,
The people tried to crown Him King.

7. This hungry world is full of strife,
But Jesus is the bread of life.

8. "Light of the world" and "Lord of Right,"
Jesus gave the blind man sight.



9. Since Jesus is both Bread and Light,
He gives us power to do what's right.



10. Then, entering the Shepherd's Door,
We'll live with Him for evermore.

Extra Activity 1

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Word Pictures of Jesus

This exercise requires the students to look up verses from Revelation in the King James Version of the Bible. Give assistance as needed.

Allow the students to help each other match the references with the verses, then the verses with the illustrations.

Lesson 6, Extra Activity 1

Word Pictures of Jesus

The Bible has many names for Jesus, including the names He gave Himself.

Draw lines to match the Bible references to the word pictures of Jesus. Then draw lines from the sentences in the center column to the pictures which illustrate the names of Jesus.

John 1:29	Jesus said . . . I am the bread of life : he that cometh to me shall never hunger.	
John 6:35	Then spake Jesus . . . I am the light of the world : he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.	
John 8:12	John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God , which taketh away the sin of the world.	
John 10:7	[Jesus said], I am the true vine , and my Father is the husbandman.	
John 10:11	[Jesus said], I am the good shepherd : the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.	
John 11:25	Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep .	
John 15:1	Jesus said unto [Martha], I am the resurrection, and the life : he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.	
Revelation 5:5	[Jesus said], I am . . . the bright and morning star .	
Revelation 22:16	Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah . . . hath prevailed to open the book.	

Extra Activity 2

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Jesus Was a Real Person

Read the introductory paragraph with the students and remind them that Jesus was fully human as we are, at the same time that He was fully God.

This exercise will help the students think about Jesus—not as a mythical supernatural figure, but Someone who experienced the same senses and emotions as we do.

Do the exercise together as a class and allow each student to give input as he wishes.

You may wish to use the exercise for discussion only if you don't have enough time for students to write in all the answers.

Lesson 6, Extra Activity 2

Jesus Was a Real Person

Sometimes it is easy for us to forget that like us, Jesus was a real person. Yes, He was the Son of God, but He also experienced many of the same things that you and I feel.

Think about these facts. What do they tell you about Jesus as a person? An example is given. Examples are given.

1. Jesus grew up as the son of a carpenter.
Jesus learned to build things.
2. His disciples were with Him nearly all the time.
Jesus had some very close friends.
3. He once scolded His disciples for trying to keep some children away from Him.
Jesus enjoyed being with children.
4. Rich people invited Him to meals, but He also ate with people that nobody else liked.
Jesus had all kinds of friends. He was friendly to everyone.
5. People listened for hours as Jesus taught.
Jesus was an interesting teacher.
6. Jesus cried as He stood where His friend Lazarus was buried.
Jesus felt sadness and pain and other emotions.
7. One time He and His disciples slipped away from the big crowds to be alone and rest.
Jesus got very tired sometimes.
8. Jesus kept on teaching, even when He knew the religious leaders would try to kill Him.
Jesus was brave.
9. Right before He died, He asked His disciple John to take care of His mother.
Jesus loved His mother.

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Additional Activities and Ideas for Lesson 6

- **Read the story** that begins on page 111 of this manual.
- **Do the Optional Worksheet for Lesson 6**, which you have photocopied from page 88. Find the instructions and answers for the Optional Worksheet on page 98.
- **Learn the Books of the New Testament.** See Appendix D, page 125, for suggestions and ideas.
- **Sing** “Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” from *Zion’s Praises: #533* and “I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life” from *Praises We Sing: #113*.
- **Snack on bread.** Butter some bread rolls and share them with another class. Be sure you explain to all the children present that Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life. He gives us strength that lasts much longer than that given by physical bread.
- **Extra Project.** See suggestions for more projects in Appendix E, pages 127, 128.