

HOW TO USE THE BRING THEM IN SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

As a Sunday School teacher you have one of the most important jobs a Christian could have. You are teaching the Word of God, and that's serious business!

Every Sunday morning you should be in your class about thirty minutes early to get things ready and to meet any students who come early before class begins. Not only should you be early, you should be prayed up, prepared and ready to go!

Every Sunday School teacher should seek the blessing of God upon his life and work. Do not be a "minimum teacher," doing just enough to get by. Be creative and work hard to make Sunday morning a special time and your class a special place to be. Serve Christ with certain goals and guidelines in mind. Make up your mind to be the best Sunday School teacher you can.

The lessons are designed to be used with large groups but are just as easily used with five or ten students. The lessons can also be used with any age group, simply by teaching the lesson on the children's age level.

At the beginning of each class you will want to take time for such things as checking attendance, taking the offering, greeting visitors, singing "Happy Birthday" and etc. These are important but you want to get them out of the way so your lesson can be taught uninterrupted.

Every week you will have a LIFE'S MESSAGE at the beginning of your lesson. This is the main idea for the Sunday. Even though you do not read the LIFE'S MESSAGE, to your class, every part of the lesson should be aimed at teaching and emphasizing it.

After the LIFE'S MESSAGE, the lesson has six parts. These are:

- I. Bible Story
- II. Bible Verse
- III. Memory Word
- IV. Object Lessons
- V. Activities
- VI. Review

These may come in any order you choose. You will probably find that variety from week to week makes your class better.

I. BIBLE STORY — Every week you will have a Bible Story. Begin your preparation by reading over scriptures from which the story is taken. Then go over the main points given in the lesson until you know the story well enough to tell it from memory. The special notes are to give you insight into parts of the story.

Here are five ways to tell the Bible Story:

- A. Tell it from memory.** Be sure to read the guideline on how to tell a story given at the end of this section.
- B. Use pictures, flannel board, etc.** Children will listen and remember better if they have something to see.
- C. Chalkboard stories.** Simply draw the story on the chalkboard with stick figures. You will be surprised how well you do and how well the children listen. (One of the things you must have in your classroom is a chalkboard, not only for the Bible Story, but for other parts of the lesson as well.)
- D. Act the story out.** You play all the characters in the story and make it come "alive" for the children.

- E. **Let the children act out the story.** This is one of the best ways to teach the Bible Story. Different children are assigned characters from the story and the teacher guides them through what to do as the story unfolds.
- II. **BIBLE VERSE** — The Bible verse each week goes along with the Bible Story and the Life's message. You will want to help the children memorize it. Here are some good ways to teach them the verse:
- A. **Disappearing verse** — Write the verse on the board and let the children say it together. Erase one word and say the verse again. Keep erasing and saying the verse until the verse is completely erased. The verse will have been repeated ten or twelve times and usually learned by the class.
 - B. **Balloons** — This is used the same as the disappearing verse, but you write each word on a balloon instead of the board. You pop a balloon and say the verse.
 - C. **Scramble** — The verse is written on cards (one word per card) and then scramble. Let the children put the cards in order and one card is removed at a time as the children repeat the verse.
 - D. **Chant** — The class is divided into three or four groups. Each group is given part of the verse to “chant” at the proper time. Say the verse over and over again, with each group saying it's part. Before long everyone has heard the entire verse.
- III. **MEMORY WORD** — Each lesson has a memory word and it's definition for the Bible verse. The word will help the class to remember the lesson and emphasize a part of the story.
- IV. **OBJECT LESSON** — There are two object lessons given with each lesson. You use the object (or objects) to point out a truth from the lesson. All the objects used are familiar ones found in most homes. Only the main idea of the lesson is given so you will have the freedom to develop it for your particular group.
- V. **ACTIVITIES** — There are two activities given with each lesson, This is a relaxed fun-time aimed toward teaching a lesson. All of the children should participate.
- VI. **REVIEW** — Every week a list of review questions are given so you can review the main points of the previous lesson. You will want to take a few minutes each week to review for it not only helps the children to review what they have learned, it helps you to see if your teaching is all it should be.

Please understand that you have the freedom to be creative and to rearrange the lesson procedure. Use your own ideas and do what you feel comfortable with.

HINTS ON GOOD STORY TELLING

Whether you are telling the Bible Story or doing the object lesson or even teaching the Bible Verse, the suggestions below will help you to do the best job possible. Read each one carefully and apply them each week as you teach.

1. Never tell the conclusion at the beginning.
2. Memorize your first and last lines so you know right where you will start and right where you will stop.
3. After you have told your story — stop. Don't tell it over and over again.
4. Tell your story with:

Love
Excitement
Movement
Suspense
Expression
Purpose
Clarity

5. Tell your story in it's:

Entirety
Correct Order
Context

6. Emphasize the Life's Message for each Sunday.

7. Tell the story on the children's level — not lower or higher.

8. Tell your story for Jesus and His glory.

9. Pray before you even start to prepare and pray as you tell the story.

10. Remember to tell a good story, it takes the three "P's":

Prayer
Preparation
Practice

Lesson No. 38

SAUL DISOBEYS GOD

LIFE MESSAGE

God wants us to be obedient to Him more than anything else. When we obey God, we please Him.

BIBLE STORY

Saul Disobeys God — I Samuel 13-14:23; 15

Main Points:

- 1) After Saul had been king of Israel for two years, he formed a standing army of 3,000 men.
- 2) Jonathan, Saul's son, took one thousand of the men and defeated a Philistine garrison. All of the people of Israel were happy with the victory.
- 3) However, when the main Philistine army heard about the defeat of their garrison, they were angry, and sent the entire army after Saul and his men. There were 30,000 chariots, 6,000 horsemen, plus the infantry, all waiting at a place called Michmash to battle the Israelites.
- 4) When the men of Israel saw the huge army the Philistines had, they were frightened. Many of them tried to hide in caves, thickets and in pits.
- 5) King Saul was in Gilgal with his men waiting on Samuel, the prophet to come and make a sacrifice to God.*
- 6) However, Samuel did not arrive at the set time to make the sacrifice, and Saul's army began to be even more afraid.
- 7) Saul decided to keep his army together. He would not wait on Samuel, but make the sacrifice himself.
- 8) As Saul finished the sacrifice, Samuel came up to the camp.
- 9) Saul went to meet Samuel, and let Samuel bless him before the battle.
- 10) Samuel asked Saul what he had done.
- 11) Saul explained that the army was afraid and beginning to scatter so he made the sacrifice.
- 12) Samuel rebuked Saul because he had disobeyed. Now Saul would lose his kingdom because of his disobedience.*
- 13) After Samuel renounced Saul's disobedience to God, he left Gilgal. Saul counted his men, and found he only had about 600.
- 14) A few days later, king Saul's son, Jonathan, and his armor-bearer decided to attack a Philistine garrison by themselves.
- 15) Jonathan and his armor-bearer climbed a cliff and at the top they attacked the Philistines with such daring that the entire garrison fled in panic. In their confusion, the Philistines even attacked one another.*
- 16) When Saul learned of Jonathan's attack, and that the Philistines were retreating, he led his men against the Philistines and drove them back into their own country.
- 17) After this victory, Saul attacked the other enemies of Israel, and drove them away. However, the Amalekites continued to raid the Israelites.
- 18) One day Samuel told Saul that the Lord wanted the Amalekites destroyed. Saul was to kill everyone, and everything including the animals
- 19) Saul attacked the Amalekites, and killed everyone except the king, Agag, and some who escaped toward Egypt.
- 20) Saul also told his men to spare the best of the sheep and oxen. These he brought home with him.
- 21) As Saul and his men were returning home, God spoke to Samuel and told him what Saul had done. God was sorry that He had ever allowed Saul to be king.
- 22) At Gilgal, Samuel met Saul. Saul told Samuel that he had obeyed all the commands of God.
- 23) But Samuel asked Saul where all the noise of sheep and cattle was coming from if he had been obedient.
- 24) Saul then told Samuel that he had saved the best sheep and oxen for sacrifices to God.
- 25) Samuel told Saul that to obey was better than sacrifice, that rebellion was as the sin of witchcraft, and that stubbornness was like iniquity and idolatry.
- 26) At first Saul tried to argue, and blamed his people. But finally, he admitted his sin.
- 27) Samuel again announced that Saul would no longer be king.*

- 28) As Samuel turned to go, Saul grabbed at him to try and hold him, and tore Samuel's robe.
- 29) Samuel told Saul that the Lord had torn the kingdom of Israel from him, and had given it to another.
- 30) Saul begged Samuel to worship with him, so Samuel worshipped with Saul.
- 31) Then Samuel called for King Agag.
- 32) Samuel killed the wicked king as Saul should have done.
- 33) Samuel went home, never to visit King Saul again.*

***Special Notes:**

- 5) The sacrifice was very important and could only be made by a priest.
- 12) Because of only one sin, Saul lost his kingdom. We need to understand how much God hates sin in our lives.
- 15) In I Samuel 14:6, we see Jonathan's trust in God. Jonathan was almost a complete opposite of his father Saul.
- 26) God expects obedience to be one of the characteristics of those He puts in authority. Saul was not obedient, therefore, he could not be a leader.
- 33) Because King Saul was out of the will of God due to his self-will, disobedience, and rebellion, he lost the counsel and fellowship of Samuel. Saul wanted Samuel, but because of his disobedience Samuel sadly went away to never see Saul again.

BIBLE VERSE

I Samuel 15:22 — "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice . . ."

MEMORY WORD

Obedience — Being submissive to authority, the act of obeying, yielding to those over us.

OBJECT LESSON #1

The 1,2,3's of Obedience — OBJECTS: Chalk and chalkboard.

Begin the lesson by asking the class in what two ways did Saul disobey God.

Explain that to be really obedient involves three things:

- 1) Doing exactly what you are told
- 2) Doing it immediately
- 3) Doing it happily (with the right heart attitude).

Write each of these on the board, and explain that if you leave out any one, you aren't really being obedient.

Now give the class the following illustration, and let them tell you which is true obedience.

A boy is watching television, and his dad comes into the room and says "take the trash out right now, and put it in the trash barrel behind the garage."

- 1) The boy picks up the trash immediately, very happy to help his dad, and takes it outside and throws the trash over the fence into the neighbor's back yard. Was he obedient?
- 2) The boy gets up immediately, gets the trash, and takes it to the trash can behind the garage, but he grumbles and complains all the time. Was he obedient?
- 3) The boy smiles to his dad, and thirty minutes later gets up and takes the trash to the can behind the garage, happy all the way. Was he obedient?
- 4) The boy gets up immediately, and takes the trash to the trash can behind the garage. He didn't complain, and was happy to help. Was he obedient?

OBJECT LESSON #2

Tied Down — OBJECTS: A shoe with a shoelace. Hold up the shoe and tell the class that his shoe has an important lesson for us about obeying rules. Tell the children that you want them to pretend that they are the shoe, and the lace stands

for the rules we have to obey in our lives.

Now ask the class to name one of the rules we have to obey. When a child give you a rule, tell the class that if you don't obey that rule it is like pulling a part of the shoelace out. As you say that, pull one side of the lace out of the first eye. Now ask for another rule, and when you get it, pull the other side of the lace out. Keep asking for rules and pulling the lace, until the lace is completely out of the shoe.

Now ask the class, what good is the shoe without the lace. It is not much good, because it won't stay on your foot. God planned for us to have rules in our lives for our own good, and for us to obey those rules. We were made to obey rules just like a lace and shoe were made for each other. Without a lace, a shoe is not worth much, and without rules and obedience, we are not worth much.

ACTIVITY #1

Fruit Basket Words — Write each word below on two separate slips of paper sometime before Sunday. If you use all the words you should have 42 slips of paper and 21 words.

On Sunday, give out the words, making sure that only matching words are given out. Every child should have a chair, except one. His seat should be moved out of the playing area, and that child begins the game standing.

The teacher calls out one of the words, and the two children who have the slips of paper with that word on it exchange seats while the other child tries to get into one of their chairs. The object is not to be left standing. Be sure to talk about each word you use. This way you can review as you play. When you have played a few minutes, you might want to make the game more exciting by calling two words at the same time. You may also use the same word over again.

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|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Saul | 11) Priest |
| 2) King | 12) Sacrifice |
| 3) Israel | 13) Gilgal |
| 4) Jonathan | 14) Battle |
| 5) Philistine | 15) Disobedience |
| 6) 30,000 Chariots | 16) 600 Men |
| 7) 3,000 Men | 17) Armor-Bearer |
| 8) 6,000 Horsemen | 18) Amalekites |
| 9) Samuel | 19) Sheep and Cattle |
| 10) Prophet | 20) Agag |
| | 21) Afraid to Fight |

ACTIVITY #2

Who Was? — Before class, write each of the words below on a sheet of construction paper, and tape each of the words up in different spots in the room.

Tell the class that this is a silent test, which means they cannot talk. Explain that you are going to ask them a "who was" question, and they are to walk over and stand beside the person they believe best answers the question. However, they need to listen carefully because some of the questions are tricky.

Take a minute to discuss each question, and remind the children not to just go with the group, but to choose the answer they believe is correct. When you finish, have the children return to their seats, and be sure to acknowledge the children who got all of the answers right.

WORDS:

God, Saul, Samuel, Jonathan, Israelite Army

QUESTIONS:

- 1) Who was the prophet and priest? Samuel
- 2) Who was afraid, and hid in caves and pits? Israelite Army
- 3) Who was very brave and trusted God? Jonathan
- 4) Who was late? Samuel
- 5) Who was disobedient and made a sacrifice? Saul

Lesson No. 87

THE LIFE OF OUR LORD, PART 16

LIFE MESSAGE

Every Christian is to diligently seek and search for the lost.

BIBLE STORY

The Story Of The Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin, And The Lost Son — Luke 13

Main Points:

1. As Jesus was teaching one day, many tax collectors and sinners gathered around Him.
2. The Pharisees and Scribes began to complain among themselves that Jesus was associating and eating with this kind of people.
3. Then Jesus told a parable.*
4. The first part of this parable was about a lost sheep: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost."*
5. Jesus then told the people that this story illustrates how the rejoicing in heaven when one sinner repents is greater than the rejoicing over ninety-nine people who do not need to repent.
6. Then Jesus told the second part of the parable about a lost coin: "Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?
And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost."*
7. Jesus again told the people there is rejoicing over one sinner that repents.
8. The last part of Jesus' parable was about a lost son: "And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry."*
9. Jesus finished this parable by telling about the lost son's older brother: "Now his elder son was in the field: And as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing.
And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.
And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.
And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and entreated him.
And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment; and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.
And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.
It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found."*

***Special Notes:**

3. Usually preachers break up this chapter into three distinct parables but actually the whole chapter is one parable having three parts. There are no breaks in the verses and one illustration flows into the next.
4. The lost sheep represents the stupid, unthinking, foolish person who wanders from God. The sheep was lost foolishly, so it was sought. We, too, are to seek after those who are lost. The shepherd here represents Jesus, the Son, our Good Shepherd.
6. The lost coin represents those who are lost without knowledge of being lost. The coin was lost unconsciously, so it was sought, as was the sheep. The light in this story represents the Holy Spirit.
8. This part of the parable is generally known as the Prodigal Son. The son represents people who are lost willfully and consciously. The son was lost deliberately, and was not sought as were the sheep and the coin. The father in this story symbolizes God, the Father.
9. The elder brother represents the Pharisees (and Christians today) who resented Christ's interest and love for sinners. For many, soul-saving activities are distasteful, but Jesus made three things clear in this parable:
 - a. We are to diligently search for the lost, with self-sacrifice and love.
 - b. We are to rejoice when a lost person gets saved.
 - c. We are to accept those who have repented, just as the Father has accepted us.

BIBLE VERSE

Luke 19:10 — "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

MEMORY WORD

Lost — Misaid; missing; bewildered; being without Christ as Saviour; being unsaved spiritually.

OBJECT LESSON #1

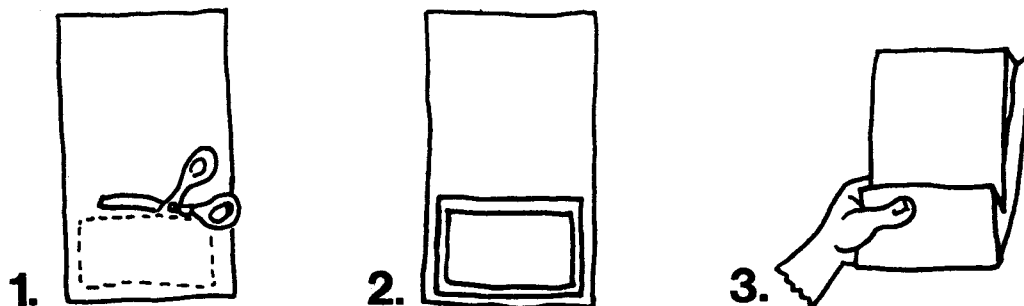
The Lost Coin — OBJECTS: A small paper sack, scissors, plastic wrap, scotch tape, a magic marker and ten quarters or nickles.

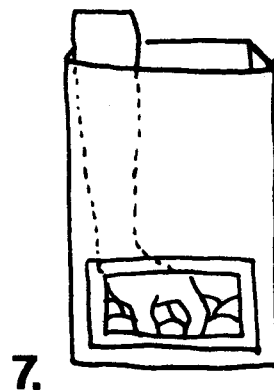
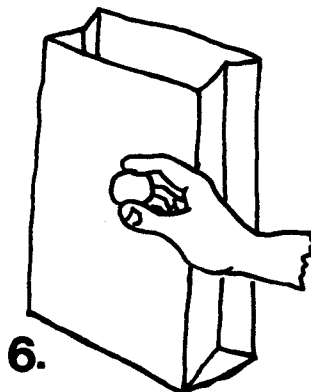
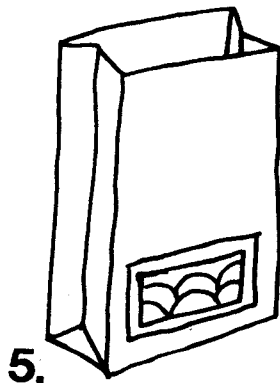
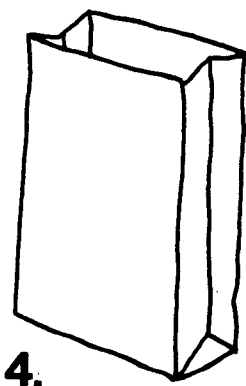
Before class you will need to make what magicians call a "coin bag". It's very simple to make.

Cut out a small window in the paper sack, as shown in Figure #1. Then cover the window by taping the plastic wrap over the window as in Figure #2. The "coin bag" is now ready.

When you show it to the class for the lesson, hold it as shown in Figure #3. Be sure the children see the bag only as shown in Figure #4. Put nine of the coins in the bag as shown in Figure #5. Mark the tenth coin with the magic marker and show it to the class as in Figure #6. When you drop it into the bag, you can mix-up the coins and then easily find the marked coin because of the window as shown in Figure #7.

As you go through the "trick" be sure to review the story and point out that we are to seek lost people just as the woman sought the lost coin.





OBJECT LESSON #2

The Lost Sheep — OBJECTS: A picture of a sheep or simply write the word “sheep” on the board.

Show the picture and talk about how sheep spend most of the day eating. Explain that when sheep are eating grass they sometimes wander away without even realizing they have left the flock until it is too late.

Point out that this is the way we usually wander away from God, a little at a time without even realizing it.

Close the lesson by letting the children name ways to keep from wandering away from God and then ways to go after those who have wandered away from God already.

OBJECT LESSON #3

The Lost Son — OBJECTS: A yo-yo.

Show the class the yo-yo and then “yo-yo” a little. As you “yo-yo”, review quickly the story of the prodigal son. Point out that he “went out” but he “came back.”

Explain that a yo-yo that only “goes out” would not be any fun. A yo-yo must “come back” to be fun to play with. The best part in the story of the lost son was when he “came back.”

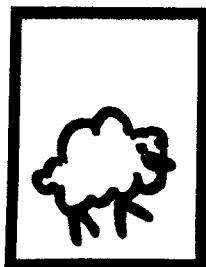
Close the lesson by letting the children talk about some of the reasons the son might have wanted to leave home and why it would have been better if he had never “went out” in the first place.

ACTIVITY #1

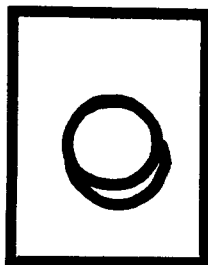
Find The Lost — Before class draw 5 of each of the figures below on $\frac{1}{2}$ sheets of construction paper. (You might make more or less depending on the size of your class). Hide them around the room before the children get there. Be sure the hiding places are not too hard to find.

Divide the class into three groups. Each group is to find one of the lost items we talked about in today’s Bible story. The first group to find all 5 of their items is the winner.

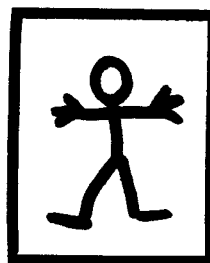
Be sure to relate the searching for the hidden items to the searching in the Bible story and to our responsibility of looking for lost people to bring to Jesus.



LOST SHEEP



LOST COIN



LOST SON

ACTIVITY #2

Are You Listening? — Begin by having the children pat their heads and rub their stomachs (this is a lot of fun in itself.)

Then to the class you are going to say a word. If that word is in the story, they should keep patting and rubbing. If that word is not in the story, they should stop and hold both arms straight up. As you go along, the starting and stopping is really fun for the children.

Here are words to use. (The ones with the asterisk are the words in today's Bible story):

Jesus*	Candle*
Jacob	Father*
Sleep	Pigs*
Sheep*	Horse
Bo-Peep	Robe*
Tax-Collectors*	Hat
Pharisees*	Fatted Calf*
Scribes*	Older Brother*
Book	Shoes*
Coin*	Scissors
Corn	Ring*

REVIEW

1. Who asked Jesus how to inherit eternal life?
2. What did Jesus then ask the lawyer?
3. What was the lawyer's answer?
4. When Jesus told the man he had answered correctly, what did the lawyer ask Jesus?
5. In your own words, what was the parable Jesus told?
6. Which of the men in the parable was a neighbor?
7. What was last week's Memory Word? What does it mean?