

LIVING
THE WORD

CARIBBEAN BIBLE LESSONS



SEEKERS

Younger Children • Age 7-9 • Teacher Guide

January • February • March • April • 2023





Younger Children • Age 7-9 • Teacher Guide

The *Younger Children Teacher Guide* provides an inspirational Teacher Bible Study, suggestions for planning the lesson and a step by step teaching plan for presenting the lesson. Each younger children teacher needs a copy of the *Younger Children Learner Guide* in addition to this *Teacher Guide*.

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Cover Design: John Hatton, Carleen Clothier **Cover Image:** Ramon Morgan
Produced and Published by **Caribbean Christian Publications Limited, 27 Balmoral Avenue,**
Kingston 10, Jamaica, West Indies E-mail: info@ccpcbf.org Website: ccpcbf.org

Under the auspices of the **Caribbean Baptist Fellowship**

Exec. Secretary-Treasurer: Anslern Warrick

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The Writers' Wall

Diana Anthony is from Belize and resides in the USA. She taught Sunday School for many years and has been writing for CCP since 1992. She worked with the counselling, prayer and women's ministries in her church. Diana says: *It is a privilege to have the opportunity to impart the Word of God to young minds. Knowing that what they learn as children will foster their intellectual and spiritual development. I view my role as a mentor who could help them to grow up with godly values.*



Jamie-Lee Roche, a teacher by profession and writer of the **February** lessons, hails from Belize. Jamie-Lee is actively involved in several ministries in her church including teaching Sunday School. She says: *Writing the lessons has made me more aware of how I present the material to the children. I now understand how to use effectively the time given to make the biggest impact on the children. Personally, the experience has helped my devotional life; it has caused me to dig deeper into God's Word.*

Carol Mascoll, is a primary school teacher. Carol taught Sunday School for many years. She is also involved in different ministries of her church such as the Women's Missionary Union. Carol says: *Writing for children has led me to adopt a more serious and dedicated approach to the preparation of lessons for Sunday School I have also been able to encourage other teachers to prepare and present to the best of their ability.*



Sherdene DaCosta is from Jamaica. At the time of writing the **April** lessons, she was a student of the University of Technology, She has been involved in various ministries of her church. Sherdene says: *In writing for the younger children, I have gained a better understanding of the ways in which their minds work. This knowledge has helped me to be more efficient in guiding the children in their understanding of God and His Word. I find it rewarding to be able to contribute to the spiritual education of our children.*



Unit Overview	Unit Description	Unit Aim	Unit Main Truth
...

JANUARY 1, 2023

Believe in Jesus

Mark 16:9-18

Anyone who believes me and is baptised will be saved.” **Mark 16:16 CEV**

Picture: Walking with Christ

JANUARY 8, 2023

Tell What You Believe

Matt. 28:16-20; John 14:15-17

Then He told them: Go and preach the good news to everyone in the world.

Mark 16:15a CEV

Picture: Ways I Can Tell

JANUARY 15, 2023

Tell the Rejected

Acts 3:1-12

“...In the name of Jesus Christ from Nazareth, get up and start walking.”

Acts 3:6b CEV

Picture: No One Is Excluded

JANUARY 22, 2023

Tell Even When Mistreated

Acts 5:21-42

Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men....”

Acts 5:29 NIV

Picture: Mistreated but Still a Witness

JANUARY 29, 2023

Stephen, a Courageous Witness

Acts 6:8-15; 7:54-60

While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus receive my spirit” **Acts 7:59 NIV**

Picture: A Witness to the End

Writer:

Diana Anthony,

Belize

Unit Description

Based on the command that we are to tell others about Jesus, the Unit will teach Younger Children ways in which they can help to fulfil ‘The Great Commission’. Through Bible Stories and activities, they will learn practical ways of sharing the gospel message.

Unit Aim 

For Younger Children to realise that they too must obey Jesus’ command to tell others about Him.

Unit Main Truth

God wants us to participate in the fulfilment of His plan of redemption by telling others about Jesus.



Teacher Bible Study

**January 01,
2023**

Unit Title

Witnessing
for Jesus

Lesson Title

**Believe
in Jesus**

Main Text

Mark 16:9-18

Main Truth

Each person
must determine
what he or
she believes
about Jesus and
decide whether
to accept Him
as Saviour
and obey Him
in believer's
baptism.

Memory Verse

*"Anyone who
believes me and is
baptised will be
saved."*

Mark 16:16 CEV

Personal Lifestyle Question

Am I willing to tell others what I believe about Jesus?

Mark 16:9-18 is an excellent example of the truth that it is the kindness of God which leads us to repentance and faith. Note that this section of the book was not in the original writings but was added later. It reads like an addendum, summing up the 40 days after Jesus' resurrection and bringing us back to the reason for which Mark wrote this gospel—to show that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Verses 9-13 records two brief accounts of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances and the disbelief of the other disciples when they were told the good news. The risen Christ appeared to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. He gave her the singular honour of being the first to see the Resurrected Christ; and she believed. The disciples were mourning the death of Jesus but it made no difference to them when Mary Magdalene told them.

Jesus was alive; they did not believe her (v. 10). The risen Christ next appeared to two of His disciples as they were walking in the country. They, too, had living proof of the good news and they believed. When the two told the news to the other disciples, they did not believe the testimony either. You would think that now that three witnesses testified of having seen the risen Christ, their faith in Jesus' resurrection would be stirred. One could assume too, that hearing the news would have helped them to recall Jesus' own promise that He would rise again; but they refused to believe. Would you have believed? Do you believe in Jesus' resurrection?

Our gracious Lord Jesus gave His disciples a third opportunity to choose to believe. His appearance to the entire group is recorded in verses 14-18. Note His gentle but certain reproof for their unbelief (v. 14). The passage does not record if they repented of their unbelief, but Jesus must have noted they did because He commissioned them to be His witnesses. Jesus would empower the believers to preach and to heal in His name. We will be effective witnesses when we believe without a shadow of doubt. What do you believe about Jesus?

Personal Lifestyle Application

I promise to make an effort, each week, to tell at least one person what I believe about Jesus.

Plan the Lesson



Plan for the Large Group

- Complete Planning Steps 1-7 on page 32.
- Create a chart with the topics in the Unit.
- Ask God to help you to lead the children to believe and be convinced about who Jesus is. Plan to complete the unit activity, page 2 in the *Learner Guide*, during **Large Group** time.
- Learn the **Bible Story** so that you can tell it with conviction.
- Plan to teach the **Memory Verse** using the “Echo Method” of repetition. You will say the verse phrase by phrase and the children will repeat after you. Modulate the tempo and pitch of your voice and have the children mimic you. Write the words of the verse on a large sheet of paper or on a chalkboard.
- Colour the **Teaching Picture**. Plan to ask the questions in *Do You Know the Story Facts?*
- On a large sheet of paper, write the words of the songs, “Jesus Is Lord Over Everything” and “Jesus Is Alive Now” *CariSing*, pages 88 and 57.

Plan for the Small Groups

Small Group 1: Jesus Scrap Book (Unit Long Activity)

- Make an example for the children to use as their guide.
- Each week, the children will write the **Memory Verse** on a page of the scrapbook, colour a copy of the **Teaching Picture** and glue it to the page, and write or draw something which depicts the **Main Truth**. They will make two cover sheets from coloured construction paper to place on either side. Punch holes in the covers and attach with string.

Small Group 2: What Do I Believe About Jesus?

- Plan to complete the activity, *What Do I Believe About Jesus?* on page 5 of the *Learner Guide*.
- Make copies of the activity for the children who might not have a *Learner Guide*.

Lesson Description

The lesson highlights the doubt that some disciples had about Jesus’ resurrection, His appearance to all of them at the same time, His rebuke for their lack of faith and His subsequent command to them to tell others of His resurrection.

Aim

For boys and girls to believe in Jesus and choose to receive Him as Saviour and Lord of their life.

Materials For Small Group 1

- Plain paper, Teaching Picture, construction paper, markers, crayons, glue, staple, yarn, hole punch

Materials for Small Group 2

- Learner Guides* or copies of page 5
- Pencils



Present the Lesson

As you teach, seek to help YC:

- ▶ to believe in Jesus' death, burial and resurrection on their behalf.
- ▶ to choose to receive Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.
- ▶ to commit to tell at least one person about Jesus during the week.



Step 3 Personalising the Lesson

- ♥ Ask the **Question of the Week** (LG, page 4).
- ♥ Sing "Oh How I Love Jesus".
- ♥ Invite the children to share what they learned in the groups.
- ♥ Challenge the children to tell someone about Jesus during the week.
- ♥ Encourage the children to return to Sunday School next week and to bring a friend.
- ♥ Dismiss the class.

Step 1—Learning in the Large Group

- ✓ Welcome the children.
- ✓ To introduce the Unit: Complete the **Unit Activity**, on page 4 of the Learner Guide, with the children. Then, have children read the words on the **Unit Chart**. Highlight the topic of the week.
- ✓ Sing "Jesus Is Lord Over Everything".
- ✓ Pray, asking God to help the children to understand who Jesus is and be convinced to tell others about Him.
- ✓ Tell the **Bible Story**.
- ✓ Display the **Teaching Picture**. Review the story by asking the questions in **Do You Know the Story Facts?**
- ✓ Teach the **Memory Verse** using the "Echo" method of repetition.
- ✓ Sing "Jesus Is Alive Now".
- ✓ Divide the class for the small group learning activities.

Step 2—Learning in Small Groups

Small Group 1: Jesus Scrapbook (Unit-Long Activity)

- 👉 State the purpose of the activity: *To create a scrapbook of memories about Jesus which the children can use as a witnessing tool.*
- 👉 Explain the activity while showing the sample which you made.
- 👉 Encourage the children to use creative ideas to make the scrapbook meaningful and attractive.
- 👉 Challenge the children to tell someone about Jesus each week during the month of January.

Small Group 2: What Do I Believe about Jesus?

- 👉 Draw the children's attention to page 5 in their *Learner Guide*.
- 👉 Guide the children through the activity. Lead a discussion by asking the children to share why they believe each truth.
- 👉 Invite volunteers to pray for one person whom they will tell about Jesus.

Teacher Bible Study



Personal Lifestyle Question

Am I experiencing Jesus' presence and power to witness?

Jesus' charge to the disciples, reported in Matthew 28:16-20, seems to have taken place just before Jesus' ascension. At that time: 1) **He assured them of His power** (v. 18). Jesus' followers can do nothing worthwhile for Him without His power and authority. 2) **He entrusted to them a great task**. Jesus gave them His plan for evangelising the world. They were to lead people to Christ, baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and, then, teach them how to live the Christian life (vv. 18-20). 3) **He promised His continued presence** (v. 20). He knew that His followers would face many hardships in carrying out the mission. The realization that Jesus was with them would give them confidence to carry out the enormous task.

Jesus had spent time teaching His disciples how to live to please Him. In John 14:15-17, we read of Jesus giving them the two main keys for living victoriously: 1) commitment to a life of obedience and 2) the enabling person and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is our example in all areas of life, especially in obedience. Throughout His life on the Earth, Jesus sought and did God's will. Just as Jesus was obedient even to death, so God's children should be obedient.. We should obey God not because we fear the consequences of disobedience but because we love Him. We cannot say that we love God and, at the same time, disobey His commands.

The promise of His presence in Matthew 28:20 resounds in John 14:18, *"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."* Jesus promised that though He was going away, He would not leave us comfortless. He promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would be our Comforter and Guide. May our prayer be: Lord, give me the inner strength that will empower me, make me bold to be an effective witness.

Personal Lifestyle Application

Lord, help me to live in your presence so I can be a more consistent and effective witness for you.

January 8,
2023

Unit Title
Witnessing
for Jesus

Lesson Title
Tell What
You Believe

Main Text
Matthew
28:16-20;
John 14:15-17

Main Truth
Jesus commands
us to tell the good
news of salvation
to every person in
the world.

Memory Verse
*Then He told them:
"Go and preach
the good news to
everyone in the
world."*
Mark 16:15a
CEV



Plan the Lesson

Lesson Description

The disciples went to the Mount of Olives to meet Jesus. There, Jesus commanded them to go into all the world and teach people about Him and baptise believers. Jesus promised that He would always be with those who tell others about Him, to empower them.

Aim

For boys and girls to accept the responsibility to tell others about Jesus.

Materials For Small Group 1

Plain paper, construction paper, markers, crayons, glue, staple, yarn, hole punch, decorative elements

Materials for Small Group 2

Poster board, paper, markers, crayons, stickers, ribbon, hole punch

Plan for the Large Group

- Complete Planning Steps 1-7 on page 32.
- Plan to refer to the **Unit Chart**.
- Plan to have the boys and girls alternately read the paragraphs in the **Bible Story**.
- Pray that God will help you to convey the truth that we are all commanded to tell others about Jesus.
- Plan to sing “Stop and Let Me Tell You”, and “The Great Commission”, CariSing, page 31. Write the words of the songs on a chart.
- Prepare to teach the **Memory Verse** using the “March-a-Verse” method. The children will chant the verse with each word as they march around the room.

Plan for Small Groups

Small Group 1: Jesus Scrapbook

- Conduct a brief review of last week’s lesson.
- State the purpose of the activity.
- Distribute the materials and lead the children to write the **Memory Verse**, colour the **Teaching Picture** and depict the **Main Truth**.
- Encourage them to decorate the page attractively.
- As the children work, encourage them to share their experience of witnessing during the week.

Small Group 2: Gospel Bookmark

- The children will make bookmarks with the acrostic **GOSPEL**. Then, they will practise sharing the gospel using the bookmark. Make one to use as an example.
- The children will put the following information on the bookmark and, then, decorate it: **G**-God loves you; **O**-on the cross Jesus died for you; **S**-sin can only be forgiven if we believe in Jesus; **P**-pray asking God to forgive your sin and take charge of your life; **E**-everyone can receive forgiveness; **L**-lead others to believe in Jesus.
- Write the acrostic on a large sheet of paper.
- Cut poster board into bookmark shapes.

Present the Lesson



Step 1—Learning in the Large Group

- ✓ Lovingly welcome the children to Sunday School.
- ✓ Have them read the **Lesson Title** from the chart.
- ✓ Pray that the children will choose to obey Jesus' command to tell others about Him.
- ✓ Sing "The Great Commission".
- ✓ Tell the children that boys and girls will be reading the **Bible Story** alternately. Encourage them to read with expression.
- ✓ Ask: *Do you think you are included among those who are to tell? Why? What are some things you can tell others about Jesus?* Guide the discussion and close with prayer that they will tell others about Jesus.
- ✓ Display the **Teaching Picture** and use it to challenge the children to choose one way in which they will share the gospel during the week.
- ✓ Teach the **Memory Verse** using the "March-a-Verse" method of repetition.
- ✓ Have the children turn to page 8 in their *Learner Guide* and, together, decode the prayer.

Step 2—Learning in Small Groups

Small Group 1: Jesus Scrapbook (Unit-Long Activity)

- ✦ Restate the purpose of the activity: *to create a scrapbook of memories about Jesus which they can use as a witnessing tool.*
- ✦ Follow the procedure from last week.
- ✦ Ask for volunteers to share about their witnessing experience.

Small Group 2: Gospel Bookmark

- ✦ Say: *We will make gospel bookmarks which we can use to tell others what we believe about Jesus.*
- ✦ Show the bookmark you made. Demonstrate how to use the bookmark to share the gospel.
- ✦ Display the chart with the acrostic.
- ✦ Distribute the materials
- ✦ After the children have made their bookmarks, let the children practise how to use it to share the gospel.

As you teach, seek to help YC:

- ▶ to know that God wants them to tell others about Jesus.
- ▶ to obey Jesus' command to tell others about Him.
- ▶ to know how to tell others about Jesus.



Step 3 Personalising the Lesson

- ♥ Sing "Stop and Let Me Tell You".
- ♥ Ask the **Question of the Week**
- ♥ Direct the children in a time of silent prayer. Encourage them to ask God to give them the boldness to tell others about Him. Encourage them to say the persons' names as they pray for them.
- ♥ As you dismiss, encourage them to witness for Jesus.

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E-mail: info@ccpcbf.org | Website: <http://www.ccpcbf.org>

ISSN 0799-6438



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