

God's Power Works Through Others

Lesson 12a — Power for Service

Lesson 12b — The Man at the Beautiful Gate

Lesson 12c — Philip and the Eunuch

Lesson 12d — God Works Through Peter

OVERVIEW

Our final unit on the power of God deals with how God's power worked through His disciples and Apostles after Christ left this earth. The ministry of the Apostles after Christ's ascension began with the miracle of their receiving of the Holy Spirit, and the evidence of speaking in other tongues which was given as a witness to this infilling of spiritual power.

A belief in God's power is an essential element in Christianity, and thus it is an important concept to be taught to children. It is necessary that the miracles of

God be distinguished from works of magic. At the same time, we want the children to see how God's power can work in our lives today. Jesus commands us to receive it — and those who do receive and use it see God's power in action.

We suggest in the teaching of this unit that you refer to the "Holy Spirit" rather than the "Holy Ghost" whenever possible. Some children have difficulty with the thought of God as a "ghost."

GAMES FOR REVIEW

Divide your group into teams. Give each team a letter or symbol to represent their team. Across a chalkboard write the letters P-O-W-E-R. Under each letter have space to write words. Go from team to team, giving each group an opportunity to think of a word relating to one of the unit lessons which begins with the next letter. For instance, Group 1 would try to think of a word beginning with P. (They could suggest Peter, or prayer.) If they could not think of a word, they would pass to the next team, who would then try to either think of a word beginning with P or O. When a word is suggested, write it under the correct letter on the board. Alongside put the symbol or letter of the group which suggested it. Establish a "thinking time limit" so your contest does not stall. At the end of the contest, total up the words for each team and award small prizes to the winning team.

Arrange chairs back to back in a row. Have the same number of chairs as you have players. Write questions about the unit lessons on 3"x5" cards, describing a per-

son, place or event concerning a lesson on each card. Place a card on each chair with the question side up. Start playing music. When the music stops each player sits on the chair nearest to him. Begin with the first chair. The occupant stands and read his question. When he answers the question, turn the card over to check for the answer. If he misses, he is out of the game, but do not remove his chair. Then it is the second player's turn. After each person has had a turn, start the music and continue the game.

CONTEST IDEAS

Stage a tug-of-war classroom contest. Trace, color, and cut out one dog for each child in class (see Patterns). Make a poster and attach a piece of rope from the center, long enough to reach the sides of the poster. Divide the class into teams. Add a dog for each child each week, placing the rope in the mouth of the dog. (Cut a small slit in the dogs' mouths at the dark line.) Stickers or stars can be added to the dogs for additional points each week. The team with the most dogs at the end of the month is the winning team.

For a classroom contest for attendance, memory verse, missionary work, etc., trace, color, and cut out one missile for each child in the class (see Patterns). Make a poster of blue board. Mount missiles on string crosswise on the poster board. Mark off point lines on the poster board. Move each child's missile toward the finish line, giving points for attendance, learning the memory verse, bringing their Primary Pals sheet back, bringing new students, etc. First child to reach the end gets the prize.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Draw dynamite, exploding firecrackers, or something showing a source of power. Caption could be **GOD GIVES US POWER TO WORK FOR HIM** (see Patterns).

A rocket ship taking off, with "Our power source is God" in the nose and other attributes in tail flames (see Patterns).

Decorate your board with five pictures representing each lesson; i.e., group of people praying (or you could use a group of praying hands), man at the beautiful gate, Philip and the eunuch, etc.

You could decorate your board with just hands. First lesson: praying hands (using the hands as an attention grabber). Second lesson: hands in position of praying for the sick (or helping lame man up). Third: hands reading the Bible. Fourth: hands praying for the sick, hands sewing, and praying hands. Fifth: hands in prayer, hand holding someone. (A set of four different hand positions, in color, can be purchased for about \$2.00 from: Janzen Specialties, 1381 S.E. Godsey Road, Dallas, OR 97228)

Design your board with a large outlet on the left side and your students' pictures on the right (see Patterns). Caption it "Plug Into God's Power."

UNIT SONGS

"My God Is So Great!"

"Power In The Blood" (Chorus only)

"Holy Spirit, Flow Through Me"

"God Can Do Anything, But Fail"

"He's Able"

"This Little Light of Mine"

"Stop! And Let Me Tell You"

UNIT PROJECTS

Allow class groups or individual students to design and make banners emphasizing the theme "Power." Arrange to have one bulletin board or area of wall space reserved for displaying the banners.

Make a "Power" mobile with your class (see Patterns). Cut out the word. Make a hole at the bottom of each letter and hang a length of yarn from it. Add to each strand smaller cards with words or symbols showing things that Jesus gives us power to do: for example, power to **pray**, power to **overcome**, power to **witness**.

CHART IDEAS

Make a lamp from various colors of construction paper, including the flame. Have rays coming from the flame with a space for the memory verse from each lesson written on it or add one each week (see Patterns).

Have a circular map of the world with the words "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel" on it. Around the outside have a picture of an airplane and on the jet stream behind it finish the words: ". . . to every creature" (see Patterns).

Place the words "Ways To Tell The Story" at the top of your chart. In the center have pictures or cut-outs of an airplane, car, letter, footprints, boat applied on a background of a circular map of the world (see Patterns).

Cut a cardboard telephone for each child (see Patterns). Provide a short length of black ribbon or shoe string. Have the children thread the cord through the punched hole and tie a knot to secure. Write the words "I Can Tell Others About Jesus" along the length of the telephone.

On the first Sunday, give each child an enlarged copy of the starburst pattern (see Patterns) on a sheet of typing paper. Have them draw a design within the starburst, with black crayons. Cut out the shape and fill in the design with crayons, using a variety of colors. Dip a cotton ball in vegetable oil and rub over the back of the shape. On the following week, have the students attach small colored cards bearing the names of the people in the lesson who had experienced the power of God working through their lives. Place in front of a window for a transparent effect.