

LESSON 4 WE BELIEVE

God Cares How We Feel

1. GETTING STARTED

OBJECTIVES

- Understand that everyone has feelings
- Name specific feelings.

NEW VOCABULARY

- feelings** - our senses and emotions
- care** - take charge of; attention, protection
- priest** - a person who teaches about God
- angel** - messenger from God

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. Amen.

MOTIVATION

Tell the class, **I am about to show you something I have never seen before, and that YOU have never seen before before. After YOU see it, no living person will EVER see it again.** Then, take a peanut, crack it open, show the class the nuts and then, eat the nuts. (You may have to repeat this once again for the six year old).

Ask the class: **Did I surprise you? Did you think this was funny? Did I make you laugh? Did anyone get mad at me because I tricked you?** Discuss the feelings they experienced. Tell the class that **happy, glad, surprise, and sad** are feelings. Everyone has feelings. Print the word **feelings** on the chalk board. Read it to the class and have them read it back to you.

2. LESSON DEVELOPMENT

TEACHING THE LESSON

1. Read and discuss page 12 which develops the concept of feelings. Ask the following questions:

- What is happening in this picture?** (a father hugging his child)
- Do you ever hug your parents?**
- Why do you hug your parents?** (expression of love)

2. Discuss the picture on page 13 of the children playing the board game, then ask the following questions:

- What are the children doing in this picture?** (playing a board game)
- Do you think they are happy?** (answers will vary)
- What games make you happy?** (answers will vary)

3. Discuss the picture of the one girl comforting the other on page 13, then ask the following questions:
- What are the children doing in this picture?** (one is comforting the other)
 - Do you think they are sad?** (answers will vary)
 - What makes you sad?** (answers will vary)
4. Discuss the word **care**. Then read page 14 and complete the suggested activity. If the child is reluctant to draw have several old magazines on hand so that he/she may cut out the appropriate pictures.

USING THE BIBLE

The Story of Zechariah and Elizabeth

This story illustrates people's feelings and that God cares. God listened to the prayers of this devout couple. Before reading the story to the class, present the vocabulary words **priest** and **angel**. Read the story on page 15 to the class and then ask the following questions to check comprehension:

- Who was Zechariah?** (a Jewish priest)
- What was his wife's name?** (Elizabeth)
- Why were they sad?** (they had no children)
- What did they do?** (prayed to God for a child)
- What happened?** (an angel told them they would have a child)
- What kinds of feelings did Zechariah and Elizabeth have?** (happy, glad, thankful)
- What did they name the baby?** (John)
- Why did they pick this name?** (the angel told them)

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

How God Cares For Us If possible, take the class for a short walk outside. Have the students name the things that impress them. Have them name things that show God cares for us. After you return to the classroom, ask them to express their feelings about the different things they see.

Making a Poster Give each child manila paper and instruct him/her to make the following poster. Have the pupil make a flower from construction paper. Print the message, "My love for you just grows, and grows, and grows." on the board and allow the student to copy it onto their piece of manila paper. This poster may be taken home for the parents.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Manila paper for each child
- colored construction paper
- felt-tip markers

Making Paper Plate Faces Make a paper plate face showing the various feelings such as happy, sad, and surprise. Hang the finished products around the room.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. paper plate for each child
2. crayons
3. scissors
4. paste

3. REVIEW

RECALLING THE LESSON

Review the concepts taught in this lesson before you dismiss the class. Ask the following questions:

1. **Name three feelings you have.** (Answers will vary, but may include happy, sad, surprise.)
2. **Who has feelings?** (everyone)
3. **How do you know that God cares how we feel?** (He gave us everything to enjoy)
4. **Who was Zechariah?** (a Jewish priest)
5. **What did the angel tell Zechariah and Elizabeth?** (they were going to have a son)
6. **What did they name their baby?** (John)
7. **What do we believe?** (God cares how we feel)

CLOSING PRAYER

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O God. Amen.

LOOKING AHEAD

The objective for Lesson 5, **WE BELIEVE God Wants Us To Help Others**, is as follows:

Recognize that God wants us to help others

Before starting the class, you may wish to read from the Gospel of John chapter 5, verses 1- 9 "Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Walk