Teacher Lesson Plans
Bibletime Levels 0-4
C Series
C1 & C2

www.besweb.com
**Mission Statement:** “Serving you to Serve Others”
We seek to produce consecutive Bible lessons for worldwide use, enabling the teaching of the Word of God to the current and next generations.

**Vision Statement**
We aim to facilitate the production of Bible Educational Resources in many of the world’s languages, through various means of communication, in partnership with others who share our core values.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**What Bible Educational Services does:**

Bible Educational Services (BES) publish “Bibletime”, “New Life” and “Gleaners” Bible lessons in English and support Postal Bible Schools and similar organisations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas. We do this by visiting, networking, advising and training. BES is also currently working in partnership with groups in other countries who are involved in translation, design, publishing and distribution of lessons. Lessons must be provided free of charge to all students.

Bibletime lessons were first used in Southern Ireland over 50 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintain editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and in all foreign languages. Bibletime lessons have been normally published in an A4 format which enables students in some areas, every four weeks, to send the lessons back to a Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, thanks to Every Home Crusade (Revival Movement) in Belfast, lessons for six months have been published in an A5 format, which has made usage in Churches and Schools much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system.

The BES lessons are unique in that they are prepared with home or group (Church / School) study in mind. They follow a planned syllabus which allows students to continue studying for up to 20 years. Five levels of lessons are available for specific age groups, Pre-school, 5-7’s, 8-10’s, 11-13’s, 14-16’s. There is a three-year syllabus for each age group. The age groups may vary according to different levels of ability. The Bibletime Resources allow children the opportunity to study the Bible and reflect on its relevance in the lives of people today.

Printed copies of the lessons are available in English from the BES website [www.besweb.com](http://www.besweb.com) or from the BES Office in Enniskillen. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to you if you are considering partnering with us, which are also available on the website.

**BES Contact Addresses**

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LESSON PLANS FOR TEACHERS

Teacher Lesson Plans are produced to equip Teachers using Bibletime lessons with suggestions and ideas for classroom study. In this booklet they are designed for use with Levels 0-4.

Each lesson plan follows the same Bible reference as the Bibletime lesson and are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are specific to the Easter story and the December lessons are based on the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Normally the classroom Teacher will work through the monthly A4 lesson each week with the class. They are free to allow time for independent study if this is appropriate. At the end of the month the Teacher will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the pupils.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

Teachers should feel free to use their own ideas and initiatives when using the Bibletime lessons, adapting them as appropriate to their particular pupils. These are suggestions which may help in the use of this Resource:

- **Be familiar with the story** - Teachers should be as familiar as possible with the Bible Story and also with the Bibletime lesson that accompanies it. Ideally, the Bibletime lesson should be completed by the Teacher before the lesson. The Lesson Plans for each lesson should also be carefully considered as a planning aid for the lessons.

- **Understand the lessons to be learned** - At the top of each lesson plan you will notice the words 'We are learning that', followed by some learning intentions. The children will hopefully have grasped these points after listening to the Teacher’s presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson.

- **Introduce it** - With all lessons, we start where the children are with their own experience of the situation. We have suggested various ways that might be used to introduce the story to enable the children to be interactive in discussing the starting point of the story.

- **Teach It** - We have given the Key Points in the story. Teachers should not have to refer to these when actually teaching the story, but they are a useful guide. Aim to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way! Help the children to understand the main points by grasping their attention - use the appropriate tone and ask questions to test their learning.

- **Show it** - We appreciate that in some situations, visuals will be very difficult to obtain but wherever possible it is important to focus on pictures or objects to help in the understanding of the story. In most lessons we have given the information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org (FBI) which are downloadable from their website.

- **Learn It** - There is a Key Verse attached to each story. Hearing and learning these verses should enable pupils to increase their knowledge of Biblical vocabulary.

- **Complete It** - In a school situation you will be aware of the abilities of children to complete worksheets and the amount of Teacher support required. For some, it will be a requirement that the Teacher reads over the text of the lesson as the children follow what is now a familiar narrative. Other children may be able to read the text independently. Whatever the approach, try to make the lesson enjoyable, and remember to praise the pupils’ efforts.

- **Review it** - We have suggested possible quizzes, games, art and drama to assist learning, and as a means of revising the story.

- **Live it** - This section carries the heading ‘How does the lesson challenge Christians today?’ and also some suggestions of possible group work and individual responses to the challenge of the lesson.
## Bibletime Syllabus

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**INTRODUCE IT**

Start by telling the story below (or a similar one which may be more relevant to the children you are teaching). Afterwards, ask them if they have ever been in a similar situation.

Becky and her friends were walking to school. Their teacher had told them that today they would be having a big test. Becky’s friends hadn’t studied for their test, so they decided to go and hide at the park instead of going to school. Becky’s friends wanted her to come with them, but she wouldn’t go. She knew her parents would be furious with her if she missed school. Becky’s friends laughed at her and told her they wouldn’t be her friend anymore if she didn’t come with them. What should Becky do? Becky thought about it carefully. She knew going to school was the right thing to do, even if there was a test and her friends would laugh at her. Becky’s friends laughed at her again and went to the park, but Becky walked on to school. When she got there, she took her test. There were lots of hard questions, but Becky tried her best and she did very well. Becky was glad she had done the right thing, especially when her friends got into trouble when their parents discovered what they had been doing.

**TEACH IT**

- Daniel and his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah had been taken captive along with other Hebrew people and taken to a place called Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, treated them well. He sent them to a special school for three years where they would be trained in the language and culture of the Babylonians. Ask the pupils to imagine what this must have been like (Daniel 1: 1 – 4).
- Daniel and his friends were given new Babylonian names and the king provided them with food from his own table. He wanted them to be strong so that they could serve him in his palace. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted Daniel and his friends to forget all about their home country and the one, true God whom they served (Daniel 1: 5 – 7).
- Daniel and his friends loved God and wanted to obey Him even though they were in a strange country where other people didn’t follow Him. They knew that they shouldn’t eat the king’s food because it could have been offered to false gods. What should they do? They decided that they would not eat the king’s food even though this might make him very angry. Discuss what it means to be faithful to God. Christians try to do what God says even when it seems difficult and other people want them to do something different.
- The king’s helpers were also worried. What if Daniel and his friends did not look as strong and healthy as the other young men in the king’s school? (Daniel 1: 8 – 10)
- Daniel trusted God to look after him and devised a special test. He asked the king’s servants to give them only vegetables and water for ten days. When the time was up the king’s servants were surprised to see Daniel and his friends looking healthier and stronger than the men who had eaten the king’s food (Daniel 1: 11 – 15).
- From then on Daniel and his friends were given only vegetables and water. God was with Daniel and his friends and blessed them for their faithfulness to Him. He gave them wisdom and helped Daniel to explain dreams (Daniel 1: 16 – 17).
- After the three years were finished, all the young men were brought to stand before the king. Among all the men the king found Daniel and his three friends to be the best. He found them to be ten times better than the advisors he already had. God had rewarded Daniel and his friends for being faithful to Him. Emphasise that they put God first despite possibly being punished for disobeying the king (Daniel 1: 18 – 21).

**Complete the Bibletime lesson.**

Show it: www.freebibleimages.org Daniel and his friends obey God.

**LEARN IT**

Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Daniel 1: 20. Level 1 children could learn the second half of the verse.

**REMEMBER IT**

Act out the story. Ask pupils to volunteer to play the parts of Daniel, his three friends, King Nebuchadnezzar, the king’s servants and the other young men. Alternatively, all the children could be put into groups and each group prepare and act out the story.
Level 0 - 2

C1 Story 2
“Nebuchadnezzar’s idol”

We are learning that:
• Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego trusted and obeyed God.
• The Bible teaches that we can trust God to be with us through any trial.

Key Verse: Daniel 3: 17
Bible Passage: Daniel 2: 48, 49 and 3: 1 – 30

INTRODUCE IT
What would you do? Ask the pupils to consider what they would do in certain dilemmas which children their age and culture may face. For example, ‘An older boy you know says you can be his friend if you go and steal some money for him. What should you do?’ Discuss the Bible’s answers to some of these issues.

TEACH IT
• Shadrach (Hananiah), Meshach (Mishael) and Abednego (Azariah) were Hebrew men living in Babylon (Remind pupils of events in Story 1). They believed in the one, true God and wanted to obey Him. God had helped them to become very important men in Babylon (Daniel 2: 48 – 49).
• King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden idol. It was ninety feet high and nine feet wide. He ordered all of the important people in his kingdom, including Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to come to a special ceremony. The king ordered that when the musicians played their instruments, everyone should bow down and worship the golden idol. Whoever would not bow down would be thrown into a fiery furnace (Daniel 3: 1 – 6).
• When the music played, the people bowed down and worshipped the idol. All except Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. They knew God’s Word and He had commanded that His people should not bow down to idols. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego would not disobey God even if it meant being thrown into the fiery furnace (Daniel 3: 7).
• Some of the king’s advisors told him that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had not bowed down to his idol. He was furious! He told them they must bow down and worship his idol or he would have them thrown into the furnace. He told them that no god would be strong enough to save them (Daniel 3: 8 – 15). Ask the pupils who they think would be strong enough to save the men.
• The three men replied saying, ‘If we are thrown into the furnace, our God whom we serve is able to save us’ (Key Verse). King Nebuchadnezzar ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter. The three men were thrown into the fiery furnace (Daniel 3: 16 – 23).
• Then the king jumped up in surprise. He had ordered for three men to be thrown into the furnace, but he could see four! They were walking around in the fire completely unhurt. He thought the fourth man looked like, ‘a son of the gods’ (Daniel 3: 24 – 25).
• King Nebuchadnezzar ordered them to come out of the fire. The men were not harmed in any way. Nebuchadnezzar praised God, saying that He had rescued them because they had trusted and obeyed Him. He knew that no other god could rescue his people in this way. He gave Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego high positions in his kingdom (Daniel 3: 26 – 30).
• Christians try to completely obey and trust God. To do this they need to know God’s Word and understand His commandments. He has promised that He will always be with them even in dangerous and scary times (Read Isaiah 43: 2).

Complete the Bibletime lesson.
Show it: www.freebibleimages.org Three men stand up for God.

LEARN IT
Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Daniel 3: 17.

REMEMBER IT
Use these questions for a quiz:
• What were the names of the three men in the story?
• What was the name of the king?
• What did King Nebuchadnezzar make?
• Do you think God was pleased that Nebuchadnezzar had made an idol? Why not?
• What would happen to people who wouldn’t bow down to the idol?
• The three men chose to obey God. What does ‘obey’ mean?
• What happened to the men who had been thrown into the furnace?
• Can you think of some ways that Christians can obey God?
We are learning that:

• Daniel's enemies were jealous of him. They plotted to have him thrown into a den of lions.
• Like Daniel, Christians love God and try to please Him by doing their best and being honest at all times.

Key Verse: Daniel 6: 16
Bible Passage: Daniel 6: 1 – 16

INTRODUCE IT
Ask some of the younger pupils what noises various animals make. Play a game in which a child makes an animal noise and the others guess what it is. Finally, focus in on what noise a lion makes. Allow the children to try making some loud roars then tell them that the lions in today’s story sound like this, ’mmmmm’ (hold your lips together and try to roar). In today’s story God is going to shut the mouths of lions!

TEACH IT

• Babylon had a new king called, Darius. There were three presidents in Babylon and Daniel was one of them! Daniel worked hard and did his job very well. King Darius wanted to put him in charge of the other presidents (Daniel 6: 1 – 3).
• When the other men heard this, they grew very jealous of Daniel. They did not want him to be promoted. What is jealousy? Do you think God would be pleased by this type of jealousy? They tried to think of some things to tell the king that might make him dislike Daniel. For example, had Daniel ever told lies to the king or stolen from him? They thought long and hard, but they could not think of anything to tell King Darius. They knew that Daniel was honest and trustworthy (Daniel 6: 4). When a person is trustworthy it means that others can rely on them to do what they say they are going to do. Explain that this is a characteristic that the Bible says God wants His followers to have.
• Daniel’s enemies had to come up with another way of making Daniel look bad. They knew that he often prayed to God. They decided to set a trap for Daniel. They went to King Darius and asked him to make a new law. For 30 days everyone must pray only to the king. If a person prayed to someone else, they would be thrown into a den of lions. The king agreed and signed the new law (Daniel 6: 5 – 9).
• Daniel heard about the new law. He knew it was a trap, but he trusted God to look after him. Prayer was very important to him and even though he knew it was dangerous, he went into his room and prayed three times a day just as he had always done. Take some time to discuss what prayer is and its importance to Christians. As Daniel prayed, he was seen by his enemies. They went and told the king what Daniel was doing (Daniel 6: 10 – 13).
• The king was very upset! He did not want to throw Daniel into the lions’ den but the law he had made could not be changed. He could do nothing to help Daniel. The king commanded that Daniel should be brought and thrown into the den of lions. He said to Daniel, ‘May your God whom you serve continually, rescue you’. (Daniel 6: 14 – 16)

Complete the Bibletime lesson.
Show it: www.freebibleimages.org Daniel in the lions’ den.

LEARN IT
Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Daniel 6: 16.

REMEMBER IT
Use these questions for a quiz:

• What was the name of the new king?
• Was the new king pleased with Daniel’s work?
• Why were the other men jealous of Daniel?
• What new law did they ask the king to make?
• How many times a day did Daniel pray?
• What is prayer?
• Why did Daniel keep praying even when he knew it was dangerous to do so?
• Do you think God will be able to save him? Why?
We are learning that:
- The Bible says that God rescued Daniel from the den of lions.
- Christians believe that God wants them to be faithful to him and trust Him at all times.

**Key Verse:** Daniel 6: 22  
**Bible Passage:** Daniel 6: 17 – 28

### INTRODUCE IT
Ask the pupils to discuss the previous story in pairs. Can they provide answers to the following questions?
Was Daniel good at his job? What did King Darius want to do for Daniel? Why were Daniel’s enemies jealous of him? Why was Daniel thrown into the den of lions? Did King Darius really want Daniel to be thrown into the den of lions?
*Take some feedback from each of the pairs. Then discuss with the pupils what they think will happen next. Remind them that Daniel is trusting God, even in this very dangerous situation. Can they remember similar examples from Stories 1 and 2?*

### TEACH IT
- Daniel was thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, ‘May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.’ A stone was placed across the entrance to the den and sealed. The king went back to the palace. He didn’t eat anything, and he couldn’t sleep. He was thinking of his faithful and trustworthy servant, Daniel *(Daniel 6: 17 – 18).*
- Early, the next morning, the king got up and went to the den of lions. He called out to Daniel, ‘Has your God, whom you serve continually been able to deliver you from the lions?’ The king was overjoyed to hear Daniel’s voice. Daniel called out, “My God sent His angel and He shut the mouths of the lions.” God knew that Daniel had done nothing wrong and had kept him safe. King Darius commanded that Daniel should be taken out of the den. He ordered that the men who had wickedly accused Daniel be thrown into the den of lions instead *(Daniel 6: 19 – 24).*
- King Darius wrote to all of the people living in his Kingdom. He commanded them to fear the living God and told them of how God had saved Daniel from the lions. He told them that God is a God who saves and rescues *(Daniel 6: 25 – 28).*
- *Christians believe that God sent Jesus to die on the cross, to save people from the punishment their sin deserves. The Bible teaches that if we believe that He died for us and ask for His forgiveness, God will forgive us and give us eternal life.*

*Complete the Bibletime lesson.  
Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel in the lions’ den.*

### LEARN IT
Teach the Key Verse and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Daniel 6: 22.

### REMEMBER IT
Act out the story. Ask pupils to volunteer to play the parts of Daniel, King Darius, the presidents, soldiers, lions and the angel.  
Alternatively, all of the pupils could be put into groups and each group could prepare and act out the story.
# C2 Story 1

**“A blind man sees”**

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## We are learning that:
- Christians believe that Jesus is God and can do wonderful things.
- The Bible teaches that Jesus hears us when we call.

**Key Verse:**  
*Luke 18: 43*

**Bible Passage:**  
*Luke 18: 35 – 43*

## INTRODUCE IT

Ask the pupils to close their eyes and imagine they cannot see. What does it feel like? Explain that in Jesus' time there was no help for anyone who was blind; begging was their only chance of surviving. Nobody cared about blind people; they believed they were being punished by God for something they had done wrong. However, in this story, we read that Jesus cared.

## TEACH IT

- Explain that Jesus was on a journey to Jerusalem where He knew He was going to die on the cross, but He was going to do the work His Father had given Him to do.
- Jesus came towards Jericho, another large city, and just outside the city sat a blind man begging. The man probably sat there every day.
- There was a large crowd of people with Jesus. Explain that he would have been well known for His miracles and His teaching and large crowds would come to see if the stories they had heard were true (*Luke 18: 36)*.
- When the blind man heard it was Jesus he called out to Him - He called Him “Jesus, Son of David” (*Luke 18: 38)*. This shows the blind man understood that Jesus was the one God had promised to send.
- The crowd tried to make the man be quiet. They thought Jesus was too important to bother with this dirty beggar. However, the man knew better than the crowd and shouted even louder.
- Jesus stopped and had the man brought over to Him and asked Him what He wanted. The blind man wanted to see.
- The blind man believed that Jesus could heal him, so Jesus restored his sight.
- The man was so excited that he praised God and followed Jesus. The crowd were also excited by what they had seen and praised God too.
- Explain to the pupils that the Bible teaches that Jesus doesn't care who people are, how rich they are or what kind of job they have. He loves everyone the same.
- The Bible teaches that when we go our own way in our lives, it is like walking in darkness. Jesus is the ‘Light of the World’ and when we follow Him we walk in the right way in the light (*John 8: 12)*.

**Complete the Bibletime lesson.**  
**Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Jesus heals a blind man.

## LEARN IT

Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – *Luke 18: 43*.

## REMEMBER IT

Use these questions for a quiz:
- What city was Jesus approaching?
- Who was with Jesus?
- Who was sat outside the city?
- Why was the man begging?
- What did the man call Jesus?
- What did the man want Jesus to do?
- Did Jesus heal the man?
- What did the man and the crowd do when Jesus healed him?
**We are learning that:**
- Christians believe that only Jesus could meet the need of this hungry crowd.
- The Bible teaches that nothing is too hard for God.

**Key Verse:**  
*John 6: 35*

**Bible Passage:**  
*John 6: 1 – 14*

### INTRODUCE IT
Talk about going out for the day and taking a picnic. What kinds of food might you take on your picnic?  
Talk about going to listen or watch someone special talking, singing, acting, etc. They may be famous, but after a long time of watching, how would you feel? - maybe tired, bored, hot or uncomfortable! In this story Jesus shows the crowd and His disciples that He can provide for all their needs.

### TEACH IT

- Explain that Jesus wanted to spend some time alone with His disciples to teach them.  
- However, whenever anyone found out where Jesus was, news spread, and great crowds came to hear Him teach and see the miracles He did (*John 6: 1 – 2*).  
- Even though Jesus may have wanted to do something else, He never turned people away. Jesus felt sorry for the people and wanted them to understand about Himself and God (*Matthew 14: 14*).  
- Jesus especially wanted His disciples to understand who He was, and He asked Philip a question to test if Philip believed Jesus could do anything (*John 6: 5 – 6*).  
- Philip didn’t have any solution, but Andrew brought a young boy with a small lunch. However, he admitted it wasn’t enough for the vast amount of people (*John 6: 7 – 9*).  
- Jesus asked His disciples to sit the people down, He prayed to His Father, God, and began to break the bread into pieces. Amazingly, there was enough food for all the people, who ate until they were filled. There were even twelve baskets of food left over, which the disciples gathered up so that none went to waste (*John 6: 11 – 13*).  
- After seeing this miracle, the crowd began to think that this was the promised Messiah sent from God as they had never seen anything like this before.  
- Later, Jesus spoke to His disciples alone and explained that He was the Bread of Life and that only He can satisfy a person’s spiritual needs (*John 6: 35*). This new title for Jesus teaches that He not only provides food for our bodies but also that He offers Eternal Life, which brings lasting satisfaction and contentment – something which the world cannot offer.

Complete the Bibletime lesson.  
Show it:  
[www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org)  
Jesus feeds more than 5,000 people.

### LEARN IT
Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – *John 6: 35*.

### REMEMBER IT
Use these questions for a quiz:
- Where were Jesus and His disciples?  
- Why did so many people want to see Jesus?  
- What did Philip say when Jesus asked him to buy bread?  
- What food did the young boy have?  
- How many people did Jesus feed?  
- How many baskets were left over?  
- Who did Jesus tell His disciples He was?  

Divide the pupils into groups to draw 6 pictures of the various stages of the story and then put them together to display as a storyboard on the classroom wall.
## C2 Story 3
### “A lame man walks”

**We are learning that:**
- The Bible teaches that Jesus came from Heaven to save us.
- Christians believe that only Jesus can forgive sins.

**Key Verse:**  *John 5: 24*

**Bible Passage:**  *John 5: 1 – 15*

### INTRODUCE IT

Ask the pupils if any of them have ever broken their leg or hurt themselves. How did it make them feel when someone had to help them with tasks they can normally do themselves? Ask them what they could use today if they hurt their leg, e.g., wheelchair, crutches. This story is about a man who couldn’t walk for 38 years and in his day, there were no wheelchairs or crutches and nobody to help him.

### TEACH IT

- Tell the pupils that Jesus was visiting Jerusalem, the capital city, for a special feast (*John 5: 1*).
- There was a pool in Jerusalem, and the people believed when its waters bubbled the first person into the water would be healed. There were many blind, lame and paralysed people lying around the pool waiting for the waters to bubble (*John 5: 3 – 5*).
- Check that the pupils understand that the lame man couldn’t walk.
- Jesus came to the pool and learned that a lame man had been there for 38 years. Jesus went to speak to him and asked him if he wanted to get well.
- The lame man explained that he couldn’t get into the water as he had no one there who could help him. The man was completely helpless (*John 5: 5 – 7*).
- Jesus told the man to get up, pick up the mat he was lying on and walk. The man was healed at once, got up immediately, picked up his mat and walked (*John 5: 8 – 9*).
- Explain that the day Jesus healed the man was the Sabbath (our Saturday) and the Jews had lots of rules about what they couldn’t do on this day. One of these rules was that you couldn’t carry your mat. The lame man was asked why he was carrying his mat and he explained that the man who had healed him had told him to, but Jesus had disappeared into the crowd and the man didn’t know who He was (*John 5: 10 – 12*).
- Later Jesus saw the man again and spoke to him, telling him to stop sinning. Perhaps the man never really understood who Jesus was and that his needs were more than just being able to walk (*John 5: 14 – 15*).
- *The Bible teaches that Jesus is the only one who can forgive sins. Christians have had their sins forgiven and now that their lives are right with God they will want to live to serve Him.*

Complete the Bibtetime lesson.
Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Jesus heals a man at the Pool of Bethesda.

### LEARN IT

Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – *John 5: 24*.

### REMEMBER IT

Use these questions for a quiz:
- What city was Jesus in?
- Why were all these sick and injured people lying around the pool?
- Why had the man been there so long?
- What did Jesus tell the man to do?
- Where did Jesus see the man again?
- What did He tell the man to do this time?
- What didn’t the man understand about Jesus?
### Level 0 – 2

**C2 Story 4**

**“A dead girl lives”**

We are learning that:

- The Bible teaches that Jesus helps those who come to Him.
- Christians believe that there is nothing too difficult for Jesus to do.

**Key Verse:**  *Mark 5: 42*

**Bible Passage:**  *Mark 5: 21 – 43*

**INTRODUCE IT**

Ask the pupils to think of some important people in their area, maybe a mayor or governor or a ruler of some kind. Can you imagine this person falling on their knees to ask anyone for help? Explain that it did happen in this story.

Talk to the pupils about how sometimes, maybe in school or at home they don’t like to admit they can’t do something and then don’t ask for help.

**TEACH IT**

- Jesus is once again surrounded by a crowd of people. This was a big crowd that jostled and pushed together making it very difficult to move.
- Suddenly the crowd moves apart as someone important from the town is coming to see Jesus. Explain that Jairus was a ruler in the synagogue meaning that everyone in the area would know who he was. He would have been a very important man in the town *(Mark 5: 22 – 23)*.
- Suddenly this important man, who was used to giving orders, was falling at Jesus’ feet and asking for His help. Explain that this would have been very unusual as most of the synagogue rulers didn’t like Jesus or His teachings and they would only have ever fallen on their knees before God and certainly not a living person.
- Jairus was desperate. His daughter was very ill, and he clearly believed that Jesus could heal her. His actions and his words tell us he believed Jesus had come from God *(Mark 5: 23)*.
- As they were on their way the message came that the child had died. Jesus talks to Jairus and tells him to have faith *(Mark 5: 36)*. They continue to the house where there is much noise and crying as the little girl has died. Jesus clears the house and takes some of His disciples and the parents into the room *(Mark 5: 38 – 40)*.
- Jesus spoke to the girl and told her to get up. The little girl got up and started walking around. Explain that the girl had died and then Jesus brought her back to life. She was not a ghost or something else. The girl was completely better; she could walk and talk and eat *(Mark 5: 41 – 43)*.
- Explain that we should be thankful for the gift of life, and consider that it is a wonderful thing to be alive and to enjoy the good things that we have been given. The Bible teaches that it is God who gives these good things. God also wants to give us another kind of life - eternal life when we trust in Him. We will then know that our sins have been forgiven, through Jesus’ death on the cross. Our lives are right with God and some day we will be in Heaven – Look at *Romans 6: 23*.

**REMEMBER IT**

Use these questions for a quiz:

- Who came to see Jesus?
- Why was Jairus an important man?
- What did he do that was unusual?
- What happened while they were on their way?
- Did they continue to the house?
- What did they see at the house?
- Who did Jesus take into the house with Him?
- When Jesus spoke to the girl what did she do?
| Level 3 – 4 | C1 – LEVEL 3 | Lesson 1 – Daniel  
| Topic – The Strange Country | C1 – LEVEL 4 | Study 1 – Daniel  
| Topic – Serving God |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bible Focus:** Daniel 1: 1 – 21 | **Bible Focus:** Daniel 1: 1 – 7, 2: 1 – 49 |
| **Key Verse:** Matthew 6: 33 | **Key Verse:** Daniel 2: 28 |
| **We are learning that:** | **We are learning that:** |
| 1. The Bible teaches that God is still in control even when difficult times come. | 1. Christians believe that God is still in control, even when difficult times come. |
| 2. Daniel stood up for what he believed in. | 2. Daniel and his friends trusted in God to help them and to provide the answers which they needed. |

### INTRODUCE IT

Find two pictures of food, one showing healthy fruit and vegetables and the other a feast of rich food. Ask which picture the pupils would prefer to eat and why.

Ask pupils to think of a number between 1 and 20 and get other pupils to guess which number they have chosen. Explain that it’s not possible to know what other people are thinking. In this study, King Nebuchadnezzar was expecting his magicians to know his dream without him telling them.

### COMPLETE IT

**Present the Bible Story**

**Discuss and Explain:**

1. King Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem taking Temple objects and hostages back to Babylon (1: 1 – 2).
2. Ashpenaz, a chief court official, chose clever, handsome and wise young men to train for the king’s service for three years (1: 3 – 4).
3. Daniel did not want to eat the king’s rich food because it has been offered to idols (1: 8).
4. Daniel negotiated to have vegetables and water instead, for a ten-day trial period (1: 11 – 14).
5. At the end of the trial period Daniel and his friends were found to be in far better physical condition than those who had eaten the royal food (1: 15 – 16).
6. God gave to Daniel and his friends knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. Daniel was even given the ability to explain the meaning of visions and dreams (1: 17).
7. Daniel and his friends’ hard work succeeded, and the king was impressed. He found them ten times better than all the magicians in his whole kingdom (1: 20).

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

Complete Lesson 1.

Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the food God has forbidden (I)

**Present the Bible Story**

**Discuss and Explain:**

1. King Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem taking Temple objects and hostages back to Babylon (1: 1 – 2).
2. Ashpenaz, a chief of court official, chose clever, handsome and wise young men to train for the king’s service (1: 3 – 4).
3. The king was deeply troubled by a dream. He demanded that the wise men tell him his dream and the meaning of it (2: 1 – 2).
4. The king said that if the wise men did not remind him of the dream and explain it they would all die. Consequently, Daniel and his friends’ lives were also in danger (2: 13).
5. When Daniel realised what was happening, he and his friends prayed to God for help (2: 18).
6. God revealed the dream and its meaning to Daniel, and Daniel praised God for giving him the meaning of the dream (2: 19 – 23).

**When Daniel met the king, he told him that only God could explain the dream. He then told the king what the dream meant (2: 27 – 45). The king then gave Daniel and his friends positions of authority (2: 48 – 49).**

**(It’s probably not wise to try and discuss the actual content of the dream and its explanation)**

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

Complete Study 1.

Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the food God has forbidden (I) & Daniel interprets the king’s dreams (I)

### REVIEW IT

What advice would you give to a Christian who is starting a new school or moving to a different class? How is their situation similar to Daniel and his friends in Babylon?

How did Daniel and his friends respond to their problem in finding out about the dream? How should we respond to difficult situations? Read Philippians 4: 6 – 7.

### LIVE IT

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

**Discuss.**

1. How easy / difficult is it to stand up for what is right when faced with new situations?
2. What can we learn from this story about the importance of a healthy diet?

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

**Discuss.**

Sometimes we face what seems like impossible situations. God was able to help Daniel and his friends. How should this encourage Christians today? Read Luke 1: 37.
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<tr>
<td>Lesson 2 – Daniel</td>
<td>Topic – The Fiery Furnace</td>
<td>Topic – Standing for God</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bible Focus:** Daniel 2: 48 – 49; 3: 1 – 30  
**Key Verse:** Daniel 3: 17

### We are learning that:
1. Christians believe that we should be prepared to stand up for Jesus at all costs.  
2. The Bible teaches that if we put Jesus first in our lives, He will be with us in this life and reward us in the future for being faithful to Him.

### INTRODUCE IT
Remind pupils that in the land of Babylon, people worshipped idols. The idol in this lesson was an image made of gold. Its height was 90 feet and its width was 9 feet. Nebuchadnezzar commanded that when people heard the music they were to fall down and worship it. However, the three young Jews, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to worship the idol because they belonged to the only true God.

### COMPLETE IT
**Present the Bible Story**

**Discuss and Explain:**
1. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to worship the idolatrous image (3: 12).  
2. Nebuchadnezzar was angry with them and threatened to have them thrown in the blazing furnace (3: 15).  
3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego told Nebuchadnezzar that if they were put in the furnace, God would rescue them (3: 17).  
4. Then Nebuchadnezzar ordered the fiery furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual and the three young Jews be thrown into it. The furnace was so hot that the men who threw them in were killed themselves. However, when the king looked in, he was astonished to see four men – one of whom was the Son of God (3: 19 – 25).  
5. The Jews were unharmed! The king was so impressed that he did not allow anyone to speak against the God of the Jews. He also promoted these young men even though they had refused to obey him!

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

**Complete Lesson 2.**

Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Three men standing for God (I)

### REVIEW IT
Discuss with pupils how the Key Verse summarises the events in this lesson.  
Also look up John 10: 28 and discuss the great promise Jesus made to those who follow Him.

1. **Exodus 20: 1 – 6** – Read and discuss what it says about not worshipping idols. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego obeyed this. Talk of the importance of knowing what the Bible teaches, in order to please God.
2. **Acts 5: 27 – 32** – Read and discuss how Peter and the Apostles, like these three young men, told the high priest and council that they would obey God and not men (verse 29).

### LIVE IT
**How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.**

1. The king was impressed by the way these young men were faithful to God. Are people who are not Christians impressed by the example of Christians today?
2. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were prepared to be faithful to God no matter what the cost. Are Christians prepared to live like this today?

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.**

1. The faith of Daniel and his three friends was special. It has been called the “if not” faith. They said, “Our God is able to deliver us but if not, we will still refuse to bow”. Can God still give that kind of faith today? (Hebrews 11: 1)
2. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were friends and stood together in this trial. How important is true friendship?
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<td><strong>Lesson 3 – Daniel</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic – The Mysterious Hand</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bible Focus: Daniel 5: 1 – 31 |
| **Key Verse:** Daniel 5: 23 |
| **We are learning that:** |
| 1. King Belshazzar, like his father Nebuchadnezzar, ignored God in the way he behaved. |
| 2. The Bible teaches that God must punish sin. |

| **INTRODUCE IT** |
| Think of some of the rules you have in your country, or in your school. Try and write a striking rule in no more than FOUR words. Discuss what impact it might have e.g. No running in school! |

| **COMPLETE IT** |
| **Present the Bible Story** |
| **Discuss and Explain:** |
| 1. King Belshazzar had a great feast for 1000 of his nobles. He ignored all the lessons his father had learned about following God. He demanded to use the silver and gold goblets from God's temple in Jerusalem (5: 1 – 2). |
| 2. Human fingers suddenly appeared and wrote a message on the wall. The king was terrified. Nobody could tell what the message meant (3: 5 – 9). |
| 3. Daniel was brought in as the only person able to interpret the writing on the wall (5: 10 – 16). |
| 4. Daniel explained that God was telling the king that he had not learned from all that had happened to his father. He was not honouring God (5: 17 – 28). |
| 5. God punished Belshazzar and he died that very night and his kingdom was divided. Darius the Mede became the ruler (5: 30 – 31). |

| **Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.** |
| **Complete Lesson 3.** |
| **Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel: The Writing on the Wall (l) |

| **REVIEW IT** |
| Make a spider diagram using sticky notes to suggest how God speaks to people today. Display this on the classroom wall. |

| **LIVE IT** |
| **How does the lesson challenge Christians today?** |
| **Discuss:** |
| 1. Does God still speak today? In what ways? |
| 2. Read Romans 6: 23. What can we learn about the consequences of sin from these verses? |

| **C1 – LEVEL 4** |
| **Study 3 – Daniel** |
| **Topic – Speaking for God** |

| Bible Focus: Daniel 5: 1 – 31 |
| **Key Verse:** Daniel 5: 23 |
| **We are learning that:** |
| 1. King Belshazzar was proud and had ignored God just like his father Nebuchadnezzar. |
| 2. The Bible teaches that God is in control of everything and we need to trust and obey Him. |

| **INTRODUCE IT** |
| Think of some of the rules and laws in your country and discuss the consequences if those laws are ignored and why law-breaking must be punished. |

| **COMPLETE IT** |
| **Present the Bible Story** |
| **Discuss and Explain:** |
| 1. King Belshazzar had a great feast for 1000 of his nobles. He was proud, and he chose to ignore all the lessons his father had learned about following the one true God. He demanded to use silver and gold goblets from God's temple in Jerusalem (5: 1 – 2). |
| 2. Belshazzar and his friends showed no respect for God and the treasures from the temple. Instead, they worshipped idols. |
| 3. Human fingers suddenly appeared and wrote a message on the wall. The king was terrified. Nobody could tell what the message meant (3: 5 – 9). |
| 4. Daniel was brought in as the only person able to interpret the writing on the wall (5: 10 – 16). |
| 5. Daniel explained that God was telling the king that he had not learned from all that had happened to his father. Also, that He was not pleased with his choices, attitudes and actions. |
| 6. He was not honouring God, who holds in His hand his life and all his ways (5: 17 – 28). |
| 7. God punished Belshazzar and he died that very night and his kingdom was divided. Darius the Mede became the ruler (5: 30 – 31). |

| **Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.** |
| **Complete Study 3.** |
| **Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel: The Writing on the Wall (l) |

| **REVIEW IT** |
| Discuss in small groups, then feedback to the whole group: |
| 1. What causes people to ignore God? |
| 2. What punishment does the Bible say to expect if we ignore God? |

| **LIVE IT** |
| **How does the lesson challenge Christians today?** |
| **Discuss:** |
| 1. The Bible makes it clear that God wants to be first place in our lives. How can we put Him first? |
### Level 3 – 4

**C1 – LEVEL 3**

**Lesson 4 – Daniel**

**Topic – The den of lions**

---

**INTRODUCE IT**

Think of examples from the Bible or history where someone stood up for what they believed in and suffered as a result, e.g. Martin Luther King

---

**COMPLETE IT**

**Present the Bible Story**

Discuss and Explain:

1. **King Darius now reigned over Babylon. Daniel had a significant ruling role.** The king liked Daniel and respected him because he was very successful in everything he did (**6: 1 – 3**).
2. **The other princes or satraps were jealous and devised a plan to get Daniel into trouble.** They convinced King Darius that everyone should bow down and worship only him for 30 days (**6: 4 – 9**).
3. **Daniel continued each day to go to his room and pray to God three times a day (**6: 10**).**
4. **This was reported to the king. He tried to override his own command, but he could not.** The king had no alternative but to put Daniel into the lions’ den (**6: 11 – 16**).
5. **Daniel trusted in God and was prepared to put his time of praying to God before his own safety.** Daniel believed that God was in control and could protect him in the lions’ den.
6. **The king had a sleepless night worrying about Daniel, but he was delighted to find Daniel alive and well the next morning.** God had shut the lions’ mouths (**6: 22 – 23**).
7. **The conspirators were thrown into the lions’ den and eaten immediately (**6: 24**).**
8. **King Darius commanded that Daniel’s God should be respected and honoured (**6: 25 – 26**). Explain in simple terms what this means, e.g. held in high regard / thought very highly of.

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

Complete Lesson 4.

Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel in the lions’ den (l)

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**REVIEW IT**

Discuss in small groups, then feedback to the whole group:

In what ways could Christians be criticised for standing up for what they believe in?

How does the story of Daniel help us to learn how to deal with this?

---

**LIVE IT**

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

Discuss.

1. **Why should Christians not be afraid to stand up for God?** Read **Joshua 1: 9**.

---

**C1 – LEVEL 4**

**Study 4 – Daniel**

**Topic – Suffering for God**

---

**INTRODUCE IT**

What sort of opposition might people who follow Jesus come up against?

---

**COMPLETE IT**

**Present the Bible Story**

Discuss and Explain:

1. **King Darius now reigned over Babylon. Daniel had a significant ruling role.** The king liked Daniel and respected him because he was very successful in everything he did (**6: 1 – 3**).
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8. **King Darius commanded that Daniel’s God should be respected and honoured (**6: 25 – 26**). Explain in simple terms what this means.

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

Complete Study 4.

Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Daniel in the lions’ den (l)

---

**REVIEW IT**

Discuss in small groups, then feedback to the whole group:

Nobody likes difficulties. How did Daniel’s difficult experiences affect him?

When we face difficulties, what should our attitude be?

---

**LIVE IT**

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

Discuss.

1. **Daniel had a daily routine of praying 3 times a day.** What lessons can a Christian today learn from his example?
2. **In groups, try writing the sort of prayer Daniel might have prayed each time he went to his room.**
### INTRODUCE IT
Describe playing a game when someone cheated. How did you react to someone who ignored the rules?

Today's lesson is about a man who was very unpopular because he was dishonest. People thought he was bad, but Jesus showed love to him, and wanted to meet him.

### COMPLETE IT

#### Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. Zacchaeus was rich, but he was unpopular because he worked as a tax collector for the Romans (19: 1 – 2). He was sometimes dishonest and took more money than he should.
2. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus and climbed up a tree to do this because he wasn’t very tall! (19: 3 – 4)
3. Jesus asked Zacchaeus to come down and said he wanted to come to Zacchaeus’ house (19: 5 – 6).
4. Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus to his house, but the people weren’t very happy about this.
5. Zacchaeus was sorry for his sins and told Jesus he would give his money to poor people and to people he had cheated (19: 8).
6. Jesus said salvation had come to Zacchaeus’ house (19: 9). Zacchaeus had been forgiven for his sins.
7. Jesus said he had come to find and save lost people like Zacchaeus (19: 10). This is good news because it means that through Jesus, God made it possible for all to be forgiven.

#### Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.

Complete Lesson 1.
Show it: [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Jesus meets Zacchaeus (P)

#### REVIEW IT
In pairs, imagine you are carrying out an interview with Zacchaeus for a news programme about the day he met Jesus and how it changed his life. Prepare some questions and answers. One person can be the interviewer and the other can be Zacchaeus. Remember to base your interview on the story in Luke 19: 1 – 10.

#### LIVE IT
How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

1. Do people have to be perfect or popular for God to change their lives? No! Zacchaeus was unpopular and sinful, but Jesus changed him.
2. Since Jesus came to find and save lost people, how should Christians treat people who are a) unpopular? b) do not believe in the Bible’s teaching?

---

**Bible Focus:** Luke 19: 1 – 10

**Key Verse:** Luke 19: 10

We are learning that:

1. Meeting Jesus was the most important thing that had ever happened to Zacchaeus.
2. Zacchaeus was never the same again after that day. His life was changed.

---

**Bible Focus:** Luke 19: 1 – 10

**Key Verse:** Luke 19: 10

We are learning that:

1. Meeting Jesus was the most important thing that had ever happened to Zacchaeus.
2. Zacchaeus was never the same again after that day. His life was changed.

---

Zacchaeus was not a popular person. Are there unpopular people in your class or school? How could you show love as Jesus did to so many different types of people?
### Level 3 – 4

#### C2 – LEVEL 3

**Lesson 2 – People Jesus Met**  
**Topic – Jesus meets a woman at a well**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Bible Focus:</strong> John 4: 5 – 30</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key Verse:</strong> John 4: 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>We are learning that:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Jesus met a woman at the well who was despised and lonely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Bible teaches that Jesus loves, knows and can help everybody.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INTRODUCE IT**

Discuss going for a run or a long walk on a hot day. Would you get thirsty? What would it feel like when someone gave you a drink? Make a list of adjectives to describe how it feels to be given a cool drink when you are very thirsty, e.g. refreshing, cooling, thirst-quenching, energizing, gratifying, enjoyable, delightful.

**COMPLETE IT**

**Present the Bible Story**  
**Discuss and Explain:**

1. When Jesus stopped on His journey through Samaria to rest by a well, he met a Samaritan woman (4: 4 – 7).
2. Jews didn’t like Samaritans and they wouldn’t talk to them. Jesus was different. He loves everyone whoever they are. The woman was surprised when Jesus asked her for a drink. Usually Jewish people would not even speak to her (4: 7 – 9).
3. When Jesus told her He could give her living water, she was confused (4: 10 – 14).
4. Jesus knew all about the Samaritan woman’s life and family. She thought He must be a prophet (4: 19).
5. Jesus told the woman that He was the Messiah her people were waiting for.
6. The woman believed Him and went immediately to tell her friends and neighbours in the town. She left her water jar behind at the well. She had discovered the living water that the Bible says only Jesus can give: the gift of eternal life, through Him.
7. Explain how we physically need water, but Jesus was talking about a spiritual need – to be forgiven by God, resulting in eternal life in Heaven.

**Present the Bible Story**  
**Discuss and Explain:**

1. Jesus met a man who had been blind since birth. His disciples asked if his blindness was a punishment from God, but Jesus replied that He was going to heal the man so that everyone could see the works of God in His life (9: 1 – 3).
2. Jesus put mud on the man’s eyes and told him to go and wash it off in the Pool of Siloam. The man obeyed Jesus and miraculously was able to see (9: 6 – 7).
3. The Pharisees were told about the miracle and said Jesus could not have been from God because He had healed on the Sabbath day. They did not believe that Jesus was God’s Son (9: 13 – 17).
4. The man who had been blind began to realise that Jesus had made him see again. He believed that Jesus was God’s Son and he worshipped Him (9: 35 – 38).
5. The blind man could see physically when Jesus healed him, but he also realised who Jesus was, and he believed Him. He could then see spiritually as well as physically. The Pharisees could see physically, but they refused to believe that Jesus was the Son of God. They were blind spiritually.
6. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the Light of the World. He came into the world so that people could be set free from spiritual blindness.

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

**Complete Lesson 2.**  
Show it: www.freebibleimages.org Jesus talks with the Samaritan woman (I)

**REVIEW IT**

1. Following the example of Jesus, how should we treat other people? Give examples.
2. What did the woman do when Jesus told her He was the Messiah? Why? What was the result of what she did?

**Pair discussion: Read the Bible passage again and discuss the reaction after the miracle of:**

- a) The neighbours
- b) His parents
- c) The Pharisees
- d) The man

**LIVE IT**

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.**

1. Have you spent time with people who are considered unpopular?

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.**

Look at John 8: 12 and consider what this means in the life of a Christian.
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<tr>
<td>Lesson 3 – People Jesus met</td>
<td>Bible Focus: <em>John 3: 1 – 16</em></td>
<td>Bible Focus: <em>John 10: 1 – 33</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic – Jesus meets a man at night</td>
<td>Key Verse: <em>John 3: 16</em></td>
<td>Key Verse: <em>John 10: 9</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We are learning that:</strong></td>
<td><strong>We are learning that:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Jesus met Nicodemus, a religious Pharisee who wanted answers to his questions.</td>
<td>1. Jesus taught that we are like sheep and He is like a shepherd who looks after us.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Jesus told him he needed to be born again to have God’s gift of new life.</td>
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<td><strong>INTRODUCE IT</strong></td>
<td><strong>INTRODUCE IT</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Talk to the group about the birth of a new baby. Why is it such an exciting time? Think about new life and the importance of birthdays and their significance.</td>
<td>Make a list of jobs that shepherds do (e.g. protect their sheep; lead their sheep; find sheep when they get lost; provide sheep with food and water).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Present the Bible Story</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discuss and Explain:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Nicodemus was a Jewish religious ruler who came to see Jesus at night. We don’t know why. Maybe he was embarrassed and preferred to come when it was dark.</td>
<td>1. Jesus told the Pharisees that He is the shepherd and also, He is like the gate for the sheep. He protects us as the shepherd guards the gate of the sheep fold (10: 7 – 11). Jesus used these ideas like pictures to explain more about Himself to the people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Nicodemus said Jesus must have come from God because no one could do the miracles Jesus did without God’s help (<em>John 3: 1 – 2</em>).</td>
<td>2. Jesus said that in contrast to the other leaders, He had come to give people life (<em>10: 10</em>).</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Jesus said no one could see God’s Kingdom unless they are born again. Nicodemus couldn’t understand how an older person could be born as a baby again (<em>3: 4</em>).</td>
<td>3. Jesus said He is the good shepherd who gave His own life for the sheep (<em>10: 11 &amp; 14</em>).</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Jesus said to enter God’s Kingdom people need to be born again to receive God’s life, which is given by the Spirit (<em>3: 5 – 8</em>).</td>
<td>4. Some people thought Jesus was mad. Others refused to believe He was God’s Son (<em>10: 21 &amp; 24 – 26</em>).</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. He also explained to Nicodemus that He would be lifted up on a cross, just like the brass snake that Moses lifted up in the desert. If the sick people who were bitten by snakes looked at the brass snake, they didn’t die but were made well again (<em>Numbers 21: 4 – 9</em> (<em>3: 14</em>).</td>
<td>5. Jesus told the Jews that the great things He was doing showed that He was the Messiah sent from God. When they heard this, some of the Jews refused to believe Him. They tried to kill Jesus by stoning Him. These people were not His sheep (<em>10: 31 – 33</em>).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. He told Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus. Jesus was lifted up when He died on the cross. Whoever looks to Jesus and believes in Him will not die but have eternal life. (<em>John 3: 16 Key Verse</em>)</td>
<td>6. However, some people believed Jesus. These people were His sheep.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Complete Lesson 3.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete Study 3.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete Study 3.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Show it:</strong> <a href="http://www.freebibleimages.org">www.freebibleimages.org</a> Nicodemus (I)</td>
<td><strong>Show it:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Show it:</strong> No appropriate FBI</td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW IT</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Quiz:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group discussion:</strong> What did Jesus mean when He said He was:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. What did Jesus say had to happen before someone could see the Kingdom of God?</td>
<td>1. The gate for the sheep? (<em>10: 9</em>)</td>
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<td>2. Did Jesus say that Nicodemus would have to become a baby again?</td>
<td>2. The good shepherd? (<em>10: 11 &amp; 14</em>)</td>
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<td>3. Do we have to pay for God’s new life?</td>
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<td>4. What happened when sick people looked up to the brass snake Moses held up in the desert? What happened if they didn’t?</td>
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<td>5. What does the Bible say we need to do to receive God’s life?</td>
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<td><strong>LIVE IT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discuss.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicodemus may have been considered ‘unreachable’ as a strict, religious man. However, Jesus changed his life. How willing are we to reach out to ‘unreachable’ people today?</td>
<td>Look again at the list of jobs that shepherds do. What difference does it make knowing Jesus as our shepherd?</td>
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### Level 3 – 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson 4 – People Jesus met</th>
<th>Study 4 – The sayings of Jesus</th>
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</table>
| **Bible Focus:**  
**Key Verse:** John 9: 1 – 38 |
**We are learning that:**
1. Jesus met and healed a blind man.
2. The Bible teaches that people who don’t follow Jesus are spiritually blind. Only Jesus can give them true sight. |
| **Bible Focus:**  
**Key Verse:** John 3: 1 – 16 |
**We are learning that:**
1. Jesus met Nicodemus who was a religious Pharisee but who wanted help.
2. Jesus told him he needed to be born again to have God’s gift of new life. This is offered to us if we believe in Jesus. |

### INTRODUCE IT

Discuss meeting a blind person. What are the challenges that blind people face? In pairs, make a list of these and compare with the whole group. Consider also how a sighted person could help a blind person.

Group or pair discussion: The birth of a new baby is an exciting time. Why? Think about new life and the importance of birthdays and their significance.

### COMPLETE IT

**Present the Bible Story**

**Discuss and Explain:**
1. Jesus met a man who had been blind since birth. His disciples asked if his blindness was a punishment from God. Jesus said that He was going to heal the man so that everyone could see the works of God in His life (9: 1 – 3).
2. Jesus put mud on the man’s eyes and told him to wash it off in the Pool of Siloam. The man obeyed Jesus and miraculously was able to see (9: 6 – 7).
3. The Pharisees were told about the miracle and said Jesus could not have been from God because He had healed on the Sabbath day. They did not believe that Jesus was God’s Son (9: 13 – 17).
4. The man who had been blind realised that it was Jesus who had made him see again. He believed Jesus was God’s Son and he worshipped Him (9: 35 – 38).
5. As well as being physically healed, the blind man also realised who Jesus was, and he believed in Him. He could then see spiritually as well as physically. The Pharisees could see physically, but they refused to believe that Jesus was the Son of God. They were blind spiritually.
6. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the Light of the World who came so that we could be set free from spiritual blindness.

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

**Complete Lesson 4.**

**Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Jesus heals a man born blind (P)

**Present the Bible Story**

**Discuss and Explain:**
1. Nicodemus was a Jewish religious ruler who came to see Jesus at night. We don’t know why. Perhaps he wanted to keep the conversation secret.
2. Nicodemus said Jesus must have come from God because no one could do the miracles Jesus did without God’s help (John 3: 1 – 2).
3. Jesus said no one can see God’s Kingdom unless they are born again. Nicodemus couldn’t understand how an older person could be born as a baby again (3: 4). Jesus explained that the second birth He was describing was spiritual rather than physical.
4. Jesus said to enter God’s Kingdom, people need to be born again to receive God’s gift of new life. This is given by the Holy Spirit (3: 5 – 8).
5. Jesus also explained to Nicodemus that He would be lifted up on a cross, just like the brass snake that Moses lifted up in the desert. If the sick people who were bitten by snakes looked at the brass snake, they didn’t die but were made well again. (Numbers 21: 4 – 9) (John 3: 14)
6. Jesus told Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus. Jesus was lifted up when He died on the cross. Whoever turns to Jesus and believes in Him will not die but have eternal life. (John 3: 16 - Key Verse)

**Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.**

**Complete Study 4.**

**Show it:** [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) Nicodemus (I)

### REVIEW IT

Create a comic strip storyboard of the events in today’s story.

Group discussion: What does the conversation that Nicodemus had with Jesus teach us about becoming a Christian? What difference does it make when we believe in Jesus?

### LIVE IT

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

**Discuss:**
1. What was the difference between the attitude of the blind man and the Pharisees, the neighbours and his parents?
2. When we suffer from a disease, tragedy or disability, do we use our circumstances to point others to God?

**How does the lesson challenge Christians today?**

**Discuss:**
1. Nicodemus may have been considered ‘unreachable’ as a strict, religious man. However, Jesus changed his life. How willing are we to reach out to ‘unreachable’ people today?