Lesson 22 Jesus Gives Us a New Life

Pictures 27, 28



Aim

To teach that a follower of Jesus is a new person. He turns his back on the old ways with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Teacher Preparation: As you prepare this lesson thank God that you are a new person in Christ Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to model attitudes, values and actions that are truly Christian in your teaching ministry. Then read and study 2 Corinthians 5:14-18, Galations 5:16-26, Colossians 3:18-21 and the lesson plan.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17

When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come.

Lesson Plan

Introduction



The best way to begin the lesson would be with a word of testimony showing how the Holy Spirit helped you to overcome a temptation.

For example, perhaps there was a boy in your class at school who always abused you. One day after you became a Christian he began to say rude words to you. Instead of fighting him as you used to do, you suggested that you have a game of football together.

If you cannot think of your own example make up a story about a boy or girl similar to the one above but a real example is always much better.

Main Points of Lesson

1. *Show picture 27.* A Christian is like a new person: he has been born again. Review memory verse, John 3:3 (Lesson 19). He is turning his back on the old ways. The class can tell you what the old ways in the picture are - drinking, fighting, stealing, worshipping idols or putting something else before God. Read from the Bible Galatians 5:20-21. Get the class to tell you what are the old, bad ways.

2. It is important to tell the class that it is very difficult for the Christian to turn his back on the old ways. A Christian often feels he is pulled in two directions. Show the class an elastic band or a piece of elastic. Pull it in both directions. A Christian is pulled like this. The Holy Spirit is the one who has the power to help the Christian who is seeking to live God's way.

NOTE: The danger with this lesson is that the children are only taught to stop doing the old, bad things. There must be a positive side to the lesson. New good ways must be put in the place of the old bad ways. The new good ways will be plain for all to see in our everyday living. Read Gal. 5:22-23. Get the children to tell you what are the new, good ways.

Review

Briefly go over the lesson to emphasise that becoming and being a Christian means living a changed, new life walking in God's holy ways.

Our Response to the Lesson

Show picture 28. Here is a Christian family. The man and the wife are helping each other. The wife is looking after the children. The husband is helping to carry what they need.

With older children the teacher could read Col. 3:18-21. God says the husband must love his wife, look after her, care for her. God says a wife must love her husband and respect him.

This picture shows a different family from pictures 4 and 5, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel. Theirs was the old way. Contrast it with the new way. Help the children to respond positively to what may be for them a new and different view of family relationships and family life.

Teach Memory Verse