

Stepping Stones Lesson Plan — Summer 2003

Before the Sunday You Teach

1. Read through the lesson plan
2. Review the video (optional)
3. Determine from schedule the length of time you will have to teach:
 - on a regular Sunday approximately 40 minutes,
 - on a Communion Sunday approximately 55 minutes.

Getting Ready

Look at today's order of service in the bulletin. Know which hymn the Worship service is to end with. You do not want to get caught ending *Stepping Stones* at the first organ swell only wait with the children for the real closing hymn.

From the *Stepping Stones* cabinet, get:

1. Copy of Summer 2003 lesson plan
2. Video (See schedule on back page)
3. Words of the hymns (posted on file folders, stored in a file box)
4. Salvation Hand (posted on a file folder, stored in a file box)

Setting Up the Room

1. Get VCR/TV cart from furnace room. Furnace room door opens into *Stepping Stones* area (Please return cart to furnace room immediately after using it — children could be hurt if they climb on or push the cart and tip it over.)
2. Close *Stepping Stones* cabinet.
3. Position VCR/TV cart, plug it in, and position tape to the beginning of the story.
4. Set up the chairs to make a theater.
5. Remove all extra stuff (tables, etc.) from room, except for one table by the entrance/exit. Use this table to store and items that the children bring (i.e. purses, books, playthings.).
6. Pray for today's *Stepping Stones* time.

Start Out Right

As the children come in:

1. Have them place any distractions that they have brought with them on table by the entrance/exit.
2. Watch who is sitting by whom; suggest different seating arrangements if you suspect a possible problem.

The Greeting (approximately 1 minutes) (same as during school-year Stepping Stones)

Greet each child as he or she sits down. Talk with the children while the others arrive. When everyone is present, exchange the formal liturgical greeting —

Leader: *Christ is Risen!*
Children: The Lord is risen indeed.

Opening Hymn (approximately 2 minutes) (See schedule for hymn)

Most of the children will know the hymn. They sang it before in *Stepping Stones*. Lead them in singing the first verse. The words for the hymn will be on a file folder in the *Stepping Stones* cabinet.

- ◆ #175 *A Wonderful Savior is Jesus* — June 15 to July 6
- ◆ #605 *All the Way My Savior Leads Me* — July 13 to August 3
- ◆ #701 *Redeemed How I love to Proclaim it* — August 10 to August 31

The Salvation Hand (approximately 5 minutes) (See schedule for which finger to review)

Show the children the salvation hand.

Begin by saying: *Let's pray. Dear Lord, thank you for this time. Help the children to understand the meaning of the salvation hand and that each one would understand what it means to be your child.*

On your own hand review the names for each finger. Have the children say the names with you on their own fingers. Then, review all the material in detail for the finger listed in the schedule.

After you have completed your review say: *Let's pray. Dear Lord, thank you for these children here today. I pray for the children who are your children. You know that they do, say and think things that displease you. They know that those things are sin. They know that Jesus died on the cross to pay for those sins. And they have asked Jesus to forgive give them and make them God's child. For those children, I pray that they would grow in their love for you by learning the Bible and praying to you daily. For the other children who do not know Jesus as Lord and Savior, I pray that the Holy Spirit would help them to understand that they do, say and think things that displease you, and that those things are sin. We all sin and need Jesus. I sin and need Jesus. Please give that child who is not your child the desire to become your child today. Enable that boy or girl to trust in Jesus alone for his or her salvation. Thank you Lord for your love. In your name we pray. Amen.*

Show the Video (approximately 30 - 35 minutes) (See schedule for video title)

Take a moment here to remove toys or other distractions that have appeared. Introduce the video as you see fit or just push play.

Discussion Time (will vary with time available)

Once the video is done, you have several ways to close the time, depending on time left:

- ◆ *No time left*
 1. Sing closing hymn
 2. Bless each child as he or she is released to the parents.

- ◆ *Some time left*

Discuss the video by asking the following questions:

- What happened in the video today; who had a problem?
- What did you like about the video?

- What did *they* learn?
- What did *you* learn about God?

Finish up conversation when you hear the adults singing the closing hymn. Then, start with step 1 under “No time left,” or, if conversation with children ends before the worship service does, sing with the children until you hear the adults singing the closing hymn. You can allow the children to suggest songs. If you can't think of any songs, refer to the *Wee Sing Bible Songs* book in the file box where the hymn words are stored.

The Closing Hymn (approximately 2 minutes) (See schedule for hymn)

Most of the children will know the hymn. They sang it before. Lead them in singing the first verse.

- ◆ #30 *Our God Our Help in Ages Past* — June 15 to July 6
- ◆ #119 *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* — July 13 to August 3
- ◆ #441 *Jesus Shall Reign* — August 10 to August 31

Closing Up

1. Return VCR/TV cart to furnace room.
2. Return video and copy of lesson plan to the *Stepping Stones* cabinet.

Stepping Stones Summer 2003 Schedule

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Teacher</i> | <i>Video</i> | <i>Salvation Hand</i> | <i>Opening Hymn</i> | <i>Closing Hymn</i> |
|-------------|--|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| 08-Jun | <i>— School Year Schedule Ends —</i> | | | | |
| 15-Jun | Jodi Stouffer | The Wonder of You (30 min.) | Grace | #175 A Wonderful Savior is Jesus My Lord | #30 Our God Our Help in Ages Past |
| 22-Jun | Kevin Bergman | Politeness & Joy (24 min.) | Man | | |
| 29-Jun | Bill Rose | Confidence & Love (24 min.) | God | | |
| *06-Jul | Beth Betts | Flying on Wings of Beauty (30 min.) | Christ | | |
| 13-Jul | Dave Miller | Goodness & Faith (24 min.) | Faith | #605 All the Way My Savior Leads Me | #119 I Sing the Almighty Power of God |
| 20-Jul | Amy Rothrock | Honesty & Responsibility (24 min.) | Grace | | |
| 27-Jul | Conal Carr | Thankfulness & Gentleness (24 min.) | Man | | |
| *03-Aug | Bill Rose | The Power in Plants (30 min.) | God | | |
| 10-Aug | Debbie Strong | Sharing & Kindness (24 min.) | Christ | #701 Redeemed How I Love to Proclaim It | #441 Jesus Shall Reign |
| 17-Aug | Amy Garbrick | Patience & Peace (24 min.) | Faith | | |
| 24-Aug | Steve Felton | Obedience & Self Control (24min.) | Grace | | |
| 31-Aug | Linda Bonness | The Clown-Faced Carpenter (30 min.) | Man | | |
| *07-Sep | <i>— School Year Schedule Begins —</i> | | | | |

* Communion Sunday

cc: Denise Person, coffee fellowship
Kris Carr, nursery
Lori Rose, bulletin