

# Gospel Light Elementary Sunday School

## Sample Lesson

Includes links to all related resources

Give ME Jesus!

I'm part  
of God's  
plan!

Includes a Link to  
Downloadable  
Lesson Extras

Teacher Guide  
Fall A • Grades 1 & 2

# Welcome to Dangerous Times!

This quarter, you and your kids will discover the adventure of trusting God's faithfulness in the midst of dangerous times. As students learn about people who lived in the times of 2 Kings through Judah's exile and the return to the Promised Land, they will learn to trust and follow God just as Daniel and others did.

If this is your first time to teach this material or if you'd like a quick refresher, go to our website at [www.gospellightsundayschool.com](http://www.gospellightsundayschool.com). But if you're ready to venture into exciting times, then follow these easy

## 1-2-3 STEPS



### Prepare and Pray



1. Check out the lesson introduction. The Big Idea tells why the lesson will make a difference in kids' lives—and in your life, too! The Action Plan helps you focus on what kids can do in this lesson to apply the Big Idea to life! Connecting You to Jesus shows how the action in this lesson's Bible story points to Jesus.
2. Read the lesson and customize it for your kids by marking the activities you plan to do. Pray for God to help you reach your kids and show His love to them.
3. Gather the materials you need—they're listed right there for you!

### Teach



1. **Get Thinking:** Welcome your kids and use this activity to help them think about today's Big Idea!
2. **Get God's Word:**  This is the heart and soul of your time together! Use the Story Starter to draw kids in and the fun Storytelling Idea to get kids participating as you tell the story.
3. **Get Talking:**  Help kids talk about ways they can apply the Bible to their lives. Whiteboard Time, *Kid Talk Cards*, cool art activities and energetic games will keep your kids interacting with one another, with you and with God! (And get families talking, too, by handing out *Family Fridge Fun* papers for kids to take home.) End with a prayer time together!

### CONNECT TO FAMILIES

Check out the Fall Family Event in the downloadable lesson extras! This is a must-have event that really helps you pump up parent participation in your program and help them grow faith at home. Get your parents involved!

Ready for an adventure?

## LET'S GO



# Contents



## Articles

Welcome to Dangerous Times! .....	1
Connecting Kids to Jesus .....	3

## Lessons

<b>Lesson 1</b> Joash, Boy King ✱ 2 Kings 11—12 .....	6
<b>Lesson 2</b> Jonah's Journey ✱ Jonah 1—3 .....	16
<b>Lesson 3</b> God's People Pray ✱ 2 Chronicles 20:1-30 .....	26
<b>Lesson 4</b> A King Celebrates ✱ 2 Chronicles 29—30 .....	36
<b>Lesson 5</b> Jeremiah Tells God's Words ✱ Jeremiah 36 .....	46
<b>Lesson 6</b> Daniel Takes a Stand ✱ Daniel 1 .....	56
<b>Lesson 7</b> Three in a Furnace? ✱ Daniel 3 .....	66
<b>Lesson 8</b> Writing on a Wall ✱ Daniel 5 .....	76
<b>Lesson 9</b> In the Lions' Den ✱ Daniel 6 .....	86
<b>Lesson 10</b> From Orphan to Queen ✱ Esther 2—4 .....	96
<b>Lesson 11</b> Esther Saves the Jews ✱ Esther 5—10 .....	106
<b>Lesson 12</b> Nehemiah's Trip Home ✱ Nehemiah 1—3 .....	116
<b>Lesson 13</b> Nehemiah Rebuilds ✱ Nehemiah 4:1—6:16 .....	126



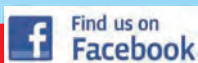
## Gospel Light Sunday School Curriculum

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## Downloadable Lesson Extras



Download this quarter's digital package at [URL removed for this sample].

In the digital package, you will find instructions for the Fall Family Event, teacher-training articles, Song Motion Charts, and Lesson Extras such as game cards, patterns, and more! Refer to the "What to Print" included in the digital content.

## Basic Supplies to Keep on Hand



Markers, pencils, paper (copy paper, construction paper, butcher paper, card stock, etc.), scissors, glue sticks, tape (clear and masking).

## Materials Needed for Each Lesson



Bibles, whiteboard and markers, *Bible Teaching Poster Pack*, *Kid Talk Cards Grades 1 & 2*, *Family Fridge Fun* papers, *Get Going! Worship CD or Worship DVD*, several copies of *What the Bible Is All About Bible Handbook for Kids*.

# Connecting Kids to Jesus

God's big picture of redemption throughout the Bible is the prime feature of this course! A focus on Jesus is in every lesson. Connecting You to Jesus, in the introduction of every lesson, will familiarize you with how the characters and the action of the lesson's Bible story point to Jesus and God's plan for salvation. These same concepts, written in kid-friendly words, are also part of each lesson's Wrap-Up: Connecting Kids to Jesus will give you the words to say to help your students see God's big plan for the ages—and how they can each be a part of that amazing plan!

But the best part of connecting kids to Jesus is helping them join His family! It's a huge joy—and it's easy! Here's a quick breakdown:

**Pray.** Start by praying for each kid you teach—keep a list on your phone or computer, in your prayer journal or in your Bible. Invite God to prepare each child to understand and receive His good news.

**Talk one-on-one.** Because kids are easily influenced to follow the group, be wise



in the way you invite kids to join God's family when you're in a group setting. Make it easy for kids who express interest to talk and pray with a prepared adult—but without pressure.

**Be clear.** Kids need to understand the gospel! So we need to use words and phrases kids understand. And don't assume that they do understand just because they can repeat something back to you. Avoid symbolic terms ("born again," "ask Jesus to come into your heart," "open your heart," etc.). Those can confuse these literal-minded thinkers. (For some great words, check out the evangelism booklet *God Loves You!* It's available from Gospel Light.) Mark the Scriptures below. Read them aloud with an interested kid so that it's clear that joining God's family through repentance and faith in Jesus is God's big, beautiful idea!

### Take Scripture Steps into God's Family

1. **God wants you to become His child. Why do you think God wants you in His family?** (See 1 John 3:1.)
2. **You and I and every person in the world have done wrong things. The Bible word for doing wrong is "sin." What do you think should happen to us when we sin?** (See Romans 6:23.)
3. **God loves you so much that He sent His Son to die on the cross to take the punishment for your sin. Because Jesus never sinned, He is the only One who can take the punishment for your sin. On the third day after Jesus died, what happened?** (See 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 John 4:14.)
4. **Are you sorry for your sin? Tell God that you are. Do you believe Jesus died for your sin and then rose again? Tell Him that, too. If you tell God you are sorry for your sin and believe that Jesus died to take your sin away, what does the Bible say God will do?** (See 1 John 1:9.)
5. **The Bible says that when you believe that Jesus is God's Son and that He is alive today, you receive God's gift of eternal life. This gift makes you a child of God. This means God is with you now and forever!** (See John 1:12; 3:16.)

Another approach is to give each child in your class a copy of *God Loves You!* and read through the booklet together as a group. Ask, "What did you think about the booklet? What do you think is the most important part of the booklet? After reading the booklet, how would you describe Jesus?"

**Celebrate!** YES! You have permission to be excited when a kid joins God's family! Encourage those kids to tell their family. Give their names to your pastor. And don't leave any babies to fend for themselves! Make yourself available to help them grow, or find another adult who will help them. Use the discipling booklet *Following Jesus* (available from Gospel Light) as a simple, effective way to help kids think about ways to grow in God's family.

### TIP

Telling the good news about Jesus includes demonstrating Jesus' love. Every child should feel secure and loved in the church family. For the child whose home situation has not fostered feelings of love, you need to make special efforts to give extra attention. Be sure to notice and encourage the child's actions. Use the child's name frequently as you chat. Be interested in what he or she has to say. Listen attentively. These actions all build loving relationships. And loving relationships are what God's family is all about! Show the love of Jesus in a way that a child can see and understand.



# Joash, Boy King

## Dear Teacher,

I recently heard a woman who'd survived a mass shooting tell her story. She and a friend had met for lunch in a mall food court, but after sitting down, decided to change tables. Minutes later, terrorists entered—and shot dead the man sitting in the chair from which she had just moved. Protected from death? She surely believed so!

Many of us can tell stories like this. Maybe they're not as dramatic, but they're no less real. And when I'm faced with a "saved from death" experience, I have to realize that God protects my life—and praise Him!

But God saves lives for His eternal purposes! He doesn't keep us alive so we can coast. He wants to use us to do things in this world that He's uniquely prepared us to do!



*Mary Davis*  
Editor




### Big Idea

God can protect us and use us to do good things.



### Action Plan

Talk about ways God might use us to do good things in the future.



### Bible Verse

"Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you." Psalm 55:22

Connecting You to Jesus

When Joash's young life was threatened by his own pagan grandmother, God proved His power and protected him. Since Joash was in David's family, it was another attempt by the enemy to stop the Messiah's family line before He was ever born! Jesus' life was similarly threatened by Herod. God not only protected Him, but also brought the final triumph over the enemy through Him! God always has the last word. No human can thwart His purposes. He prevails!



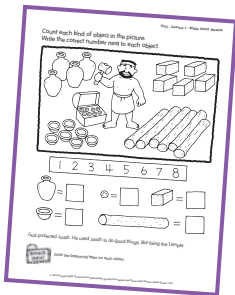
## LESSON MATERIALS

- The basics (see contents)
- Binoculars
- Get Thinking—small trash can, several foam balls, paper plate
- Story Starter—doll or toy figure
- Story props (see p. 9)
- Materials for Art or Game activity (see pp. 14-15)

## Downloadable Lesson Extras!



1. Students identify the order of books in the Bible by playing [Line Up the Books](#). Use only the first 12 books of the Old Testament for this lesson.



2. Students talk about today's Bible story as they complete [Lesson 1 Bible Story Puzzle](#).





# Get Thinking



(10-15 minutes)

Welcome students and help them begin to think about today's Big Idea.

## Protect the Can!

In an open area of the classroom, lay trash can on its side as a goal. Choose a Protector, who uses a paper plate to block a rolling ball from entering trash can mouth. Students line up and take turns as quickly as possible to roll ball into trash can mouth. Student whose ball gets in the can becomes next Protector. Play enough times for most students to be Protector.



### YOU NEED

Small trash can, several foam balls, paper plate.

### Connect:

- What made it hard to get the ball in?
- How did it feel to be the Protector? Was it easy or hard? What are other things we protect? What do you do to protect your (bike)?
- We protect things and people because we care about them. Today we'll be talking about how God protects us—because He cares about us and has good things for us to do!



# Get God's Word



(15-25 minutes)

## Joash, Boy King

Tell the following story summary in your own words, asking discussion questions as indicated.

### Story Starter

Ask for three volunteers. Show the doll or toy figure. **Here's the challenge. One of you will hide this doll while two of you close your eyes. We'll count to ten. Then, see how quickly you two can find the doll!** Students count aloud to ten. If volunteers have trouble finding hidden doll, students give "cold" or "hot" clues. **Today in our Bible study, we'll find out who was hidden—and why!** Help students find 2 Kings 12 in their Bibles. **Find two names that begin with J in verse 1.**

### YOU NEED

Bible for yourself and each student, [Lesson 1 Poster](#), doll or toy figure, binoculars.



### STORYTELLING IDEA

Pose volunteers who take the parts of Athaliah, Joash, Jehosheba, Jehoiada and Soldier as directed throughout the story.

### A Royal Mess!

After King Solomon died, the royal families of Israel and Judah became VERY confusing! Kings had many wives. And many of the wives came from other countries. They brought their own false idols and worshiped them! And THEN, these wives usually got the kings to worship false idols, too! So people all over both Israel and Judah worshiped all kinds of false gods. It was a mess!

Now God's Temple was still in Judah. Some people worshiped God. But the king might order everyone



to worship some OTHER god, too! It went on like this for YEARS—back and forth, people worshipping all kinds of false gods! It was a confusing MESS!

So here is the story of one big mess! It's also the story of how GOD protected someone from being KILLED in a very scary time! God was in charge, no matter how things looked!

## TIP

Read aloud information about 2 Kings 11 on page 96 in *What the Bible Is All About for Kids*.

## Run and Hide!

King Ahaziah of Judah was dead. His mother, Athaliah (ath-u-LIE-uh), wanted to rule Judah! Pose Athaliah with pointed finger as if giving an order. But first she had to be the ONLY one left in the family! So she ordered her soldiers to kill EVERYONE else—even her grandchildren!

But in the horrible chaos, one person took action. Jehosheba quietly hid baby Joash and his nurse. Pose Jehosheba as if hiding a baby. You see, Jehosheba was Joash's aunt. She was married to the high priest, Jehoiada. Pose Jehoiada as if praying. They worshiped the one true God. Baby Joash was the SON of the dead king. So he had a better claim to the throne than Athaliah did. IF he lived, HE could become the king one day! Pose Joash as a baby, then crawling, then standing.

## It's Time!

For six YEARS, baby Joash stayed hidden in the Temple. Athaliah ruled. THAT must have been an awful six years! Pose Athaliah as if sitting on a throne.

But when Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada called in many soldiers. Pose Jehoiada and Soldier. He showed them Joash. He told them that Joash SHOULD be the king. Then he sent these soldiers to guard the doors. He did NOT want Athaliah to come in and STOP Joash from being crowned king! Pose Soldier as if blocking the door.

Jehoiada put a crown on Joash's head. Pose both. The people clapped and shouted, "Long live the KING!"





But Athaliah heard the noise. She RAN to the Temple. When she saw Joash with a crown on his head, she was FURIOUS! The soldiers took her outside, where she died. **Pose Soldier and Athaliah as if leaving.** The Bible says there was peace in the city when Athaliah was gone! But the BEST part was that everyone in Judah tore down the temples and altars of the false gods and worshiped the one true God again!

### TIP

Show [Lesson 1 Poster](#).  
Students tell what kinds of jobs people might have done to repair the Temple.

## Good Things!

When Joash was grown, he made sure that God's Temple was repaired. People brought in money for the job, but for years, not much was done. So then Joash and Jehoiada made SURE the work got done. **Pose Joash and Jehoiada as if giving orders.** They made a box for money offerings. They hired men to tell workers what to do and made sure the money went to the workers. The workers were honest and did their best work. So finally, things were repaired! God had protected Joash! He kept Joash alive and used him to repair the Temple. After all the mess, God's people could now worship God in His Temple!





## Wrap-Up

When Joash was a baby, it looked like he would never be king. It looked like things would always be a mess in Judah. But God is stronger than anything. He protected Joash. He had a plan for his life. God used him to do good things!

Read Psalm 55:22 aloud. **We can trust God and not worry. He knows how to take care of us—and He has plans for our future!** Show binoculars. Binoculars help us see far ahead. They can help us to remember that we can trust God. He can see far ahead. Even though we don't know the future, we know He has a plan for us. He will protect us. He will use our lives and do good things through us in the future, far ahead!

## Action Plan

Talk about ways God might use us to do good things in the future.

## Connecting Kids to Jesus

Joash's grandmother wanted him dead—but God protected him. He had good plans for Joash. Joash was part of King David's family—and later, Jesus was born from that same family. King Herod wanted to kill baby Jesus. But God protected Jesus, too. God's good plan for Jesus was that through Him we could join His family! God is stronger than anyone or anything!



# Get Talking

(25-30 minutes)

## Whiteboard Time



In large letters, write "LORD" across the center of the whiteboard and read Psalm 55:22 aloud. **What does this verse tell us to do?** Invite students to tell cares a kid might have (bully, trouble in school, parent ill, etc.). Write responses so that the answers lie on top of the large "LORD" (as if they've been cast there). Write the first phrase of the verse above "LORD." Then draw two hand shapes coming out from the word "LORD" and add the second phrase of the verse below hands. Students tell ways God can sustain, or help, us as you write on the open hands. **God will sustain us. He will take care of us. He can protect us and use us to do good things!**



Distribute [Lesson 1 Kid Talk Cards](#) and read verse on Side 1 aloud. Students order story pictures to review how God protected Joash and used him to do good things.



- **When Joash was a baby, what happened? How did God protect him?** (Almost killed. Jehosheba hid him for six years.)
- **How did things change in Judah because of Joash?** (The people got rid of their idols and worshiped God.)
- **What good things did Joash do?** (Made sure the Temple was repaired so God's people could worship.)

Students look at Side 2 of [Kid Talk Cards](#). Students look at places on card and draw good things they could do at each place.

- Point to photo of binoculars. **Binoculars help us see far ahead. Even though we don't know the future, we can trust God to protect us. He can do good things through us in the future, far ahead!**
- **What are some things you hope you will do in the future?**
- **What are some good things God might use us to do in the future?** (Build something useful. Help others. Pray for others. Feed hungry people.)

## Prayer



Invite volunteers to tell prayer requests as you write them on the whiteboard. Each student writes on a Post-it Note® the name of a person who might need God's protection. Students trade notes, placing them in their Bibles as prayer reminders. Then pray with students about the needs and concerns they mention.

## Art

### We're going to make "Now and Later" pictures!

Students fold paper in half, and then draw a full-length picture of themselves on the inside flap.

Encourage students to fill the half page. When most students have finished, demonstrate cutting off top of the front flap so that the face underneath is visible. Students follow your lead cutting and then draw on the front flap to show how they might look later in life, doing what God has for them to do. Students show and talk about pictures.

### YOU NEED

Card stock, markers or crayons, scissors.

**Connect:** I like all of your "Now and Later" pictures! I see that some of you might become doctors or nurses. Some of you might coach a sports team. These are all good things that God might have for us to do later in life. God can protect us now and in the future. He'll use us to do good things—now, and later!

### TIP

If students finish quickly, invite them to make another picture, showing another possible way God might use them to do good things later in life.



## Game

Ahead of time, cut apart Question Cards and lay them facedown in a grid pattern.

Students stand in line and take turns to toss beanbag onto or near one of the cards, and then turn over card. Read card aloud. Student answers or chooses another student to answer the question.

Play until all students have had at least one chance to answer a question.

### YOU NEED

Downloadable [Question Cards](#), scissors, beanbag.

**Connect:** I liked our game! It helps me to know the things you like and are good at. God made you the way you are because He is making you ready to do good things—some things you can do today, and other things you might do in the future. God can protect us and use us to do good things!

## Get Going



Direct students to look again at Side 2 of their [Kid Talk Cards](#). As we listen to this song, think about ways God has protected you and thank Him. Then ask God to help you know what He wants you to do in the future. Play [“I Worship You, Lord”](#) (on *Worship DVD* or track 6 on *Worship CD*), inviting students to listen or sing along. Distribute [Lesson 1 Family Fridge Fun](#) papers as students leave.

