

LOWER ELEM Flight Plan March 15th



Lesson	Jesus' Hard Teachings
Bible Passage	John 6
Story Point	Many people misunderstood Jesus' teaching.
Key Passage	"He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14
Big Picture Q & A	How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.



Hard But Good

INSTRUCTIONS: Change one letter at a time to transform the word hard into the word good. Use the pictures done to help.

HARD

GOOD






STINGER/FLY Activity Pages
Unit 25 - Session 3
Lesson: Hard Teachings

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:
 • Jesus said He is the bread of life and the one who feeds from heaven.
 • Jesus said people must eat His flesh and drink His blood to have eternal life.
 • Jesus gave many instructions about His teaching.
 • Through many disciples stopped following Jesus, they knew that He is the Messiah.

REMEMBER! Colossians 1:13-14
 • He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.
 • In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
 • What does it mean for Jesus to be the "bread of life"?
 • What does it mean for Jesus to feed us spiritually about the Bible?
 • How can we improve our understanding of God's Word?

FAITH ACTIVITY:
 • Think with your hands to help a lot of friends. Ask for your hands about the new Jesus teaches us and make an original banner of our work for God's work.

Home **DEVELOPED BY THE BIBLE SOCIETY**

leader bible study

On the heels of His miraculous feeding of the five thousand, Jesus encountered crowds who erroneously concluded He was worth following because He could use His power to fill their empty stomachs. But Jesus recognized their motives and challenged them to go after something greater—not to work for food, which does not last long, but to receive eternal life by believing in Him.

Over and over again, people misunderstood Jesus' words. They asked what they could do to get the food that lasts forever. Eternal life is a gift that God gives—not to those who perform certain deeds, but to anyone who believes in Jesus. Then the crowd asked for another sign. If Moses had provided bread for 40 years, couldn't Jesus do that too? Jesus pointed out the bread didn't come from Moses; it came from God. The crowd was so determined to get bread to eat that they didn't recognize that God had now provided true bread from heaven by sending His Son.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." Jesus didn't want just to fill people's stomachs, He wanted to give them true life. Jesus continued, "If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever" (John 6:51). As you teach, emphasize to kids that God invites us to come and eat. We partake in the bread of life by believing in Him.

The Jewish leaders struggled with Jesus' teaching. How could this man, whom they knew as the son of Joseph, be the Son of God? Furthermore, Jesus talked about giving His flesh and blood. To the Jews, this didn't make any sense. Jesus' teachings were hard to understand. When Jesus talked about His flesh and blood, He was talking about His death and resurrection.

Many people stopped following Jesus because they could not accept His teachings. Yet Peter, one of the Twelve, grasped the truth: "You have the words of eternal life. ... You are the Holy One of God" (John 6:68-69). When we trust in Jesus, He gives us the gift of eternal life.

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

March Focus: The Kingdom to Come



MAR 1st: Kingdom Parables *Matthew 13*

Story point: God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything.



MAR 8th: Three Parables *Luke 15*

Story Point: Jesus came to seek and save the lost.



MAR 15th: Jesus' Hard Teachings *John 6*

Story Point: Many people misunderstood Jesus' teachings.



MAR 22nd: Jesus Raised Lazarus *John 11*

Story Point: Jesus has power over death.



MAR 29th: The Last Supper/Palm Sunday!

Story Point: Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice .



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?
- How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?
- What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?
- In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPO and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

Prompt kids to share about their least favorite subject in school. Why is it their least favorite? Is the subject hard to understand?

Big Picture Question

When Jesus was on earth, He taught people about God and His kingdom. God's kingdom is wherever God is ruling. He is ruling over us now, but one day His kingdom will come fully when Jesus returns. As you listen to today's Bible story, think about our big picture question and answer: ***How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.***

Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together **Colossians 1:13-14** • Our key passage reminds us that God's kingdom is better than this world. Apart from Jesus, we are in darkness and are slaves to sin. When we trust in Jesus, He invites us into His kingdom. He forgives our sin and gives us life with Him forever.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

Today's Bible story took place after Jesus fed the crowd of more than five thousand people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. The people had seen Jesus' disciples cross the sea, but they knew Jesus had stayed behind. So when they found Jesus with His disciples on the other side, they were surprised! They didn't realize Jesus had walked on the water to meet His disciples in the middle of the night. The crowd had more questions for Jesus. Let's find out what they talked about

Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **John 6** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

Jesus called Himself the bread of life. On another occasion He said that He gives living water. In both those situations, Jesus used non-literal language. That just means “words that mean more than they seem to.” Jesus wasn't talking about physical bread and water. He was talking about the salvation and satisfaction we get from faith in God. Just as our physical bodies need food and water to live, our souls need Jesus and the Holy Spirit to love and obey God.

When Jesus talked about eating flesh and drinking blood, He was really hinting at what would soon happen to Him. He would be killed, and He would bleed to provide salvation from sin to everyone who believes. When we consume the Lord's Supper, it helps us remember Jesus' sacrifice. A lot of the people didn't understand what Jesus meant, and they decided they didn't want anything to do with Him anymore.

I love Peter's response though. When understanding and obeying Jesus seemed very hard, Peter knew that there was nowhere else to go. No one but Jesus could speak the words of God. Only Jesus offers eternal life. I pray we respond the same way when following Jesus is hard.



Jesus wanted to do more than fill people's stomachs; He wanted to give them true life. Jesus' teachings were hard to understand. When Jesus talked about His flesh and blood, He was talking about His death and resurrection. When we trust in Jesus, He gives us the gift of eternal life.

Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: MANY PEOPLE MISUNDERSTOOD JESUS' TEACHING.

A crowd of people went looking for Jesus. They found Jesus on the other side of the Sea of Galilee. "Teacher, when did You get here?" they asked Jesus.

Jesus answered, "Why are you looking for Me? Did you want to find Me because I can do miracles, or were you looking for Me because I gave you food? If you're seeking food, remember that food on earth will perish. Search for food that gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give it to you."

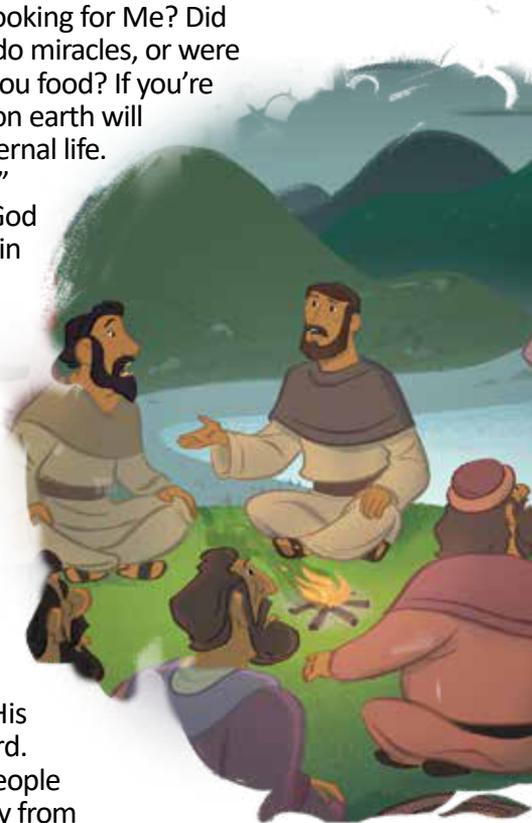
The people asked, "What does God want us to do?" Jesus said, "Believe in the One whom He has sent."

The people said, "Will You do another miracle?" Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to Me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in Me will ever be thirsty again."

The Jews began complaining. "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" they asked. Jesus said again, "I am the bread of life. Unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood, you will not live forever."

When Jesus said this, many of His followers said, "This teaching is hard. Who can accept it?" Many of the people who had followed Jesus turned away from Him. Jesus asked His twelve disciples, "Do you want to go away too?"

Peter answered, "Lord, where would we go? We believe and know that You are the Holy One of God."



Christ Connection: Jesus wanted to do more than fill people's stomachs; He wanted to give them true life. Jesus' teachings were hard to understand. When Jesus talked about His flesh and blood, He was talking about His death and resurrection. When we trust in Jesus, He gives us the gift of eternal life.

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help kids find John 6. Ask kids to tell you the books that come right before and right after John. (*Luke before, Acts after*) You may use the New Testament Israel Map to point out Capernaum, the location where today's story happened. Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. **What did Jesus say God wants people to do?** (*believe in Him, John 6:29*)
2. **Who will have eternal life?** (*everyone who believes in Jesus; John 6:40*)
3. **Why did many of Jesus' followers go away from Him?** (*His teaching was difficult to understand and accept, John 6:60-66*)
4. **How can we eat Jesus' flesh and drink His blood?** *Remind the kids that Jesus was not speaking literally. Guide them to think about the way Jesus' body would be killed and His blood spilled to make the way for us to be saved. Discuss how believers consume the Lord's Supper to remember Jesus' sacrifice for us.*
5. **How can we help people who don't know Jesus come to understand and believe in Him?** *Guide kids to practical steps they can take, like offering to read their Bibles with friends or inviting them to church. Remind the kids that only the Holy Spirit can make other people understand the truth, but we should try to give them the opportunity to hear it. Talk about what living on mission means and how it accomplishes that goal.*



God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

-With Us

-Good

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Key Passage Activity

Ask the kids to gather near the center of the room. Select a volunteer to blow bubbles. The rest of the kids should take turns saying the key passage word-by-word, popping one bubble with each word said. Play multiple times, allowing other kids to have a turn blowing the bubbles. Then allow volunteers to say the key passage from memory. Thank the kids for their efforts and encourage all the kids to continue working on the key passage.

Favorite Foods

Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Kids will take turns saying a food they love to eat. Each kid must name a different food. If a kid says a food that has already been named, he must perform some challenging task, such as doing 10 push-ups or standing on one foot for 30 seconds. He may rejoin the game after completing the task.

- I noticed none of you included flesh or blood in your favorite foods. Would it shock you to know that Jesus said His disciples must eat His flesh and drink His blood?! Today, we learned what that meant, and why many people struggled to understand it.

Do you understand?

Invite the kids to gather in the center of the room, with enough space around them to sit and stand without bumping their neighbors. Ask questions about natural occurrences. Kids will stand if they understand how it works and sit if they do not.

Suggested questions:

What makes the sky look blue?

What causes the northern lights?

How do plants make food with sunlight and air?

How do birds avoid getting lost when migrating?

- Those are some difficult to understand topics. Some people may spend their whole lives trying to fully understand stuff like that. Today, we learned about some of Jesus' teachings that were difficult to understand.

Bread of Life Clips

Provide each kid with a large bag clip that could be used to keep bread sealed. Help the kids write *Jesus is the bread of life* along the clip. Allow the kids to decorate their clips with markers, adhesive jewels, or other craft supplies.

- **Many people misunderstood Jesus' teaching.** Jesus called Himself the bread of life. He said that people must eat His flesh and drink His blood. Jesus did not mean that He is literally bread or that people should literally eat Him. Jesus was teaching that He is the source of life. He is all we need. He fills us spiritually and gives us life. Anyone who does not allow Jesus to satisfy his heart will not be free from sin or live with God in His kingdom.

You can take these bag clips home and remember that Jesus is the bread of life, who satisfies our spiritual hunger. Normal bread can go stale or grow mold, especially if you don't take steps to keep it fresh. Jesus is always all we need, and the life He gives lasts forever.

Write Thank-you Notes

Provide paper and markers for preschoolers to make thank-you notes. Show children how to fold their paper in half to make a card. Write *THANK YOU* where everyone can see. Encourage a child to copy it on the front of his card. Write *THANK YOU* on the cards ahead of time for younger preschoolers. Encourage children to draw a picture of someone taking care of them inside the card. Ask each child about what she is drawing and for whom, and then write a brief note in her card. Invite children to deliver their notes this week.

- I'm so thankful that God provides people to take care of us! Saying thanks to them is important. They take care of you because they love you, just like God does! *How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.* We feel God's love through His care for our physical needs, but we especially feel His love through Jesus.

Believe it or not!

Instruct kids to stand in a circle. Choose one player to begin by stating something about himself that is either true or false. The rest of the kids should decide if they believe it (and remain standing) or don't believe it (and sit down). Then prompt the player to reveal if his statement is true or false. Continue around the circle until everyone has a chance to participate.

- Did any of you have a hard time believing something that turned out to be true? While Jesus was on earth, He taught people many things about God and His kingdom. Everything Jesus taught was true, but not everyone believed His teaching.



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide***.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space—a neighbor’s house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don’t know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus’ light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

You're
ready
for
Sunday!



