

# February 15, 2026

## 1<sup>ST</sup>–3<sup>RD</sup> Grade Sunday School

### Candy Factory Week 7: Snoozeberries

#### **Video Game:**

Love It or Leave It

*It is in the "Sunday School Videos" album and the date is in the comments.*

#### **Game:** Erase those flaws!

#### **ITEMS NEEDED:**

Upbeat Song (Jump by Go Kids, Goodbye Yesterday, Praise) and Slow Song (Twinkle Twinkle, Getaway by TAYA, God With me by Brett Bell)

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Prepare two kinds of music. Quiet, relaxing, sleepy music and loud, exciting, wakeful music. Begin by playing relaxing music and tell the kids to all lie-down and pretend to sleep. Anytime the music changes, tell them to stand up quickly and dance around. Then when the music returns to relaxing, lay back down. Do this similarly to freeze dance where kids dance and freeze but instead lay down or get up and dance. Change it up and go back and forth between the music quickly a few times to make it challenging.

#### **WHAT'S THE POINT?**

How difficult is it to go from sleeping to being awake? It can really be a shock to go from one extreme to the other. Much like this, Jesus tells us to be prepared for His return. We do this by not being lazy about following Jesus, but beginning now so that we are ready for the day He returns!

**Lesson:** We should make the most of every opportunity.

What is the difference between being awake and being asleep? Raise your hand and tell me some differences. When we are awake, we are alert, taking action, moving, and ready for what the day has for us. When we are asleep, we are resting, not moving much, and not aware of what is going on around us. We can miss out on something if we are asleep when it happens. For instance, if someone comes to visit at night and we are already asleep, we will miss them and can't invite them in.

Today we are going to hear what Jesus says about being alert and ready for His return. He does not expect us to LITERALLY stay awake and never sleep. That is not how God designed our bodies. We need rest and sleep. But Jesus teaches us how to have a posture of "awakeness" in our relationship with Him. How can we be sure that we won't miss out on His return because we are distracted by things that aren't important? Let's read what He teaches us in the book of Matthew.

READ MATTHEW 25:1-13

In this parable, a story that explains what it is like to not be prepared, Jesus describes the ones who weren't prepared as realizing that they were too late! How do we prepare and make sure we aren't too late? Jesus has sent us His Holy Spirit to be in our hearts and guide us. When we allow the Holy Spirit to lead, read God's word, and obey, we are preparing our hearts to meet Jesus one day. We are allowing God to change us from the inside out!

WE SHOULD MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY! Jesus has come into our hearts now! He is changing us now! We should not resist this change. We should not decide to wait until we go to heaven to allow God to have control and trust and obey Him. We can make the most of our opportunity now and follow Jesus. Some ways Jesus might lead us are: serving one another in love, sharing God's word with others, doing missions, encouraging others, speaking God's truth in love, helping a friend in need, and more. But if we resist the

work that Jesus has for us, we are basically asleep. We aren't allowing God to awaken our hearts and see the importance of following Him now!

IF WE ARE READY FOR JESUS NOW, HE CAN WORK THROUGH US BEFORE HE RETURNS. This is the difference between living your life awake or asleep. God has a great purpose for you and it is up to you if you will trust Him and allow Him to work in you! I hope that you decide to "stay awake", be prepared, begin your journey of following Jesus now, and don't miss out on all that He has for you!

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What did the wise ones take that the foolish didn't?
2. How do you think it felt to be the foolish ones who weren't invited to the party?
3. How can we be wise and prepare for Jesus' coming?
4. What are some examples of ways Jesus can work through us even before He returns?

Close in prayer.

### **Memory Verse:**

THIS WEEK: "I heard a loud voice from the throne. It said, "Look! God now makes his home with the people. He will live with them. They will be his people. And God himself will be with them and be their God." Revelation 21:3 (NIRV)

If they memorize the verse, they can get a ping pong ball to put in the BLUE BOX in the hallway.