

Level 1, Quarter B

Additional Activities

At Work with God

1. Work

Build-A-Snack (5 minutes)

This snack reviews the Bible story of building a tabernacle.

Supplies: graham crackers, frosting or whipped cream cheese, plastic knives

Show kids how to use frosting as mortar to build with graham crackers. Encourage them to create what they think the tabernacle looked like. Before eating, ask children to each name one skill the workers used to build the tabernacle.

Building the Tabernacle (15 minutes)

This hands-on activity reinforces working as a team. **Supplies:** large building blocks (and/or large cardboard boxes), sections of light colored fabric, markers, gold and silver puff paint or glitter glue, pieces of wood, sand paper

Create a modern day work team to build a tent like the tabernacle, or another kind of worship center. Appoint children to build the structure with the building blocks/boxes. Other kids can decorate the fabric with marker designs, puff paint, and/or glitter glue. They can make curtains, altar clothes, wall hangings, and floor coverings. The wood can be sanded and used to build the altar. As children work, encourage them to do their best at whatever work they're doing. Explain how the KeyVerse applies to any job they do. Talk about how every job is good in God's eyes, and that because He's good, God can only give us good things.

Work/Play Stations (10 minutes)

This interactive activity connects ideas about play and work.

Supplies: wooden blocks, play money, a peg-n-hammer toy set, a play kitchen set or tea set, other pretend tools.

Set the toy work sets out on a table for the children to play with as they arrive. Ask individual kids which of the special work toys they played with when they came into the classroom.

What kind of workers use hammers (pots and pans, money, etc.)? Invite the children to share what their fathers or mothers do at work.

Is work important? Why? (To meet our families' needs—food, clothing, and shelter—as well as to use our skills to honor God and help others). Remind them that the jobs they do at home and at school are important, too.

What happens if we don't do our work? (Grown-ups can lose their jobs, which means no money for food or bills; kids can't

find things if they don't put them away; they have wrinkled, dirty clothes if they don't put them in the laundry hamper.)

What kind of work do you think the people in Bible times did? What work did Adam and Eve do? (Give the children time to respond.)

Occupation Charades (15 minutes)

This game sparks students to think about different kinds of work.

Prepare slips of paper ahead of time that name an occupation (suggestions below) and place them in a hat or box. Let children take turns pulling slips of paper out and acting out their parts until someone guesses their occupations. Allow them to speak if they need an easier game.

Suggestions: airplane pilot, animal shelter worker, archaeologist, astronaut, bookkeeper, car-wash attendant, computer programmer, cook, dentist, ferry-boat captain, farmer, firefighter, fisherman, health-care worker, janitor, military officer, missionary, movie star, newspaper reporter, park ranger, pastor, police officer, mail carrier, professional sports player (basketball, football, hockey, soccer, etc.), salesperson, secretary, singer, store owner, teacher, telephone 911 operator, veterinarian, weather forecaster, zookeeper, etc.

2. Parents

Farm Fresh Snack (5 minutes)

This healthy snack brings to mind what a farmer grows. **Supplies:** one or more fresh items of product such as mini carrots, grapes, apple slices, etc.

Talk with children about how the food you've given them grows (under the ground, on trees, etc.) Discuss how long it takes from planting a seed to getting the food to eat and the care plants require. Explain how God cares for us by supplying such a variety of food for our health and energy.

Garden Mural (10 minutes)

This art activity produces a wall decoration celebrating farmers and gardeners. **Supplies:** butcher paper, markers or crayons

Tape the butcher paper at elbow height for the children, or lay it on the floor. Let each have a section and work together to draw a garden or farm scene. Discuss the important role farmers and gardeners play in growing the food we need.

Seed Stations (10 minutes)

This hands-on activity encourages kids to think about how seeds grow. **Supplies:** variety of seeds, pictures or list of matching plants

Bring in a variety of seeds. Assign a number for each type at various stations around the room. Have children move to the stations and guess what kind of plant, bush, or tree will grow from each type of seed. Have a word bank or pictures on the board to help them. Then announce the answers. Conclude by marveling how such tiny seeds can result in such large plants that produce fruit and even more seeds. **This is the kind of wonderful results we can expect when we allow God's Word to grow in our hearts and lives.** Seed examples: corn, pumpkin, watermelon, acorn, wheat, sunflower, etc.

3. Potter

Shaped Sugar Cookies (10 minutes, plus baking time)

This edible activity, which requires a working oven, lets children be "potters" of cookie dough and then eat their creation. **Supplies:** working oven, sugar cookie dough, waxed paper, heavy duty toothpicks, baking sheets, pancake spatula

Give each child some prepared cookie dough to shape. Explain that the cookies need to be flattened, but they can make them round, jagged, long and stick-like, etc. Alternately, you can roll out the dough and let children use cookie cutters to make a cookie shape. Have children scratch an initial in their cookie before baking, for identification. Bake, then cool and enjoy.

Cracked Cup (10 minutes)

This object lesson reinforces the Bible truth that a damaged vessel, like a life not shaped by God, is useless. **Supplies:** foam cup, water

Just as the potter made jugs and cups for a reason, God made us for a reason. He wants us to love and obey Him and be a vessel full of His love. But do all people obey God? No! When people sin and they don't want to ask God's forgiveness, it's like their lives get cracks in them. Make a tear in the lower portion of the foam cup, and then pour in some water. **What happens?** The cup isn't useful anymore. **What do you do with a cup that you can't use?** Throw it away. **How is that like the life of a person who chooses not to let God mold him or her?**

Make a Clay Pot (30 minutes)

This craft allows children to make something with homemade clay.

Supplies: flour, salt, olive oil, water, food coloring (optional), supplies for clean up

Make this homemade play dough ahead of time. No cooking is required, but clay needs refrigeration to prevent spoiling (makes enough for 6 students):

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 cup warm water (approximate)
- food coloring (optional)

Add water slowly to make a pliable mixture. Knead until smooth. Place in a plastic bag or airtight container. In case the children want to make a candle holder, bring a candle for size.

During class, give each child a handful of play dough and let him or her shape it into whatever the child wishes. You might suggest making a coil bowl by rolling the clay into a long snake and then coiling it up in the shape of a bowl. Or a child might make a candle holder, a flat bowl with a thick bottom and a shaped handle. Once the bowl is shaped, pinch up the bottom of the bowl to make a little cup to hold a candle. (Use a candle as a guide.)

Musical Commitment (5-10 minutes)

This worshipful experience directs children to commit to God's shaping and molding. **Supplies:** CD player, familiar worship music (particularly about being molded by God)

Settle the class. Play a song like "Change My Heart O God" and invite children to sing and worship. Encourage them to tell God they desire to be molded and shaped by Him.

4. Builder

Building Snack (5-10 minutes)

This snack gives children a chance to practice their building skills.

Supplies: pretzel sticks, squeeze-tube cheese, paper plates

Give each child a small handful of pretzels and some cheese. Let them build a wall, using the cheese as mortar. Explain that building something requires a plan, supplies, and doing the work.

Building Comparison (5-10 minutes)

This discussion prompts kids to compare and contrast building today with Bible times. **Supplies:** ball or beanbag

Make a circle with the children. Explain that you all will toss the ball around the group. Whoever catches it will name something that is built. Let everyone get a chance to name something that's built. Then have children sit where they are in the circle. Ask how they think building something like a house or church today is different from building one back in Bible times. Some possibilities: buildings are bigger now, they have different materials, the use of power tools and earth moving equipment, many more kinds of buildings today, fancier designs. Bible-times buildings were all built by hand. Bible-times buildings were made of wood and stone. Bible-times builders had only simple tools like hammers, axes and saws.

Block by Block (10 minutes)

This discussion emphasizes the ways God builds character.

Building a boat or a house doesn't just happen by itself, and our character doesn't just build itself either. God helps us build our character, block by block. Let's think about some of the building blocks that can build our character so that our life pleases God.

Ask the children to help you list things they should do to live a life that pleases God. Try to tie each suggestion to a Bible verse, showing how God's Word provides answers we can depend on—like building blocks for building strong lives.

Examples:

- obey parents . . . Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20
- tell the truth . . . Proverbs 12:19
- be honest . . . Exodus 20:15; Ephesians 4:28
- don't fight . . . Ephesians 4:32
- don't whine/complain . . . Philippians 2:14-15
- be patient . . . 1 Thessalonians 5:14; 1 Cor 13:4a
- be gentle . . . Proverbs 15:1
- help those in need . . . Proverbs 14:31; 29:7
- think good thoughts . . . Philippians 4:8
- don't be proud . . . Romans 12:3

- live to please God . . . Galatians 1:10
- choose good friends . . . Proverbs 13:20
- be thankful . . . 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- be joyful . . . 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Have the students open their **Disciple Guides to page 15**. Let them choose some of the character building blocks and copy them in the boxes provided. Direct them to color the ones that they want God to work on most.

Make a Carpenter's Plumb Line (10-15 in minutes)

This craft creates a reminder that God builds character into His children. **Supplies:** yarn, rocks, tempera paint, foam brushes, glitter glue

If you have or can borrow a real plumb line, show it to the children. Demonstrate how it works by asking a child to draw a vertical line on the board. Then hold the top of the plumb line at the top of the line and let children observe how the straight line shows how straight and true the drawn line is (or isn't). Ask for ideas why a builder or carpenter would use a plumb line (to make sure what he builds is nailed in place straight so the house or furniture will be even). First cut yarn into 12-16" lengths. Help children tie one end of their yarn to a rock, then they can paint or decorate their rock. Have then check out the furniture, walls and doors with their own plumb line. Explain that God's Word is our plumb line. It's what we measure everything else by to see how true it is. God's Word is always true.

Building Relay (10 minutes)

This team game gives children a fun way to construct a paper boat. **Supplies:** variety of colored paper shapes (different sizes of rectangles, squares, strips, triangles)

Demonstrate how a boat can be "built" using different shapes of paper, such as a large square or rectangle for the main shape, triangles for a roof, small squares for windows, etc. Put all the paper shapes in a shallow box at the far end of the playing area, while two or more teams of children line up at the other end. At your signal, the first child in each team will race to the paper and choose a shape, laying it on the floor near the box. After racing back to the team, he or she tags the next child who races up and adds another shape, building onto the boat. Continue until all the teams have built a boat. Vary the relay by giving directions about how the children get to the end of the room: hopping, crawling, walking backward, crab walking, etc. Explain that each boat they built needs special pieces to be complete. In the same way God builds us by putting good character qualities in our lives.

5. Servant

May I Serve You a Snack? (10 minutes)

This snack gives children a chance to serve others. **Supplies:** multi-part snack, such as cheese and crackers, or carrots and dip, apples and yogurt dip, cookies and milk

Divide children into two to three groups and assign each group a task in preparing the snack. Then have them take turns serving it to one another. One half the class may serve the food and the other half may clean up, for example.

Care Package (10-15 minutes)

This group activity involves children in serving someone in the name of Jesus. **Supplies:** card-making supplies, wrapping paper, yarn or ribbon, care package contents (school supplies for a child, simple toiletries for a hospital patient, etc.)

Before doing this activity, consider contacting parents and students before the class, so they can bring items for a care package. Otherwise, gather items for the package yourself. Choose a recipient for your care package (a shut-in senior, foster child, child in another country supported by the church, missionary family, congregation member who is sick or going through a hard time, homeless person, or prisoner).

Tell the kids that one way to serve is to encourage someone such as an underprivileged child, a sick person, a housebound senior, etc. During class, after you describe the person(s) receiving the package, children can each make a card appropriate to the recipient. Then give children tasks such as wrapping items, packing items, putting together the box and contents, etc. Let them help as much as possible, and include their cards in the box. Pray together for the person(s) who will receive the care package.

Church Service Project (15+ minutes)

This service activity allows children to practice their serving skills in the church.

Before class, talk with church staff about a task the children can do during class (litter pick up, cleaning nursery toys, yard work, cleaning windows, organizing cupboards, etc.) Explain the task to the children and if necessary, divide into smaller groups. After the project, talk about how the children did, how they felt while working, and how they feel now that they've finished. Talk about how God sees their labor and is pleased by it.

6. Weaver

Snack Weaving (5-10 minutes)

This snack encourages the children to "play" with their food in a productive way. **Supplies:** twisted ropes of string licorice or string cheese packets

Encourage the children to pull the licorice or cheese into thin strips and then weave them together before eating them.

"Thanks, Mom" Card (10 minutes)

This craft lets children thank their mothers or other important women in their lives. **Supplies:** cardstock, markers or crayons, art supplies

Show children how to fold the card stock in half. Let them write "Thank you, Mom" on the outside. Inside they can draw a picture of themselves and their mothers (or other significant women such as grandmothers, guardians, stepmothers, etc.). Use the list of qualities from the "Weaving Character" activity or brainstorm a list of character qualities of a great mom. Then children can write in their cards the words that they choose that describe their mothers. Be sure each child signs his or her card.

Tie Dye (15 minutes)

This hands-on activity introduces a simple process to dye cloth. **Supplies:** fabric (old T-shirts or squares of fabric), permanent colored markers, water in a spray bottle

For a simple cloth-dyeing activity, let the children color on the fabric with permanent markers. As soon as they finish coloring, spray the fabric with water. The ink will bleed and look like it was dyed. Try this activity with white t-shirts for each child so that everyone can wear their creations.

7. Shepherd

Sheep Food (5 minutes)

*This snack builds on the sheep theme. **Supplies:** sugar cookies or graham crackers, frosting, plastic knives, green coconut (color coconut by adding several drops of food coloring to a plastic bag containing a handful of sweetened shredded coconut, then tossing to mix)*

Children can spread frosting on a cookie or graham cracker and sprinkle on “grass” (green coconut), a sheep’s favorite food.

Sheep and Lions Game (10 minutes)

*This active game expands children’s knowledge about Bible-times shepherds and their sheep. **Supplies:** colored tape or colored paper and safety pins*

Play this game outside or create a wide playing area, using tape or other markings to show where the boundaries are. Choose a shepherd who stands at the edge of the playing area. Divide the rest of the class into two groups: lions and sheep. Attach a piece of colored tape or pin a square of colored paper on each lion’s shoulder or chest, to differentiate them from the sheep. The sheep try to elude the lions, who pursue the sheep. Tell children they should imitate the movements and sounds of their type of animal. When a lion tags a sheep, the lion keeps a hand on the sheep’s arm to guide the sheep outside the play area to wait. The shepherd, standing at the edge of the “sheep pasture,” calls “freeze” at intervals (every 45 to 60 seconds, or so). Then sheep on the outside come back in, and everyone changes to the opposite kind of animal. Play several rounds. Talk about how a real Bible-times shepherd would have acted when a lion was after one of his sheep. Talk about how helpless the sheep are and their dependence on the shepherd. Relate the sheep and shepherd to the children and Jesus as their Good Shepherd.

Sheep Relay (10 minutes)

*This game allows children to “guide” sheep with a shepherd’s staff. **Supplies:** broomsticks or walking sticks, white balloons*

Create two very simple obstacle courses in your classroom, and divide your kids into two teams. Divide each team in half at either end of the team’s course. Blow up two to three white balloons for each team to represent sheep. When you say go, have the first person on each team use the broomstick or walking stick to “shepherd” the balloons through the obstacle course. When the player gets to the end, that player hands the broomstick or walking stick to the next player who shepherds the “sheep” back through. The first team to have all their players through the course wins. Talk a few minutes about how difficult it was to lead the balloons. Explain that we can stray off just as the balloons did if we are not careful to listen to our Good Shepherd.

8. Musician

Snack Notes (5 minutes)

*This snack relates to the theme of music. **Supplies:** round or oval candies or cereal, mini pretzel sticks*

Draw a large musical note on the white board. Have the children make musical notes using M&Ms and pretzel sticks. Sing a song of thanks for the food before eating the treats.

The Music Moves Us (5-10 minutes)

*This movement activity encourages kids to interpret how music affects them. **Supplies:** CD player, variety of music styles (fast, quiet, meditative, jazzy, etc.), streamers, straws or pencils*

Stand the children apart from one another with plenty of space to move around. Tell them you’ll play some music and they can use their bodies to show how the music makes them feel. It might make them want to jump and clap, wiggle and squirm, droop, lay down like they’re sleeping, etc. Play five or more selections, each for about 30-45 seconds and let children “interpret” the music with their actions. Finish with a quieter piece, but use some busy music in the mix to give them a chance to use up energy.

Musical Chairs (10 minutes)

*This classic game challenges children to listen. **Supplies:** CD player, music*

Set up enough chairs for all the children, minus one. Place the chairs in compressed oval, back to back, or in a circle, facing out. Children walk around the chairs as the music plays. When you randomly stop the music, the children sit down in whatever chairs they can. One will be left standing. You can ask the child standing a question from the story, to recite the KeyVerse, or tell an attribute or name of God. If the child answers correctly, that player stays in the game. Otherwise, the child sits out. Remove a chair when a child sits out, so there is always one fewer than the number of kids. Change the direction the children walk occasionally by shouting out “Praise the Lord!”

9. Vineyard Worker

Fruitful Snack (5 minutes)

This snack reinforces the vineyard theme. **Supplies:** jar of grape juice, fresh grapes, jelly, raisins, grape fruit leather

Have children share the grape foods and juices. Talk about how grapes grow and how the different items are produced. Mention that fruit is sweet, and if God is growing spiritual fruit in our lives, we will be sweet (gentle, obedient, content), not sour (mad, grumbling, selfish).

Vine Verse Art (10 minutes)

This craft creates a visible reminder of the KeyVerse, John 15:5.

Supplies: copies of the verse and reference, cut into 4" rectangles, green and purple construction paper or felt, green curling ribbon, paper plates, glue

Before class, cut out purple grapes and green leaves from felt or paper. Make a sample craft by creating a grape cluster on a paper plate and gluing it down. Glue the verse onto the plate also. Curl a section of green ribbon and tie to the grape leaves. Rehearse the verse together. Help the children assemble their plate in the same way, curling the ribbon after they tie it on the leaves. Attach a second loop of ribbon so that they can hang their grapes at home.

Bible True and False Game (10 minutes)

This game reviews the Bible story in an active way. **Supplies:** two signs, one saying TRUE and one FALSE

Mount one sign at one end of the room and the other in a different part of the room. Gather the kids in an area between the two signs. You'll make a statement about the Bible lesson and the children will decide if it's true or not. They'll run to the sign of their choice. If the statement was false ask a child to tell what was wrong with the statement or to make it true.

Statements:

- Naboth was an evil king. FALSE (Ahab was.)
- Naboth didn't want to sell his vineyard because it made him lots of money. FALSE (It was a family inheritance.)
- Ahab became angry when Naboth wouldn't sell his family's vineyard. TRUE
- Jezebel was a good queen who helped Naboth. FALSE (She was wicked, and got Naboth killed.)
- Jezebel made a plan to get Naboth's vineyard. TRUE
- Some men told the truth about Naboth to get him into trouble. FALSE (They told lies.)
- Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard. TRUE
- Coveting means wanting what someone else has. TRUE

- One of the fruits of the spirit is a banana. FALSE (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.)
- Today we learned that Jesus is like a vine. TRUE

Celery Stalks (10 minutes)

This object lesson shows how Jesus fills us while we stay "attached" to Him. **Supplies:** stalks of celery, red food coloring, water, clear glasses

Before class, put two stalks of celery in two separate clear vases or glasses. Add a big dose of red vegetable dye to the first stalk and leave the other in plain water. Allow the celery stalks to absorb water and begin to show the color in the branch leaves.

During class, point out that the celery illustrates Jesus, and we are the leaves. The leaves take on the red color because they are attached to the celery.

10. Soldier

INSPIRE ACTION—Shield of Faith (10-15 minutes)

This craft creates a play shield children can use to practice learning the armor of God. **Supplies:** circles of cardboard 12" in diameter, 2" x 6" strips of thin cardboard/poster board, packing tape, markers, foam balls or ping pong balls

Give each child a cardboard circle. Write "Shield of Faith" on the board and have children copy the words onto their circles. Let them decorate the rest of their shields. When finished, tape 2" cardboard strips onto the center of the shield backs. Tape the strip at both short ends, making sure the center bulges out so the kids can hold onto the strip or slip their flattened hand under, holding onto the shield. Pair children up. One will toss foam or ping pong ball at the other's shield. The child throwing the "arrow" will state a way Satan tries to get kids to do wrong. The child holding the shield defends himself from the arrow and says "God gives me His armor so I can fight my spiritual battles," or something similar.

Battle Snacks (5 minutes)

This snack is a reminder of today's Bible story and provides healthy nutrients to make children strong soldiers. **Supplies:** mini carrots or straight pretzels, round crackers

Tell kids the carrots (or pretzels) are swords and the crackers are shields. Have them review what those parts of God's armor. Discuss how God's Word fights off Satan.

Target Practice (10 minutes)

This activity sets the stage for the story of David and Goliath.

Supplies: ping pong balls or similar projectiles (suction cup-tipped arrows, Velcro balls etc.), a regular bull's eye target, masking tape

Make a line with masking tape behind which children will stand. Mount the poster or target on a wall or other surface. Tell children to practice hitting a target, as if they are soldiers who have to practice before battle. Let each child have a couple of turns throwing the ball or other projectiles at the target. After everyone has had a chance to throw, gather the children and discuss how Bible-times soldiers fought. Talk about weapons and armor. Introduce the concept of God as the Lord of Hosts, our leader in spiritual battles. Explain that “hosts” is another word for “armies.” **Bible-times soldiers had kings and captains who led their armies. We have God as our leader in our battles that we fight against Satan’s evil ways.**

Victory Stones (10 minutes)

This simple craft produces a strong reminder of today’s story.

Supplies: one smooth stone (golf-ball size if possible) per student, tempera paints, foam brushes, thin point permanent marker

Let children choose a stone and paint it however they choose. After their stones have dried, have them write Ephesians 6:11 on them with a thin permanent marker. Talk about how the armor of God helps them fight “the good fight” against Satan and his schemes.

11. Merchant**Bible-Times Marketplace Fare** (5 minutes)

This snack replicates foods Bible-times people could have bought from merchants. **Supplies:** raisins or grapes, fresh unsliced bread or pita bread, white cheese or yogurt

Ask children what foods Bible-times merchants might have sold or traded to people. Then let them serve each other the snacks. Talk about how the food they’re eating might have been prepared or preserved in Bible times. Compare today’s foods with Bible-times foods.

Merchant Guessing Game (10+ minutes)

This pantomime game highlights aspects of Bible-times merchants.

Before class, write items that Bible-times merchants would have sold or traded on different slips of paper. Spices, cloth, animals, food, wood, gold, jewels, and pottery are some examples. Let kids take turns choosing a slip. Each child should act out what he or she is selling. Let the child use sound effects, but no words. The rest of the class tries to guess what is being portrayed.

Money Pouch Craft (15 minutes)

The craft creates a pouch that merchants might have used in Bible times. **Supplies:** 12-inch felt or cloth circles, hole punch, long shoe laces or lengths of twine, markers, sequins, glitter, glue

Before class, mark eight dots around the perimeter of the circle, about 1 inch from the edge. Punch holes in the fabric. Help children lace the twine or shoe lace in and out in a circular manner. The twine should start in one hole, go around the circle and finish in the eighth hole. Then lace a second strand in the fourth hole, directly opposite the hole where the first length emerges. Continue in the opposite direction, so the second length starts and ends on the opposite side from the first. Then pull both ends to tighten the circle into the pouch.

Let children decorate their pouches with sequins or glitter and put their names on their bags. Children can put cardboard coins, if they made them, in their pouch. Explain that Bible-times kids didn’t have backpacks or purses. If they were going to the marketplace, they could carry coins in the pouch. Often it would be tucked into a tunic, under the cloak.

12. Metalworker

INSPIRE ACTION—Precious Stones (5 minutes)

This object lesson shows how something dirty can become beautiful when it's purified. **Supplies:** briquette of coal, sheet of paper, paper towel, wet wipes or moist towel to wipe hands, diamond or cubic zirconium stone set in a ring or other piece of jewelry

Explain to the children that just as Hiram purified the metal, God wants to work in their lives to help them become the best people they can be. He's not trying to make us look beautiful on the outside. The Bible says God is most interested in our character—the way we act and think. Pass around the piece of coal. Let children make a dark mark on a piece of paper if they choose. Tell them coal is made deep inside the earth from minerals and heat. **What happens if coal inside the earth gets very, very hot and is squeezed by heavy pressure? It turns into a diamond! Both coal and diamonds are made from the same thing: carbon.** Have children compare the coal with the real or imitation diamond. Tell how God wants to change us into something beautiful, too. He shows us the sins and wrong things we think about and do, and helps us get rid of them. **The purer we become, the more we are like Jesus! It's like saying we go from being a lumpy, ugly piece of coal to being a work of art like this jewelry.**

Cereal Mining Snack (5 minutes)

This snack highlights the theme of mining for precious metals.

Supplies: Lucky Charms or similar cereal with marshmallow tidbits, small cups, pomegranate (optional)

Serve a portion of marshmallow bit cereal in a small cup to each child. Tell them they're going to "mine" the "ore" by digging for the marshmallow bits before eating the whole snack. If you bring a pomegranate (to show kids what decorated the columns in Solomon's Temple), break it open and let children sample the juicy kernels. Tell them pomegranates were common foods in Bible times.

Character Crowns (15 minutes)

This craft highlights the purifying effect God wants to have on our characters. **Supplies:** paper crown shapes cut from poster board or paper crowns purchased from a craft or party store, fake jewels from a craft store or colorful construction paper cut into jewel shapes, glue sticks, stapler

Cut cardboard into crown shapes to fit children's heads. Brainstorm character traits God wants to help them develop, which are easier to see the more He purifies us from the bad habits and wrong attitudes we all have. For each trait children want God to develop in them, they can glue one or more jewels of a single color on their crowns. Encourage kids to choose the godly attitudes and actions (such as the skills of a good worker they have been learning) they believe God is showing them to work on. Fit a crown to each child's head and staple to correct size.

Bible-Times Work Review (10-15 minutes)

This pantomime activity reviews the many kinds of work the children learned about this quarter. **Supplies:** various props used during the quarter

Create small groups (pairs, trios or larger, depending on class size). Each group chooses a Bible-times occupation covered during the past twelve lessons and decides how to act it out for the rest of the class. Let other groups try to guess the work being demonstrated. For extra credit, ask groups if they remember which Bible story told about that type of work. Hand out small prizes or treats, making sure all groups receive something by the end of the activity.