



DiscipleLand

Missions Education

Level 2, Quarter C—The Bible Tells Me So

Integrate these World-missions concepts into your **DiscipleLand** lesson. Introduce your children to one missions truth each lesson.

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2C—Missions Education

The Old Testament Message

Teacher Intro—God’s missionary plan has been in place since the beginning of time. In Creation, God reveals His glory. We discover that the history of Abraham’s family is His story. Your children will learn how God chose a special people to show the world His greatness. The events of the Old Testament show God working out redemption to people who respond with worship and obedience. Through the Israelites, God blessed the world—Jesus Christ came from a Jewish family and preached among the Jewish people.

Lesson 1—Blessing All Nations

Supplies: cookie jar, cookies

Read Genesis 18:17-19, 22:17-18, and 26:4-5. **In the first two Bible passages, God is speaking to Abraham. In the third, He is speaking to Abraham’s son, Isaac. What common words did you hear in all three passages?** (All nations would be blessed by Abraham’s offspring.) **Abraham’s offspring became the nation of Israel. The Old Testament contains many blessings for all people. When missionaries spread the Gospel, it is important to first tell other people about Jesus and His message. But it is also important that people learn the Old Testament—that way they can discover much more about God and receive the blessings He offers.**

Israel has blessed the rest of the world in many ways, but one of most important is how they have kept the Ten Commandments. These basic laws have formed the foundation of laws and moral codes for many cultures in the world. Show the cookie jar. **I have a jar full of cookies. If I want to share my cookies with you, what must I do first?** (Open the jar.) **If I keep the jar closed, I can enjoy knowing my cookies are there and maybe eat some later.** Pause, then open the jar and distribute a cookie to everyone. **But cookies taste much better when I share them with other people!**

God’s blessings are like these cookies. We can keep them to ourselves or we can share them with others. God wanted Israel (and He wants us) to share the blessings He had given. We’ll be learning how each of the Ten Commandments gives special blessings to people. At the end, we’ll see the greatest way God blessed all nations through Abraham’s descendants.

Lesson 2—God’s Blessing #1

Supplies: cookie jar, #1 cookies (cut into “1” shapes, or marked with a “1”), recipe card #1 found at the end of this file, notecard holder or other recipe file (optional)

Show the cookie jar. **Remember how God’s blessings are like cookies? Encourage responses. Just as each cookie has ingredients, God’s blessings come when we follow the “ingredients” of His Word. In this case, the ingredients are each of the Ten Commandments.** Distribute recipe card #1. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Follow the Lord only. Trust only Him.)

A closed cookie jar means the cookies are just for us. God’s blessings were for Israel first, then for the whole world. What is God’s “Closed Jar” blessing? (God is great. Following Him is a wonderful privilege!)

Open the cookie jar. **Israel shared its blessings with the world, and now missionaries share God’s blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God’s “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People will see God’s greatness and will want to follow Him themselves.) Distribute the #1 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards. Give the kids something to hold their recipe cards.

Lesson 3—God's Blessing #2

Supplies: cookie jar, #2 cookies (cut into "2" shapes, or marked with a "2"), recipe card #2 found at the end of this file

God's blessings are like cookies. God's first commandment is to follow Him only. Who remembers what blessings this commandment brings? Encourage responses. **Let's look at the second "recipe."** Distribute recipe card #2. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Worship the Lord God. Make no idols.)

Show the cookie jar. **Can you imagine loving cookies more than anything else in the world? What if you'd do anything to get a cookie? Cookies would be more important to you than God. Silly, right? But people do this all the time with other things such as money, fame, or knowledge.**

Remember, God's blessings were for Israel first, then for the whole world. What is God's second "Closed Jar" blessing? (God will show you how much He loves you (Exodus 20:6).)

Open the cookie jar. **Israel shared its blessings with the world, and now missionaries share God's blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's second "Open Jar" blessing for all nations?** (People will see God being worshiped and will want to worship Him, too.) Distribute the #2 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 4—God's Blessing #3

Supplies: cookie jar, #3 cookies (cut into "3" shapes, or marked with a "3"), recipe card #3 found at the end of this file

God's blessings are like cookies. God's second commandment is to worship Him only. Who remembers what blessings the second commandment brings? Encourage responses. **Let's look at the third "recipe."** Distribute recipe card #3. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Revere God's name. Show Him great respect.)

Show the cookie jar. **Imagine I decided to name all these cookies** [name of child in class]. **I'd say, "Who wants** [name]s?" **or "Okay, everyone, eat your** [name]s!" **How silly is that?** Point to the child whose name you chose. **Only** [name] **is** [name]. **And only God is God!**

God's blessings were for whom first? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God's third "Closed Jar" blessing?** (God honors and respects us when we obey His commands.)

Open the cookie jar. **By sharing the Old Testament, missionaries share God's blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's third "Open Jar" blessing for all nations?** (People learn to respect God and to honor Him with their words.) Distribute the #3 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 5—God's Blessing #4

Supplies: cookie jar, #4 cookies (cut into "4" shapes, or marked with a "4"), recipe card #4 found at the end of this file

What are God's blessings like? (Cookies.) **God's third commandment is to respect God's name. What blessings does obeying this commandment bring?** Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #4. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Rest one day. Focus on God and honor Him.)

Show the cookie jar. **How would you feel if we had no time for a snack break today?** Encourage responses. **Why is it important to have breaks in the day? It is also important to have a break in our week.**

God's blessings were for whom first? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God's fourth "Closed Jar" blessing?** (God gives us time to fellowship with Him and with others.)

Open the cookie jar. **God's first four commandments address our relationship with Him. By sharing the Old Testament, missionaries share knowledge of God and His blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's fourth "Open Jar" blessing for all nations?** (People can do more with six days and a rest than with seven days and no rest.) Distribute the #4 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 6—God's Blessing #5

Supplies: cookie jar, #5 cookies (cut into “5” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “5”), recipe card #5 found at the end of this file

The last six commandments are about how we treat other people. What are the blessings that God's commandments bring like? (Cookies.) **God's fourth commandment is to rest one day and to honor Him. What blessings does obeying the fourth commandment bring?** Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #5. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Honor your parents. Obey and respect them.)

Show the cookie jar. **God's relationship blessings were for whom first?** (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God's fifth “Closed Jar” blessing?** (God gives us security in a loving family for a long period of time.)

Open the cookie jar. **These last six commandments address our relationship with others. By sharing the Old Testament, missionaries share God's expectations and His blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's fifth “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People receive comfort and care from our families. They learn to build strong families themselves.) Distribute the #5 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 7—God's Blessing #6

Supplies: cookie jar, #6 cookies (cut into “6” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “6”), recipe card #6 found at the end of this file

God's fifth commandment is to honor our parents. What blessings does obeying this commandment bring? Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #6. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Do not murder. Value the lives of people.)

Show the cookie jar. **What if I told you I rubbed some of these cookies in dirt, and I don't care who gets them. How would you think I felt about you?** Encourage responses. **I keep these cookies clean and fresh because I care about each and every one of you. God also cares about every single life. He wants everyone to know life is important.**

Who did God first bless? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God's sixth “Closed Jar” blessing?** (God teaches us to value life as He does, and so we learn to love everyone.)

Open the cookie jar. **Missionaries work hard to share God's blessings in the Old Testament with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's sixth “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People learn to value the lives of others. They become more peaceful and loving.) Distribute the #6 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 8—God's Blessing #7

Supplies: cookie jar, #7 cookies (cut into “7” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “7”), recipe card #7 found at the end of this file

God's sixth commandment is to not murder. What blessings does obeying the sixth commandment bring? Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #7. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Keep marriage holy. Husbands and wives, remain faithful to one another.)

Show the cookie jar. **This jar keeps the cookies fresh and safe. A marriage vow binds a man and a woman together to keep them strong and safe. What would happen to the cookies if I broke this jar?** Encourage responses. **When someone breaks a marriage vow, it hurts the marriage. Only God can make things right.**

Who first received God's blessings? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God's seventh “Closed Jar” blessing?** (God loves and honors His people like a husband loves and honors his wife.)

Open the cookie jar. **The blessings in the Old Testament are for all people. Missionaries share God's blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God's seventh “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People witness strong marriages and learn to love each other.) Distribute the #7 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 9—God’s Blessing #8

Supplies: cookie jar, #8 cookies (cut into “8” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “8”), recipe card #8 found at the end of this file

Before class, hide your cookie jar in a nearby place. **God’s seventh commandment is to keep marriage holy. What blessings does obeying this commandment bring?** Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #8. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Do not steal. Don’t take something that is not yours.)

Look for your cookie jar. **Hey! Who took my cookie jar?** Pretend to remember that you “misplaced” it. **Whew! If someone had stolen my cookie jar, we all would have missed out! Stealing hurts so many people, but obeying the eighth commandment blesses so many people!**

Who first received God’s blessings? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God’s eighth “Closed Jar” blessing?** (We learn to trust God for all we need.)

Open the cookie jar. **The blessings in the Old Testament are for all people. Missionaries share God’s blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God’s eighth “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People witness our generosity and learn to be generous.) Distribute the #8 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 10—God’s Blessing #9

Supplies: cookie jar, #9 cookies (cut into “9” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “9”), recipe card #9 found at the end of this file

God’s eighth commandment is to not steal. What blessings does obeying the eighth commandment bring? Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #9. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Do not lie. Always tell the truth.)

Show your cookie jar. **I think we all know that lying is wrong. Why?** Encourage responses. **Would you believe me if I told you this jar today is filled with spiders instead of cookies? Don’t worry, it isn’t! God is truth—any lie, even a silly or “harmless” lie, goes against God.**

Who first received God’s blessings? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God’s ninth “Closed Jar” blessing?** (We learn to walk in the truth, in the light.)

Open the cookie jar. **Missionaries share God’s blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God’s ninth “Open Jar” blessing for all nations?** (People learn the truth. They learn to seek after the truth.) Distribute the #9 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 11—God’s Blessing #10

Supplies: cookie jar, #10 cookies (cut into “10” shapes, or people-shaped and marked with a “10”), recipe card #10 found at the end of this file

God’s ninth commandment is to not lie. What blessings does obeying this commandment bring? Encourage responses. Distribute recipe card #10. **What is the main ingredient in this blessing?** (Be happy now. Be content with what you have.)

Show your cookie jar. **How would you feel if I didn’t bring any cookies today?** Encourage responses. **What if the reason was that I had to go to the hospital yesterday and didn’t have time to cook? Would you feel better about not having cookies? It helps when there’s a good reason, doesn’t it? God always has a good reason for giving or not giving us the things we ask for. We should always thank God for what we do have, and not feel bad about what we don’t have.**

Who first received God’s blessings? (Israel.) **Who was Israel supposed to bless?** (The whole world.) **What is God’s tenth “Closed Jar” blessing?** (We come to see that God really does give us everything we need.)

Open the cookie jar. Missionaries share God’s blessings with people who do not know Him. Turn over your card. What is God’s tenth “Open Jar” blessing for all nations? (Other people will praise God when they see how He takes care of us.) Distribute the #10 cookies. Ask kids to write a person/family/people group/country they will pray for on the back of their cards.

Lesson 12—God's Biggest Blessing

Supplies: cookie jar, cross-shaped cookies

God's tenth commandment is be happy with what we have. What blessings does obeying the tenth commandment bring? Encourage responses.

Read Genesis 18:17-19, 22:17-18, and 26:4-5. God told Abraham and his son, Isaac, that God would bless all nations through their descendants. We've learned about how the Old Testament brings those blessings as people obey His Word. There's another way that Abraham's descendants bless all nations. Can anyone guess what it is?

Show your cookie jar. Imagine God blessed this jar so that it never ran out of cookies! Anyone who wanted could come to the jar and receive a cookie, at any time. Jesus was a blessing like this. He offers forgiveness of sins to all people, and never-ending living water (the Holy Spirit) to all who believe in Him.

Abraham's descendants would bless all nations, and Jesus was a descendant of Abraham! All of the Old Testament leads up to Jesus, the blessing God meant for all people. Distribute the #10 cookies. By sharing the Old Testament message with others, missionaries tell God's story, showing how Jesus is the "happy ending" for us all!



BLESSING RECIPE #1

Ingredients: Follow the Lord only. Trust only Him (Exodus 20:3).

Closed Jar Blessing: God is great. Following Him is a wonderful privilege!

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BLESSING RECIPE #6

Ingredients: Do not murder. Value the lives of people.

Closed Jar Blessing: God teaches us to value life as He does, and so we learn to love everyone.

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BLESSING RECIPE #2

Ingredients: Worship the Lord God. Make no idols (Exodus 20:4).

Closed Jar Blessing: God will show you how much He loves you (Exodus 20:6).

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BLESSING RECIPE #7

Ingredients: Keep marriage holy. Husbands and wives, remain faithful to one another.

Closed Jar Blessing: God loves and honors His people like a husband loves and honors his wife.

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BLESSING RECIPE #3

Ingredients: Revere God's name. Show Him great respect (Exodus 20:7).

Closed Jar Blessing: God honors and respects us when we obey His commands.

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BLESSING RECIPE #8

Ingredients: Do not steal. Don't take something that is not yours.

Closed Jar Blessing: We learn to trust God for all we need.

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BLESSING RECIPE #4

Ingredients: Rest one day. Focus on God and honor Him (Exodus 20:8).

Closed Jar Blessing: God gives us time to fellowship with Him and with others.

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BLESSING RECIPE #9

Ingredients: Do not lie. Always tell the truth.

Closed Jar Blessing: We learn to walk in the truth, in the light.

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BLESSING RECIPE #5

Ingredients: Honor your parents. Obey and respect them (Exodus 20:12).

Closed Jar Blessing: God gives us security in a loving family for a long period of time.

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BLESSING RECIPE #10

Ingredients: Be happy now. Be content with what you have.

Closed Jar Blessing: We come to see that God really does give us everything we need.

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Open Jar Blessing: People learn to value the lives of others. They become more peaceful and loving.

Open Jar Blessing: People will see God's greatness and will want to follow Him themselves.

Open Jar Blessing: People witness strong marriages and learn to love each other.

Open Jar Blessing: Other people will see God being worshiped and will want to worship Him, too.

Open Jar Blessing: People witness our generosity and learn to be generous.

Open Jar Blessing: People learn to respect God and honor Him with their words.

Open Jar Blessing: People learn the truth. They learn to seek after the truth.)

Open Jar Blessing: People can do more with six days and a rest than with seven days and no rest.

Open Jar Blessing: Other people will praise God when they see how He takes care of us.

Open Jar Blessing: People receive comfort and care from our families. They learn to build strong families themselves.