



**DiscipleLand**

*Missions Education*

Level 3, Quarter C—Mighty Miracles

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

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### 3C—Missions Education

#### Many Methods

**Teacher Intro**—There are as many ways to share the Good News about Jesus as there are people. Meeting each individual on his or her level is a vital part of communicating God’s truth. Jesus modeled this perfectly, loving each person He encountered in a unique, piercing way.

This quarter your kids will study four principal methods for sharing the Gospel—proclamation, persuasion, presence, and power. They’ll discover the “pros and cons” of each method while investigating areas in which God has gifted them.

#### Lesson 1—Power—Shining the Light of the World

Flip your classroom light switch off. Wait a moment then turn it back on. Do not answer as the children begin to question your actions. Switch the light off again. Then turn it back on. **These lights turn on and off because I have the power to make it happen with this little light switch.** Ask for a volunteer to turn the lights on and off. **Now you have the power of the lights! What other things give us the power of light?** (Electricity, batteries.) **This reminds me of another Light, the most important Light in the world, Jesus Christ. The Light of Jesus is the most powerful tool we have to share His love with others. He doesn’t need a switch, electricity or batteries to work.** Read John 8:12 together. **The Light of Jesus is so bright that He has the power to take away the darkness of sin! How can following the Light of Jesus take away that sinful darkness?** Discuss for a moment. **God wants each of us to share this good news with others. He will give you the power to share the Light of Jesus when you most need His help. Who will you help to see the Light this week?**

#### Lesson 2—Presence—Actions vs. Words

**Supplies:** many stuffed animals and dolls, OR a large picture of many people with visible faces (Make sure there are far more animals or people in the picture than children in the class.); paper hearts with rolled tape on the back

Arrange the stuffed animals and dolls in a crowd-like setting or display the picture of people on the board. Give each child a paper heart. Read Luke 10:2 together. Remind the children that Jesus is talking about a harvest of people, not crops, in this passage. Motion to the animals or picture. **Look at all these people. Most of them do not know Jesus. They need us to move among them and share His word and love with them. When we are present with those who need to know Jesus, we can share His love by our words and actions.** Invite each

child to tape their heart on a stuffed animal or on the face of someone in the picture. As they do so, ask the children to say “Jesus loves you” as a practice sharing God’s love with others. **Wow! Look at all the people we just helped see Jesus’ love.** Point to a few of the animals or people who did not receive a heart. **But look at how many still need to hear about God’s love. When Jesus said He needs more workers for the field, He meant He is counting on us to go into the community and share His love with as many people as possible. Where can we go in our community to tell others how much Jesus loves them? When we take time to share God’s love with others, we are helping harvest souls for heaven, just as Jesus asks us to do in Luke 10:2.**

#### Lesson 3—Presence—Presence vs. Presents

**Supplies:** box or treasure chest filled with fake money, gold coins, gems, wrapped boxes or gift bags; two large cards with “presence” printed on one and “presents” printed on the other

Ask a few students some very simple questions such as, **What color are these walls? What is your name?** For each correct answer, give the child a “reward” from your treasure chest. Continue, but interject a very complicated question once in a while for two or three specific children. For example, **How many people live in Switzerland?** When they do not know the answer, they do not get a reward. Use the same two or three children for all the complicated questions. As the children begin to question your methods, explain, **This reminds me of some of the people in our community.** Hold up the card with the word “presents.” **Sometimes things are very easy and we get lots of presents—things we need or want. We always have all the treasures we need—food, clothes, love, a home, etc.** Point out the children holding the treasures they received by answering correctly. **But there are some people who struggle to find enough food to eat or a place to sleep.** Point out the two or three with no treasures at all. Read Luke 12:15-21. **God warns us not to be greedy with the presents He gives us. God wants us to use our presents from Him to help those in need.** Hold up the card with the word “presence.” **They need our presence to help them survive in life. Sometimes our presence** (hold up the card) **means we give them some of our presents** (hold up the card) **to help them. Our presents to these people can be food, clothes, toys, and our time.** Discuss examples of how people give the gift of time to help those in need. **In what ways can your presence** (hold up card) **help those in need? How can you use your presents** (hold up card) **to help these people?**

#### **Lesson 4—Persuasion—Displaying God’s Work**

**Supplies:** notecards with the following scenarios written on them:

- I really wanted a chocolate bar. Then I found a dollar and I was able to get one!
- The jacket was exactly what I needed to look great for the dance! My mom bought it for me!
- I had a really tough test to study for. I prayed that I would be able to concentrate. I got a 100%!
- My friend wanted me to lie to my parents. I prayed for courage to stand up to my friend and tell the truth.

Have four volunteers select one each of your cards. The volunteers should read the statements aloud. Then ask each of them, **Can you use this situation to display God’s work in your life?** (“No” to the first two and “yes” to the last two) Read John 9:3. **Why did God say this man was born blind? How was God’s work displayed in the blind man’s life? Do you think God allows us to buy candy bars and new jackets so He can be glorified? Share some of the ways God works in people’s lives to display His glory. How would the example about taking a test help God display His work in your life for others to see? What about the friend who wanted you to lie? In what ways can you think of that God has already displayed His love and work in your life? Try to find at least one way you can allow God to display His work in your life this week. This is one of the most persuasive ways we can share God with others.**

#### **Lesson 5—Proclamation—Stories of Jesus**

**Supplies:** two well-known children’s books—one fiction and one nonfiction

Display the books for all the children to see. Show the fiction book and discuss the main idea of the story. **If someone tried to tell you this story was true, what would you say? How do you know when a story is true?** Then show the nonfiction book and discuss the main idea of the story. **How do you know this story is true? If you are not sure, what might you do to find out if it is true or not?** Read John 10:40-42. **John shared many stories about Jesus. The people were confused about whether he was telling the truth or not. But, then they believed because Jesus proved who He was through His words and stories. We need to share stories of Jesus with others so they will know He is true also. What are some of your favorite stories about Jesus that might help others believe in Him? Take a moment to share the main idea of a few of the children’s favorite Bible stories. Try to find one person to share a story of Jesus with this week. When we proclaim Jesus through His stories, we can help others learn more about His amazing love and forgiveness.**

#### **Lesson 6—Proclamation—Shout for Jesus**

**Supplies:** stickers, crayons or markers, megaphone, large rocks for each child

Show the children the megaphone. Ask a few volunteers to demonstrate how the megaphone works by shouting their answer to this question, **What is your favorite TV show or movie?** Hold the rock to the speaker end and say, **Okay Rock. Now you get to answer the question.** Wait a moment as the children wonder. **It’s easy to shout about our favorite TV shows or movies, isn’t it? But when was the last time you shouted about your Heavenly Father? The Bible tells us that if we don’t shout about Jesus, the rocks will cry out because He is so amazing!** Have a volunteer read Luke 19:37-40 into the megaphone. **The disciples joyfully shouted for Jesus and shared His amazing stories with others. But the Pharisees wanted the disciples to be quiet. Jesus warned them that His power was so great that the rocks would cry out if the people did not praise Him. When we fail to shout for Jesus and praise Him, others will not learn about His amazing love and forgiveness. Just like these rocks, we can remain silent or start shouting for Jesus!** Give each child a sticker and rock. Have kids write Luke 19:37-40 on the sticker and place it on their rock. Then close with this challenge, **Look for a way you can shout for Jesus this week. Don’t make your rock do it for you!**

#### **Lesson 7—Power—Life Over Death**

**Supplies:** a dead plant, a beautiful healthy plant

Show the children both plants. **I really want this dead plant to get better. Can you think of anything I can do to help it come back to life? What do you think I should do to make sure my beautiful, healthy plant doesn’t die like this one did?** After a few suggestions, read John 11:25. **How can God have power over life and death?** Encourage responses. **Jesus is telling us that everyone on earth will die, like my plant. The amazing thing is that if we believe in Jesus Christ, we will go to heaven and be given a new, beautiful life. It would be like taking my dead plant and magically making it into this beautiful, healthy one ... forever! The new plant will never, ever, ever, ever die. It won’t even need water because God will take care of everything! We have God’s promise of eternal life because Jesus died for our sins. Close with this challenge, Do you know someone who needs to know about eternal life with God? Take a moment to quietly pray that God will help you proclaim His love to that person this week.**

### Lesson 8—Proclamation—Party Time

**Supplies:** some object that is very special to you, CD with kid-friendly worship music

Before the children arrive, hide your special object someplace in the room. Appear very sad and distraught. **I've lost something very precious to me! Can you please help me find it?** Encourage the children to ask you “yes” and “no” questions to help them determine what you have lost and where they might find it in the room. After the item is found, exclaim, **YEA! I'm so happy you found my precious \_\_\_\_! Let's have a party to celebrate.** Invite the children to join as you sing and dance to some worship music. After a few moments, ask the children to join you in a circle on the floor. **Do you know why I was so happy to find this special object?** Accept a few ideas then explain why this object is special to you. Read Luke 15:8-10. **When people are lost to God, they are sinning. Sinning makes God very, very sad. But, when lost sinners are found, that means they find Jesus and accept Him into their lives. They stop sinning. This makes God so happy that the angels have a party to celebrate! Would you like to help God have a party to celebrate new believers in Him? What can you do?** Discuss ways to proclaim His love to friends and family. **When you proclaim God's love to others, you might help the angels have a party in Heaven because of a new believer! How cool!**

### Lesson 9—Proclamation—Singing for Jesus

**Supplies:** CD player and kid-friendly worship music, simple kid-friendly instruments (triangle, sticks, xylophone, etc)

Have some exciting worship music playing in the background. Invite the children to begin singing and dancing until everyone is gathered together in a central area. Read Psalm 150 together. **What are the kinds of musical instruments in this passage? How can we use music and singing to share God's love with others?** Pass out the musical instruments. **What are some of your favorite songs to sing or play for Jesus?** Sing or play a chorus or two from the suggestions. Encourage the children to play their instruments as you worship together. **How do the words of God's songs help others learn about His love for them? Pray that God will give you the courage to sing a song that tells of His love to someone else this week.**

### Lesson 10—Power—The Power of Prayer

**Supplies:** poster board and markers

Title the poster board “Toys I Really, Really Want!” Invite children to write some ideas on the paper. **Let's open with prayer. Dear God, we've written many toys here that we really, really want. Please give us ...** (Read off each item in the prayer.) **We know You said You would hear and answer our prayers. We really want these toys so please give them to us. Thank You! Amen.** After the prayer, wait a moment in silence looking around in anticipation as if God will just drop all the toys into the room at any time. **Well, I think God will give us these toys any time now, don't you?** Invite the children to share their concerns and questions about the prayer you just offered. Read Mark 11:24 together. **This verse tells us that God is so powerful that He can give us anything we ask for as long as we believe in Him. Do you think He will really give us all these cool toys? (No.) Do you think He would give these to us if it was the right thing to do? (Yes.) When God tells us to ask for anything in prayer, what do you think He really means?** After a few thoughts, explain, God really wants to give us everything we need. But He also wants us to pray for those who have not yet heard about Jesus. We must have faith and trust God to answer our prayers if we truly pray for things we need and for His will in our lives. What are some things we might ask for in prayer that God really wants to help us with? What do you think people in our community might need right now? **Let's take a moment to pray for some of their needs.** Lead the class in prayer for the needs of the people in your church and community. Close by challenging the children, **Take time this week to pray for God to help you share His love with others. He loves it when we pray for His help in sharing Him with the world. And He will absolutely give this to power to you when you ask!**

## **Lesson 11—Power—Praying for Others**

**Supplies:** construction paper or notecards, markers

Gather the children in a circle. **Today I would like to pray for each one of you.** Begin praying that God will bless each child with courage and wisdom to share His word with others. Be sure to name each child present. Read John 17:20-26 together. **In this passage, Jesus was praying for all the believers ever—that means the people who lived before Him, the people who were alive when He lived, and all the people who ever will live after Him. That includes you and me! Sometimes it is important for us to pray for others, just as Jesus prayed for us. What do you think happens when we pray for others?** Share an example of a time when you prayed for someone else and how that prayer was answered. Give each child a card. **Take this card and write a special note to someone you want to pray for this week. You might write what you want to pray for them or simply tell them that you are praying for them.** After the children finish their cards, challenge them, **Now it's time to actually pray for the person you made the card for. Pray that they will listen when you try to share God's love with them. Pray that God will give you the courage to say the right things. After you pray for this person this week, find a moment to give the card to him or her. God has the power to make your prayers come true!**

## **Lesson 12—Persuasion—Being Persistent for God**

**Supplies:** the words to “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers ... ” or some other tongue twister

Invite volunteers to take turns trying to say the tongue twister as fast as they can. If a child stumbles on the words, encourage him or her to slow down and read the words carefully. **If you read it slowly at first, this will help you learn the words so you can recite it more quickly. The more you practice, the better you will be able to recite the tongue twister.** After the children have a chance to practice, read Acts 5:42. **In this verse, the disciples are being persistent for God. What does it say they did to share God's Word with others? Sometimes sharing God with others can be like learning a tongue twister. We have to start off slowly and keep trying over and over again. Eventually, God may help the person accept His message and become a believer. It's our job to make sure we keep trying. This is called being persistent. Then we must trust God to open the heart of the person we are sharing His love with at that time. Who have you been praying for lately? How can you persistently share God's love with that person? Be persistent in your prayer also. God will hear you and help you always!**