



## Important Directions for Parents:

Below are the lesson notes and activities used by the teachers during the “Small Group” session of Kids Club. In your home, during this Covid-19 down time, you could adapt these activities to provide your children with additional, interactive things to do to reinforce the “Large Group” lesson materials provided on the webpage. The formatting and page breaks for these pages did not translate so well from their original electronic file, but you should be able to see how it works.

If you’d have questions, feel free to reach out. May the Lord guide your teaching. *Dr. Nelson*

### LESSON: GOD PROTECTS PAUL FROM A SNAKEBITE

#### Leader Guide for Grades 3-6

---

 Acts 28:1-10

05/03/2020

#### Teachers Dig In

##### Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Acts 28:1-10
- In This Passage: Shipwrecked on an island, Paul is gathering sticks to build a fire when a poisonous snake comes out of the sticks and bites Paul’s hand. Because God is our protector, Paul is unharmed and shakes off the snake.
- Bible Point: God is our protector...
- Application: ...so we don’t need to worry about a thing.
- Summary Verse: “A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power” (Ephesians 6:10).

##### Dig Deeper

- You’ll Be Teaching: *God is our protector.* Most kids are in one of two camps: overly cautious or foolishly risky. This lesson can help kids on both sides find a middle ground. Overly cautious kids can take comfort in the fact that God is watching out for them. Even if bad things happen, God can protect them as he protected Paul. You can help foolish risk-takers understand that God’s protection is not a license to test him. Help kids see that as they follow God and do what he wants, he’ll protect them.
- Think About: Think of some scary or near-death experiences you’ve had—maybe a just-missed-it accident or a health scare. How can you see God’s protection?

##### Dig Into Prayer

- Ask God to build a special wall of protection around your kids.

## Quick Tip

- How well does your ministry setting model God's protection? Do you have a safe and secure check-in and checkout system? Are all volunteers background checked? (Check out [Shepherd's Watch](#), a great background-check resource.) Do you make sure there is never only one adult alone with kids? Is your room cleaned regularly to prevent spreading illness? Do you have a good policy for handling emergencies? As you evaluate your ministry, you can be a part of God's plan to protect your kids. For in-depth training on important church security practices, purchase a Safe and Secure Church Kit [here](#).

## This Lesson at a Glance



### LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids try flipping cups to cover pompoms.

#### Supplies

- 12-ounce disposable plastic cups (1 per child)
- cotton balls or pompoms (1 per child)
- long tables (1 for every 10 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

#### Easy Prep

- Along both long sides of each table, place 5 cups upside down near the edge of the table and spaced about 1 foot apart.
- A few inches behind each cup, place a pompom on the table.



### OBJECT LESSON

Kids see how soap protects bubbles.

#### Supplies

- water (1 cup for every 5 kids)
- 16-ounce disposable cups (1 for every 5 kids)
- glycerin (check at discount stores such as Walmart in the lotion and body-oil aisle)
- dish soap
- teaspoons (1 for every 5 kids)
- small disposable plates (1 per child)
- straws (1 per child)

- sharpened pencils (1 per child)
- child-safe scissors (1 pair for every 5 kids)



## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids throw their worries into the trash.

### Supplies

- Bible
- paper
- pens
- trash can

*\*Marked supplies can be reused from Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



## LOW-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

### God's Got You Covered

#### Supplies

- 12-ounce disposable plastic cups (1 per child)
- cotton balls or pompoms (1 per child)
- long tables (1 for every 10 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

#### Easy Prep

- Along both long sides of each table, place 5 cups upside down near the edge of the table and spaced about 1 foot apart.
- A few inches behind each cup, place a pompom on the table.

#### Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).

## Flip Cups to Cover Pompoms

Say: **We're learning that God is our protector, so we don't need to worry about a thing. Worries will still come to our minds and hearts sometimes, but when they do, we can give our worries to God. Let's play a game to dig into this some more!**

- Form at least two teams of five or fewer, and have each team choose one side of a table.
- Have team members line up side by side facing their side of their table and standing a few feet from the table.
- At your cue, team members on each side will take turns going one at a time to the table to try to flip a cup directly over a pompom in one try.
- To flip a cup, kids must move it so it extends just a little past the edge of the table and then use a finger or two placed under the rim of the cup to flip it.
- If a child is successful in landing a cup over a pompom in one try, he or she can continue trying to flip cups over pompoms in single flips until unsuccessful. Then it'll be the next team member's turn.
- If a child is unsuccessful on the first try, that child will reset the cup as he or she found it and then the next team member can try.
- A round is over once everyone on a team has had a try.
- For a second round, team members can have two tries at getting the cup to flip directly over a pompom, then three tries in a third round, and so on.
- Encourage team members to cheer each other on and share strategies for success as they practice flipping the cups.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

## Talk About It

Ask: • **What helped you get better at flipping the cups over the pompoms?**  
• **What's something else you've had to practice doing to get better at?** Share an example of your own first, such as practicing driving a lot before it felt natural.

Say: **Things that are new to us or maybe seem a little strange might take practice to feel natural so that we don't even have to think about doing them. That can happen when we practice giving our worries to God instead of holding on to them. Paul had already faced a lot of scary things, so when the snake bit him, it was easy for him to trust God. We can give our worries to God through prayers because God is our protector.**



## Poke-a-Bubble

---

### Supplies

- water (1 cup for every 5 kids)
- 16-ounce disposable cups (1 for every 5 kids)
- glycerin (check at discount stores such as Walmart in the lotion and body-oil aisle)
- dish soap
- teaspoons (1 for every 5 kids)
- small disposable plates (1 per child)
- straws (1 per child)
- sharpened pencils (1 per child)
- child-safe scissors (1 pair for every 5 kids)

### Mix Up Bubbles

Say: **Did you know that you can protect bubbles and keep them from popping? Let's give it a try! First we need to mix up some bubbles.**

- Form groups of five, and give each group 1 cup of water in a disposable cup and a teaspoon. Give each child a straw and a small plate.
- Make dish soap and glycerin available to all the groups, and have a designated child in each group measure and add 1 teaspoon of dish soap and 1 teaspoon of glycerin to the group's cup of water.
- Have groups use a straw to mix the water, dish soap, and glycerin.

### Blow Bubbles on Plates

Say: **Now let's use straws to blow bubbles onto our plates.**

- Have each child pour a small amount of the bubble solution onto his or her plate.
- Show kids how to put one end of the straw into the solution on the plate and gently blow through the straw. A bubble will form on the plate.
- Have kids gently remove their straws so the bubbles remain.

### Poke Bubbles

Say: **Now let's see how soap will protect the bubbles.**

- Have each child dip one finger into the remaining bubble solution in the cup and then poke that finger into the bubble. When kids have soap on their fingers, their bubbles won't pop!
- Have kids predict what will happen with soap on a sharpened pencil or scissors.
- Distribute a sharpened pencil to each child, and have kids dip the tip into the bubble solution and then poke it into the bubble and observe what happens.

- Have kids take turns dipping child-safe scissors into the bubble solution and then poking them into a bubble and observing what happens.
- If a bubble happens to pop, encourage kids to use their straws to blow another one on the plate.

### Talk About It

Ask: • **How does the soap's protection remind you of God's protection over us?**

Say: **The soap didn't keep the bubble from being poked—and God doesn't always keep bad things from happening to us. He didn't stop the snake from biting Paul. But God covers us with his love, and his presence in our lives keeps us safe.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time God helped you or someone you know during a bad time.** Share an example from your own life to begin the conversation.

Say: **God is our protector. We don't need to worry because we know that God is with us, even when bad things happen.**



## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

[5 min]

### Shipwrecked

### Supplies

- Bible
- paper
- pens
- trash can

### Throw Away Worries

Read Philippians 4:6. Say: **God is our protector, so we don't need to worry about a thing. Instead of worrying, we can pray! Let's pray in a fun, active way as we throw away our worries.**

- Have kids write their worries on pieces of paper.
- Kids can crumple their papers into paper wads.
- Set a trash can in the center of the room, and have kids stand back to the point where they think they can make a basket.
- Have kids throw their worries away. If they miss, they can pick up each other's worries and continue until all the worries are in the trash.

### Wrap Up

Pray: **God, thank you for being our protector! Thank you that we don't need to worry about a thing because we can turn to you for help. Please take our**

**worries away now and protect us from all the things we wrote on our papers. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

**The Heart of God, Lesson 10: God Protects Paul From a Snakebite, Design and base content  
Copyright © Group Publishing, Inc. Licensed for use with 61-100 students. Permission to  
reproduce granted for local church use only.**