



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 4K-2

 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 In to 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 to tickle others' toes with feathers.

Supplies

- feathers (1 per child)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)



CRAFT

Kids make paper snakes.

Supplies

- green construction paper (different shades of green, if possible)
- stickers (6 per child)
- "Snake Head" handout (1 for every 9 kids) (download [here](#))
- glue sticks (1 for every 5 or 6 kids)
- googly eyes (2 per child)
- crayons
- child-safe scissors

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids throw away their worries.

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]

Toe Tickle Tag

Supplies

- feathers (1 per child)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

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](#).

Try to Tickle Toes

Say: **We're learning that God is our protector. Let's play a game where you'll protect your toes from being tickled!**

- Have kids all take off their shoes and place them out of the way.
- Have everyone spread out in your room and get down on all fours, ready to crawl. Give each child a feather to use for tickling.
- At your cue, have kids crawl around the room, trying to tickle other people's toes while also trying to protect their own toes from tickles.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Have kids grab their shoes and put them back on while you discuss the game. Collect the feathers.

Ask: • **What did you do to protect your toes?**

Say: **You protected your toes, and it was lots of fun! But sometimes there are things that aren't so fun that we need protection from. Thankfully, God protects us from real dangers. That's why we don't need to worry about a thing—God's always with us and we can be sure he'll protect us.**



CRAFT

[20 min]

Shake-Off Snakes

Supplies

- green construction paper (different shades of green, if possible)
- stickers (6 per child)
- “Snake Head” handout (1 for every 9 kids) (download [here](#))
- glue sticks (1 for every 5 or 6 kids)
- googly eyes (2 per child)
- crayons
- child-safe scissors

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Make Shake-Off Snakes

Say: **Today we learned that Paul was bitten by a snake. But God protected Paul so he didn't get sick. Paul knew he didn't need to worry. Let's make snakes to remind us that God protected Paul from something scary, and God protects us, so we don't need to worry, either! While we make our snakes, we can think of ways that God protects us.**

- Set out the construction paper, scissors, and stickers.
- Have kids each cut six approximately 8x1½-inch paper strips. The width doesn't need to be exact, but have kids make sure their paper strips are long enough to fit their hands through them when they're looped.

- Have kids each make one loop with the construction paper and secure it with a sticker. As kids work, share about some things *you're* afraid of, and encourage kids to share about things they're scared of, too. You might share about spiders or being stuck in a small space.
- Show kids how to pass the second strip through the first loop to create two interlocking loops. Have kids secure the second loop with the second sticker. Have kids continue to make a chain with the remaining paper strips. Kids can continue sharing things that they are afraid of until they run out of ideas.
- As kids work, cut out and give each child a rectangle of the "Snake Head" handout so each child gets a snake head. Have kids color and cut out their snake heads.
- Have kids glue the snake heads to one end of the chains, and give them googly eyes to put on the snake heads.

Shake It off

After kids have finished making their snakes, have them spread out in your room. Show them how to put an arm through one of the loops as if putting on a bracelet. Say: **In our Bible story today, we heard how Paul shook off the snake that bit him.** Demonstrate shaking a craft snake off your wrist, and then invite kids to try it.

Say: **Just as God protected Paul from being hurt by the snake, God protects us! When we're scared about something, we call that worrying. But since God protects us, we don't need to worry or be scared. Let's shake off our worries, just like Paul shook off the snake.** Repeat each of the things you and the kids shared about earlier that scare you. For each thing you share, have kids shake the snakes off their wrists. Continue as time allows, reminding kids that God protects us after each "shake off."

Say: **It was fun to shake off our worries today. When you take these snakes home, remember that God protects us, so we don't need to worry about a thing!**



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 draw 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.

Pray

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.

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