

LEADER GUIDE

PRE-K & K • QUARTER 11



PRE-K & K

QUARTER 11



LEADER GUIDE





Group resources really work!

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's:

Relational

Person-to-person interaction enhances spiritual growth and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential

What we experience through action and discussion sticks with us up to 9 times longer than what we simply hear or read.

Applicable

The aim of ministry is to equip people to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Lifelong

Experiences transform the heart, moving faith beyond the walls of church and into everyday life for years to come.



Leader Guide Pre-K & K—Quarter 11

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Visit our website: group.com/SimplyLoved



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Welcome to Simply Loved!

Welcome to Simply Loved Sunday school—where you and your team simply experience God's love and share it with kids.

"Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us."

(1 John 4:11-12)

With Simply Loved, you, your helpers (we call them Crew Guides), and your kids explore a foundational, Jesus-centered journey through God's story of love. We believe that faith isn't a subject to be mastered; it's a relationship to grow! So every single component of Simply Loved sets the stage for you to more intentionally grow friendship with Jesus and each other. Keep reading to find out what that'll look like in *your* classroom.

Join our Simply Loved Facebook community to learn from children's ministry leaders just like you!

 facebook.com/groups/simplylovedteacherslounge



How It Works

Simple Volunteer Roles

You'll need the following volunteers:

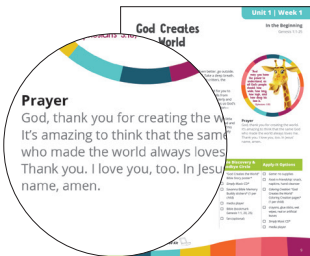
Leader: (That's you!) The one person in each teaching space who has looked over the lesson and will direct all activities. The glance-able, structured lessons in this guide allow leaders to spend more time interacting with kids and less time glued to scripts.

Crew Guide: A helper who simply shows up and participates with kids. Crew Guides don't need to be Bible experts—simply people who love Jesus and kids!

A Simple, Flexible Lesson!

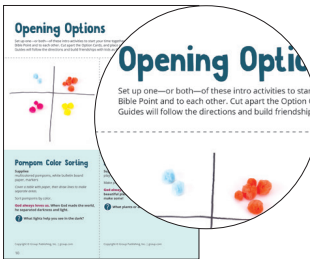
Simple Prep for Leaders

Prepare your heart and pray for the kids before each lesson. Plus, check off supplies as you gather them!



Opening Options

Choose from two opening activities—both introduce the day's Bible Point. Each unit creatively uses the same supplies all four weeks. That means you'll need to gather Opening Options supplies only once a month! If you'd like, set up these Opening Options as activity stations in your room. Simply cut apart the cards you'll find in each lesson and place one at each station to guide activity and conversation. Or do one or both activities with all kids together. You choose!



Sing & Play

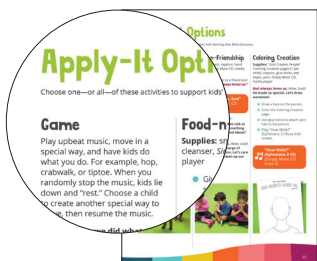
Gather kids to sing and discover the Bible Point. Plus, a Bible Memory Buddy connects the Bible verse to kids' everyday lives.



Bible Discovery

We've given you lots of options, but don't skip this part! It's the "meat" of the lesson where kids experience God's greatest gift in an interactive, hands-on way. There's no time to be bored as kids and Connect Crews follow the Leader through a memorable Bible experience. You'll read directly from the Bible throughout the Bible Discovery, so be sure to mark your place ahead of time and choose a kid-friendly translation to read from. We've intentionally chosen shorter passages for young attention spans.





Apply-It Options

Consider your time frame, and take your pick: a game, a snack, or a Coloring Creation page! Each option applies the Bible Point to everyday kid life, making faith relevant to even young kids.



Goodbye Circle

Wrap up your lesson with a gospel-centered Jesus connection, and remind kids that Jesus is with them wherever they go! Plus, affirm kids by name as you give each child a Bible Memory Buddy sticker at the end of each lesson.

A Simple, Flexible Format!

Age-Graded Classrooms

It's simple! You'll need one prepared leader and at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides) for each teaching space. We recommend having a media player handy in each space for music and each week's Bible Memory Buddy video.



Age-Graded Classrooms With a Multi-Age Opening

It's simple! Lead the Sing & Play section with all ages together. Set up a media player in your gathering area so that when you're all together, you can sing along with music videos, introduce the Bible Point, and meet the Bible Memory Buddy! Then, disperse to age-graded classrooms for Bible Discovery, Apply-It Options, and the Goodbye Circle. You'll need one prepared leader and at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides) for each teaching space.



One (big or small) Room With Multi-Age Kids

It's simple! You'll need one prepared leader plus at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides). Ideally, you'll have one Crew Guide for every five to eight kids, but it can work with your church's volunteer-to-children ratios. We recommend having a media player handy for music and each week's Bible Memory Buddy video.



Our Strategic Approach

There are “whys” behind every lesson component, and we want to share them with you! Here are the guiding principles behind the creation of Simply Loved Sunday school curriculum.

You may have heard...	But we’ve found...	That’s why...
“It’s hard to recruit volunteers.”	When volunteers need less prep time, have fun, and feel like they’re making a difference, they’ll make serving a priority.	Simply Loved volunteer roles are important, but easy!
“Kids need to be entertained.”	Kids need to be noticed and loved.	Simply Loved lessons are designed to help you listen to kids and get to know them.
“You need a lot of supplies.”	You need only a few supplies used in creative ways.	Simply Loved incorporates minimal supplies each unit but uses them in innovative ways to introduce and apply the day’s lesson.
“We need helpers—any warm body will do.”	Helpers don’t just assist. Even though they don’t need to prep, they serve an important relational purpose and make a big difference in kids’ lives.	Simply Loved helpers have a name and an elevated role: they’re “Crew Guides”! They participate along with the kids, play a meaningful role in lessons, and make a difference by building friendships with kids.
“Kids are rarely able to remember Scripture.”	Creating a visual and emotional connection to Scripture dramatically helps kids remember and understand why the Bible matters in their everyday lives.	Simply Loved incorporates kid-friendly videos featuring Bible Memory Buddies (animals God created) to help them understand Bible truths and trigger Scripture memory. And Bible Memory Buddies help discoveries stick! (wink, wink)
“Teachers are Bible experts.”	Teachers are channels of friendship who help children understand and experience Jesus’ love.	Simply Loved uses human relationships to communicate God’s love in a tangible way. Built-in conversation starters help teachers share their personal stories and their own friendship with Jesus.
“Covering a lot of information is intimidating.”	Reaching children is simple when you focus on one Bible Point.	Simply Loved repeats key Bible Points in different ways so truths sink deep. And it combines the repetition of a Bible Point with an auditory and physical response that will stick with kids long after your lesson ends.
“Success requires getting through the whole lesson.”	You’ll clearly communicate the key Bible Point no matter how far you get.	With Simply Loved, a palette of Bible Point-supporting options gives you the freedom to choose what works for your kids and your time frame. So no matter how much of the lesson you complete, the Truth from God’s Word shines through.
“Kids’ll get bored if you repeat something they’ve heard before.”	Kids appreciate routine and repetition when it’s done in a fun way.	Simply Loved’s scope and sequence intentionally repeats the Bible verse and Point for four weeks. This strategically cements Bible learning no matter how often kids attend.

A Faith Foundation for Young Children

As their leader, you get to show young children what loving Jesus looks like! And Simply Loved will help. Simply Loved incorporates these Age-Level Building Blocks to create a wonderful foundation for young children to learn to love and follow Jesus.



Young children are active! They like to move and use their whole bodies to make discoveries, so Simply Loved lessons engage young kids in a variety of active, hands-on ways.

Young children have short attention spans. Simply Loved lessons are broken down into bite-size pieces. Be sure to use the Simply Loved classroom songs to help young kids move from one thing to the next.

Young children feel so many things! Anger, frustration, love, comfort, fear. When you're sharing a Bible story, Simply Loved identifies a key emotion in the story and pauses to ask young children about a time they felt that way. Connecting to emotion cements learning and helps young children know that Jesus understands their feelings and is with them, no matter what.

Jesus often used tangible examples to make abstract learning more concrete. So Simply Loved uses everyday preschool items like blocks, backpacks, dolls, and trains!

It's young children's job to play! So Simply Loved incorporates imagination and play into Bible teaching.

Young children learn through repetition, so Simply Loved repeats, repeats, repeats. Each Simply Loved Pre-K & K lesson is centered around one easy-to-remember Bible Point that's said over and over. Repetition helps cement Bible truths into young minds and hearts to help them—not just someday, but right now!

Keep it simple. Young children need to know basic truths about God, so keep it simple! Simply Loved keeps memory verses simple and easy to understand, crafts simple so little hands can handle them, and games simple so kids can jump right in and play. We've left snacks up to you, so keep snacks simple and be mindful of allergies.

Young children thrive when they know what to expect. So Simply Loved establishes a predictable classroom routine young children can rely on.

Young children are busy explorers! Sometimes their curiosity can lead to unexpected emergencies. Be sure to supervise your little friends as they work with small objects to prevent choking hazards. And always double check for allergies before serving food. Most times, Simply Loved leaves snack choices up to you; however, if food supplies are listed, note this allergy alert to remind you to use caution when serving your young friends.

⚠️ *Allergy alert! Check for food allergies or limitations before serving.*

Classroom Transition Song Lyrics 🎵

Catchy transition music signals times of welcome, cleanup, prayer, and send-off, and these songs help kids wrap up one activity and move on to the next. These high-quality songs have been professionally produced so leaders don't need to be vocalists. But if you do want to sing along, here are the words!

The Cleanup Song

Doot, doot, doo, doo, doo.
Time to clean up.
Clean up!
Cleanup can be fun!

Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh!
Clean up!
Cleanup can be fun!

Doot, doot, doo, doo, doo.
Now our cleanup—
Is done!
Cleanup can be fun.

Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh!
Clean up!
Cleanup can be fun!

"The Cleanup Song" by Sam Mizell. © 2020 Group Publishing, Inc.
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Hello, My Friends

Hello, my friends. *(wave)*
Who's here today? *(shrug shoulders)*
Let's say hello and play a game! *(wave)*

C'mon, shake a hand.
High-five!
Spin around.
Now say your name!

Jesus loves you, *(hug yourself)*
Yes, it's true. *(nod yes)*
He loves you, he loves you,
He loves you, he loves you! *(point to friends)*

Jesus loves you, *(hug yourself)*
Yes, it's true. *(nod yes)*
He loves you.
He loves you, and you, and you,
and you, and you! *(point to friends)*

Hello, my friends. *(wave)*
Who's here today? *(shrug shoulders)*
Let's say hello *(wave)*
and shout hooray! *(pump fist in air)*

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God, You Are So Good

God, you are so good. *(extend arms up)*
We thank you for our food. *(fold hands together)*
You give me what I need. *(hold arms out)*
You take good care of me. *(hug yourself)*
Amen. *(fold hands together)*

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Goodbye, My Friends

Goodbye, my friends. *(wave one hand)*
It's time to go. *(wave other hand)*
It's time to make my way back home. *(march in place)*
I know Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*
He loves me so, oh! *(spread arms wide)*

Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*
Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*
Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*
He's thinking of me. *(point to head)*
Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*
Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*
Everywhere I go. *(march in place)*

Goodbye, my friends. *(wave)*

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Supply Closet Inventory

Pre-K & K—Quarter 11

Have these items handy for some hands-on fun this quarter!

Program Essentials

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ *Music* CD*
- ☐ *Buddy Video* DVD*
- ☐ *Music Video* DVD*
- ☐ Bible Story posters*
- ☐ Bible Memory Buddy posters*
- ☐ Bible Memory Buddy stickers*
- ☐ Coloring Creation pages*
- ☐ media player

Art Supplies

- ☐ blue watercolor paint
- ☐ bulletin-board paper
- ☐ child-safe scissors
- ☐ clear tape
- ☐ crayons, including multicultural crayons
- ☐ dot stickers
- ☐ envelopes with hearts drawn on the outside
- ☐ foam hearts
- ☐ foam heart stickers
- ☐ food stickers
- ☐ glue sticks
- ☐ paintbrushes
- ☐ paint daubers
- ☐ pompoms
- ☐ red chenille wires
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ small paper hearts
- ☐ sticky notes
- ☐ tissue paper
- ☐ washable ink pads
- ☐ washable markers

Toys & Goodies

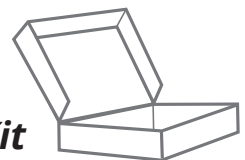
- ☐ inflatable ball
- ☐ ping-pong balls
- ☐ play dough
- ☐ snacks (you choose!)

Odds & Ends

- ☐ aluminum pie pans
- ☐ blanket
- ☐ bowls
- ☐ crepe paper streamers
- ☐ cups
- ☐ hand cleanser
- ☐ masking tape
- ☐ medium-size paper cups
- ☐ napkins
- ☐ paper bags (large and small)
- ☐ paper plates
- ☐ paper towels
- ☐ parachute or large bedsheet
- ☐ pitchers of drinking water
- ☐ plastic spoons
- ☐ plastic tablecloths
- ☐ plastic wrap
- ☐ shallow plastic bins
- ☐ small paper cups
- ☐ sponges
- ☐ spray bottles with water
- ☐ tables and chairs
- ☐ tissues
- ☐ water
- ☐ wet wipes



* in your **Simply Loved Kit**



Peter Preaches About Jesus

Mission Possible!

Acts 4:1-31

Bible Point

Jesus gives us special work to do.

Purpose

Jesus has special work for you to do...and you're doing it right now! You're guiding children as they grow in faith. You're pouring out love and modeling Jesus' servanthood. Those hands you hold (and noses you wipe) are part of a great calling. So thank you!

Peter and John understood *their* calling was to share the truth about Jesus—no matter what. These bold believers preached to welcoming crowds, angry leaders, and the fellowship of the early church. Nothing could deter them from their work.

Young children may not see themselves as having important work to do for Jesus. But you can shine a light on the power these little ones have—to love, encourage, and boldly proclaim their faith.



Prayer

Dear God, sometimes it's hard to feel like I'm doing important work for you. Remind me that these children are *your* children—your church. Give me the strength to do the special work you've given me every single day. In Jesus' name, amen.

Prep

Opening Options	Sing & Play	Bible Discovery & Goodbye Circle	Apply-It Options
<input type="checkbox"/> Option Cards* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Fill Up the Cup</i> : water, shallow plastic bins, cups, sponges, paper towels <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Instruct-a-Ball</i> : inflatable ball	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music</i> CD* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music Video</i> DVD* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Buddy Video</i> DVD* <input type="checkbox"/> Duke Bible Memory Buddy poster* <input type="checkbox"/> media player <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Ephesians 2:10)	<input type="checkbox"/> "Peter Preaches About Jesus" Bible Story poster* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music</i> CD* <input type="checkbox"/> Duke Bible Memory Buddy stickers* (1 per child) <input type="checkbox"/> media player <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Acts 4:3, 19-20, 29-30)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Game</i> : no supplies <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Food-n-Friendship</i> : snack, napkins, hand cleanser, <i>Music</i> CD*, media player <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coloring Creation</i> : "Peter Preaches About Jesus" Coloring Creation pages* (1 per child), crayons, foam hearts, glue sticks, <i>Music</i> CD*, media player

* in your **Simply Loved Kit**



Opening Options

Set up one—or both—of these intro activities to start your time together. Each activity connects kids to the Bible Point and to each other. Cut apart these Option Cards, and place one by each activity you choose. Crew Guides will follow the directions and build friendships with kids as they make discoveries together!



Fill Up the Cup

Supplies: water, shallow plastic bins, cups, sponges, paper towels

Squeeze water from a water-soaked sponge into a cup. Try to fill up the cup!

? How many squeezes did it take to fill the cup?

? When was another time you helped fill up a cup?

I gave you a special job: filling up the cup by squeezing a sponge. That was fun! Today we'll hear that **Jesus gives us special work to do**. The work we do for Jesus is big and important!



Instruct-a-Ball

Supplies: inflatable ball

Hand a friend a ball. Tell your friend a special thing to do with the ball, such as bat it in the air, dribble it on the ground, roll it between your feet, or blow on it to make it move.

? What other fun things do you like to do with a ball like this?

Our friends gave us special work to do with the ball—that was fun! Today we'll see how Jesus' friends had special work to do in the Bible. **Jesus gives us special work to do**, too.

Opening

Now's a great time for Opening Options. Choose one—or both—to introduce today's Bible discoveries.



"The Cleanup Song" (*Music CD track 1*)

Help kids transition by cleaning up before sitting with their Connect Crews. A Connect Crew is a smaller group of kids with one Crew Guide.



Sing & Play

Welcome

Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. Let's sing our welcome song.



"Hello, My Friends" (*Music CD track 2*)

Let's say hello to our Crew Guides. They're our go-to friends who are here to have fun and learn along with us.

- Kids give their Crew Guides elbow bumps.

Bible Point

Today's Bible Point tells us **Jesus gives us special work to do**. Every time you hear the words **"Jesus gives us special work to do,"** point forward with both hands and say, "Let's go!" Let's try that together.

Repetition cements learning, so be sure to say today's Bible Point A LOT. Have fun with it! Kids will love listening for it and responding, "Let's go!"

Practice the Point and response several times.

Let's say a cheer to remind us to jump in and work for Jesus! Do what I do!

Jesus asks us to be kind to others. Pat the back of someone nearby. Now let's cheer!

Jesus gives us work to do! (*pat a back*)
I can do it, so can you! (*point to self, point to a friend*)
Let's go! (*point forward*)

Supplies

- Bible
- *Music CD*
 - "Hello, My Friends"
- *Music Video DVD*
 - "Take My Life and Let It Be" music video
 - "All That I Am" (Psalm 103:1) music video
- *Buddy Video DVD*
 - Duke Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 1)
- media player
- Duke Bible Memory Buddy poster



Let's go!

Jesus asks us to share his love. Make a heart shape with your hands. **Let's use this motion as we cheer!**

Jesus gives us work to do! *(make a heart shape with your hands)*
I can do it, so can you! *(point to self, point to a friend)*
Let's go! *(point forward)*

One thing that pleases Jesus is when we praise him with singing. Let's sing!



"Take My Life and Let It Be" music video

Bible Memory Buddy & Verse

It's time to talk to our friend Buzzly Bee. Buzzly is a friendly bee who will introduce us to a Bible Memory Buddy friend. Let's call for Buzzly. Do what I do!



- Flap hands quickly like a bee.
- Make buzzing sounds.



Duke Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 1)

Our friend Duke the horse reminds us that **Jesus gives us special work to do.** *(Let's go!)*

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster.
- Remind kids that horses can sleep standing up!
- Have kids stand up and pretend to sleep while they stand, snoring and closing their eyes.



Show the Bible. **The Bible is God's true story of love! Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the Bible. Let's say it together. I'll say a line, and then you repeat after me.**

"For we are God's masterpiece. *(stretch out arms in "ta-da" gesture)*
He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, *(stack fists)*
so we can do the good things *(give two thumbs up)*
he planned for us long ago." *(point over shoulders with thumbs)*
(Ephesians 2:10)

A masterpiece is something incredible, beautiful, and amazing! It's someone's very, very best work. Point to kids. **That's you!** This verse says that people are God's most wonderful creation. And we have special work to do for our Creator! **Jesus gives us special work to do.** *(Let's go!)*

We can get excited to go do that special work! We can even sing! Stand if you can, and let's sing praise to Jesus.



"All That I Am" (Psalm 103:1) music video



This is a long verse for younger children. You may want to take out the second line, as well as the word "so" in the third line, to let kids focus on the meaning of the rest of the passage.

Bible Discovery

Jesus gives us special work to do. *(Let's go!)* Hold up a Bible. **Today our Bible story is about two of Jesus' friends who did that work in some surprising places.** Hold up two fingers. **Let's think of two friends we like to do things with.**

- Have everyone get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Connect Crews.
- ❓ **Tell about two special friends or family members.** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

These two friends were named Peter and John. Let's all hold up two fingers. One will be Peter, and one will be John. Have everyone hold up two fingers and say hello to "Peter" and "John."

Jesus had given the two friends the special work of telling others about him. Peter and John went to the temple, which is kind of like a church, to tell people about God's Son, Jesus. Let's make our fingers walk to the temple to tell about Jesus!

- Walk your fingers in front of you.
- Walk your fingers to a friend and say, "Jesus loves you!"
- Walk your fingers to another friend and say, "Jesus is God's Son!"

We can also use our fingers to practice what Peter and John told people. Hold up your fingers as we count and cheer. Watch and do what I do!

One, two, three, *(hold up one finger for each number so you have three fingers up)*
Jesus died for you and me. *(point to a friend, then yourself)*
Three, four, five, *(hold up a finger for each number so you have five fingers up)*
Now Jesus is alive! *(wiggle all fingers)*

Peter and John talked about Jesus in front of big crowds of people.

- ❓ **Have you ever had to talk in front of lots of people? What was that like?**
- Specifically ask Crew Guides to share with the whole group first.
- Then invite responses from kids, too.

Telling lots of people about Jesus was Peter and John's special work. Jesus gives us special work to do, too. *(Let's go!)* **Let's say our counting rhyme to practice what Peter and John said to the crowds of people. Do this with me!**

One, two, three, *(hold up one finger for each number so you have three fingers up)*
Jesus died for you and me. *(point to a friend, then yourself)*
Three, four, five, *(hold up a finger for each number so you have five fingers up)*
Now Jesus is alive! *(wiggle all fingers)*

Peter and John liked talking about Jesus. When they talked in front of a crowd, lots of people heard and believed in Jesus. Woo-hoo! Cheer with me!
Lead a big cheer.

Supplies

- Bible
- "Peter Preaches About Jesus" Bible Story poster

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

Welcome several responses, making sure to repeat each answer given. Your recap will allow kids to know they're understood, and it'll help everyone else hear quiet voices.

Keep your Sundays simple—and your kids delighted—with Simply Loved.

This Pre-K & K Leader Guide provides a step-by-step, simple-to-follow plan for Simply Loved Quarter 11 lessons. Featuring memorable, hands-on, friendship-focused activities, each lesson easily adapts to your unique Sunday school format while guiding kids on a foundational, Jesus-centered journey through God's story of love.

This quarter's Bible discoveries:

Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 1/Week 1	Mission Possible! Jesus gives us special work to do.	Peter Preaches About Jesus (Acts 4:1-31)
Unit 1/Week 2		Seven Leaders Serve the Church (Acts 6:1-7)
Unit 1/Week 3		Paul and Barnabas Travel and Tell About Jesus (Acts 11:22-26; 13:1-3; 14:8-28)
Unit 1/Week 4		Paul and Silas Go to Thessalonica and Berea (Acts 17:1-15)
Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 2/Week 1	Elisha Helps God's People God is kind.	Elisha Helps a Widow (2 Kings 4:1-7)
Unit 2/Week 2		Elisha Helps Other Prophets (2 Kings 4:38-44; 6:1-7)
Unit 2/Week 3		Elisha Helps a Boy and His Mom (2 Kings 4:8-37; 8:1-6)
Unit 2/Week 4		Elisha Helps the King (2 Kings 6:8-23)
Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 3/Week 1	United as God's Family God's love brings us together.	Jesus Says Goodbye to His Friends (John 13:31-14:21)
Unit 3/Week 2		Paul Tells the Christians in Corinth About Love (1 Corinthians 13)
Unit 3/Week 3		The Church in Colossae Learns to Love (Colossians 3:1-17)
Unit 3/Week 4		John Writes About God's Love (1 John 4:7-21)

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Group

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