

Peter Visits Cornelius

Acts 10:1-44

First- and second-graders love to share things they're excited about. But the sharing may be limited to people they're close to or have the most in common with. They may even avoid or tease other kids who are challenged in some way. Use this lesson to help kids understand that everyone needs Jesus and to encourage your children to tell others about him.



► Bible Point

Tell everyone about Jesus.

Key Verse

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will tell others about Jesus.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Introducing Jesus <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Introduce friends to each other, and learn through the Key Verse that Jesus wants everyone to know about him.	Bible, My Bible Fun, CD player, markers Teacher Pack: CD	Tear out the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
2 Bible Exploration	Who's Invited? <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Have a "circle party," and listen in on Peter's vision.	Bible, CD player, plate, vanilla flavoring Teacher Pack: CD, "Paper Cookies" page, "Peter Visits Cornelius" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Arrange the punch-out cookies on a plate, and sprinkle a few drops of vanilla flavoring on them.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>3</p> <p>Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>Everyone's Invited <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Make cookies and invitations to a "party."</p>	<p>My Bible Fun, scissors, markers, measuring spoons, resealable plastic bags, bowl of powdered sugar, napkins, vanilla wafers, shredded coconut, thawed orange juice concentrate, powdered sugar, antibacterial gel (optional) Teacher Pack: "Spread the News" stickers</p> 	<p>Use the recipe at the end of the lesson to determine how much you need of each ingredient for your number of children.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Fun</p>	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Introducing Jesus Supplies

Bible
My Bible Fun
CD player
markers
Teacher Pack
CD: "Go and Make
Disciples" (Matthew
28:19) (track 16)

Introducing Jesus Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 11
pages from each My
Bible Fun student book.

1 GETTING STARTED

Introducing Jesus

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Have children form pairs, and ask partners to introduce themselves to one another and share a favorite part about the last week.

Say: **Now think about some ways your partner is special. Think about why other people would want to know your partner. Maybe he or she is really helpful to others, or maybe he or she smiles a lot and makes others feel good.** Allow time. Make suggestions of more ideas, if needed. Then have partners introduce each other to another pair and tell the pair what they've just thought about the partner.

Open your Bible to Matthew 28:19, and show it to kids.

Say: **Introducing people to Jesus can be difficult, but Jesus makes our lives better. That's why Jesus wants everyone to know about him. Our Key Verse tells us: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).** Have kids repeat the Key Verse with you several times.

Say: **Our Bible Point says, ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. That's a lot of people to tell about Jesus! But if we all tell everyone we know about him, we can reach a lot of people.**

Distribute markers and the Lesson 11 My Bible Fun pages. Have pairs work together to complete the "Introducing Jesus" section. Read aloud the instructions and circulate to offer assistance as kids work.

Afterward, ask several kids to share with the group what they discussed.

Say: **Introducing people to Jesus can be difficult, but Jesus changes our lives for the better. That's why Jesus wants everyone to know about him. Let's sing the song "Go and Make Disciples" while we practice introductions by shaking each other's hands.**

Have kids form two equal circles, with one circle inside the other. Be sure the inside circle is facing outward and the outside circle is facing inward. Explain that circles will walk in opposite directions and kids will shake hands with each other as they sing. Play "Go and Make Disciples" (Matthew 28:19) (track 16 on the CD). Lyrics are at the end of the lesson.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you think about introducing your friend in this activity?
- Why do we introduce our friends to each other in real life?
- Why might you want to introduce your friends to Jesus?

Say: In our activity, it was nice for us to kindly introduce our friends to others. Today we'll hear about how Peter tells someone about Jesus. Like Peter, God wants us to ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.** We can tell our good friends, and we can tell others, too.

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Who's Invited?

What You'll Do

Say: Today we'll hear about two men who discovered that Jesus wants everyone to know about him. Not knowing about Jesus is like not being invited to the best party in the world.

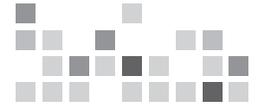
Open your Bible to Acts 10:1-44, and show kids the passage. Show the "Peter Visits Cornelius" poster.

Say: **The Bible tells about a man named Cornelius who loved God and gave to people in need. But Cornelius didn't know about Jesus. Let's have a circle party to see what that was like.**

Have kids form a tight circle with their arms around each other's shoulders. Then have everyone wearing green step outside the circle and the remaining kids in the circle close the empty spaces. Lead the children in the circle in a cheer such as "One! Two! Three! Four! Who do we all adore? Jesus!"

Invite the kids wearing green to join the circle again, but ask those wearing yellow to step out. Repeat the process, making sure everyone is left out of the circle at least once. Then have everyone sit down.

Say: **Cornelius was outside the circle party because he didn't know about Jesus. He didn't know about Jesus because no one had told him about Jesus.** Read aloud Acts 10:3-8.



Who's Invited? Supplies

- Bible
- CD player
- plate
- vanilla flavoring
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "The Cookie Crumbles" (track 17)
- "Paper Cookies" page
- "Peter Visits Cornelius" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

Who's Invited? Easy Prep

Arrange the punch-out cookies on a plate, and sprinkle a few drops of vanilla flavoring on them.

 **ALLERGY ALERT**



Say: **Just like Cornelius, Peter loved God. Peter was a part of the circle party. But Peter only invited Jewish people to the circle party—leaving out people like Cornelius. But God had other plans. Let’s listen.**

Play “The Cookie Crumbles” (track 17 on the CD). When, during the CD segment, you hear a table being set, hold out the plate of paper cookies. As the CD continues, be sure to walk around and let everyone smell the cookies.

Ask:

- **What do you think God was trying to tell Peter?** Allow time.

Say: **Let’s hear exactly what happened.** Read aloud Acts 10:17-23. **Peter welcomed Cornelius’ men into his house. Tell about a time you were welcoming.** Allow time.

Say: **Sometimes there might be people who we don’t get along with that well, but like Peter we can welcome them and tell them about Jesus. Let’s hear how God changed Peter’s heart about people who weren’t like him.** Read aloud Acts 10:28, 34-35.

Say: **When we know Jesus, we become God’s children. We’re invited to the best party in the world. Let’s sing “Children of God” while we have another circle party to remember that Jesus wants everyone to know about him and to be God’s child.** Have kids form a circle and put their arms around each other’s shoulders. Play “Children of God” (track 2 on the CD), and lead children in enjoying the circle party. Lyrics are at the end of the lesson.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to be outside the circle party? inside the circle party?**
- **What do you think it means that God does not show favoritism?**
- **Tell about someone you’d like to tell about Jesus this week.**

Say: **Just as God didn’t want Peter to ignore certain foods, he didn’t want Peter to ignore certain people, either. Peter told Cornelius about Jesus because Peter learned that God wants us to ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. God doesn’t want anyone to be outside the circle party—and we know from our activity that we don’t want that either. Let’s tell others about Jesus this week.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Everyone's Invited

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **When Peter told Cornelius about Jesus, it was like inviting Cornelius to the best party in the world. He was inviting Cornelius to become one of God's children. You're invited to the party, too! When you believe in Jesus, you're one of God's children.**

Say: **Let's get ready for a party to celebrate Jesus. First we'll make some cookies.** Have children clean their hands, and then lead them in making cookies using the "Orange Cookies" recipe found at the end of this lesson.

When the cookies are made, say: **If you believe in Jesus, you're God's children! Make a thumbprint in your cookie to show you're part of the Jesus party. And as you do, tell the person next to you about the first person who ever told you about Jesus.** Have the kids place their cookies in resealable plastic bags and set them aside.

Distribute the My Bible Fun pages and markers, and have kids turn to the "You're Invited" section. Say: **Tell about someone you plan to invite to the Jesus party.** Have kids cut out the invitation and write the person's name on the front. Have kids draw or write why they want that person to know about Jesus on the cross inside the card. Give kids each a "Spread the News" sticker to place on the party balloons inside the card. Then have children form pairs and practice telling each other about Jesus.

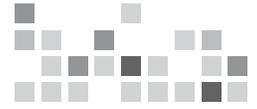
Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What did you enjoy most about getting ready for a Jesus party?**
- **Why is knowing Jesus something to celebrate?**

Say: **Parties are fun when lots of people are invited. This party of God's children—of people who believe in Jesus—keeps growing and growing as we tell more and more people about Jesus. The more the merrier! This week, let's remember that God wants us to ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.**



Everyone's Invited Supplies

My Bible Fun
scissors
markers
measuring spoons
resealable plastic bags
bowl of powdered sugar
napkins
vanilla wafers
shredded coconut
thawed orange juice
concentrate
powdered sugar
antibacterial gel
(optional)

Teacher Pack
"Spread the News"
stickers

Everyone's Invited Easy Prep

Use the recipe at the end of the lesson to determine how much you need of each ingredient for your number of children.

**! ALLERGY
ALERT**



Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Fun

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

Say: **Let's think about how we can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Invite over the person you wrote the invitation to. Watch a movie together, and tell him or her about Jesus—while sharing some popcorn, too!**
- **Tell each of your family members about Jesus and his love for them.**
- **Give your neighbor some cookies with a note attached, telling him or her about Jesus' love.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

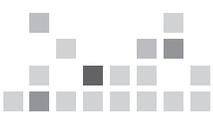
Say: **Peter learned that God wants us to ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. Let's do that this week by following through on our Daily Challenges.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and how they learned that God wants us to tell everyone about Jesus. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God for Jesus. Let each child have a chance to pray for a person he or she wants to tell about Jesus. Then pray: **God, we know that believing in Jesus is like going to the best party ever—because that means we can be part of your family. Help us remember to tell others about Jesus, too, so they can come to the party. In Jesus' name, amen.**



Orange Cookies

Each child will need:

4 vanilla wafers, 1 teaspoon shredded coconut, 1 teaspoon powdered sugar, ½ teaspoon thawed orange juice concentrate, 1 small resealable plastic bag

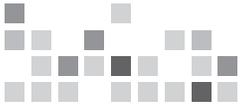
Group can share:

Measuring spoons, small bowl of powdered sugar

Steps:

1. Place 4 vanilla wafers in a resealable plastic bag. Seal the bag.
2. Crush the vanilla wafers into small crumbs.
3. Open the bag, and add 1 teaspoon of coconut and 1 teaspoon of powdered sugar. Seal the bag.
4. Shake the bag to mix the ingredients.
5. Open the bag, and add ½ teaspoon of thawed orange juice concentrate. Seal the bag.
6. With all the ingredients in one corner of the bag, mash together the ingredients until they form a soft, round cookie. (You may need to add a drop more thawed orange juice concentrate.)
7. Roll the cookie in the bowl of powdered sugar to lightly coat it.





Lyrics ■■■■

Go and Make Disciples (Matthew 28:19)

The Bible says: Therefore, go
And make disciples of all the nations now.
The Bible says: Therefore, go
And make disciples of all the nations now.

Baptize them in the name of the Father,
The name of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Baptize them in the name of the Father,
The name of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

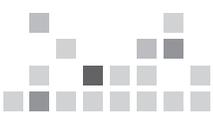
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The name of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, go
And make disciples of all the nations now.
The Bible says: Therefore, go
And make disciples of all the nations now.
(Repeat.)

"Go and Make Disciples" (Matthew 28:19) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.





Lyrics ■■■■

Children of God

**We belong to you, our God.
We'll never be alone
Because you give us all a great big family.
And we are yours forevermore.
Lord, we are yours forevermore.**

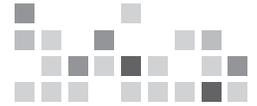
*We are the children of God,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children of God.
Your love has brought us together,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children of God.*

*We belong to you, our God.
We'll never be alone
Because you give us all a great big family.
And we are yours forevermore.
Lord, we are yours forevermore.*

*We are the children of God,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children of God.
Your love has brought us together,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children of God.*

*We are the children of God,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children of God.
Your love has brought us together,
Oh-oh-oh.
We are the children,
We are the children,
We are the children of God.*

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