

LESSON TEXT

John 13:36-14:7; Revelation 21:1-9, 15-21; Mark 14:12-16:20; 1 Peter 2:24-25

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will explain that Jesus was willing to die to prepare a special place in heaven for each of us.
- The students will conclude that Jesus is the only way to God.
- The students will write a letter to Jesus in their journals about what the Quest has meant to them.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:

- 1 game piece (coin, piece from an old game, etc.)
- 1 sheet of construction paper

For the teacher:

- poster board, 1 for every 3-4 students
- tissue paper (many colors)
- markers
- adhesive or glue
- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world
- extra Bibles
- 1 roll of banner paper
- 1 Master Quest Game Board poster
- 1 game die for every 6 students
- markers/colored pencils
- scissors
- clear tape
- fabric swatches/wallpaper strips/glitter
- cotton balls/silk flowers
- magazines with pictures of rooms
- 2 sheets of white paper
- pen or pencil/crayons
- colorful tablecloth and center-piece

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

- Faithful Instruction
- Teacher Focus
- Teacher Tips
- Preclass Activity: A Peek into Heaven
- Starting Up
- Welcome and Singing
- Opening Prayer
- Victories
- Good News from the Kingdom

Getting into God's Word

- Scripture Study
- Activity 1: The Quest Game
- Activity 2: The Quest Craft

Getting It to Others

- Scripture Memory: John 14:6
- Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
- Conclusion

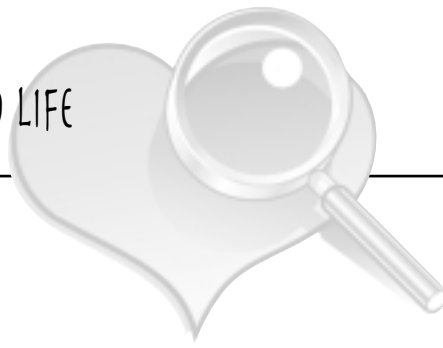
- party food, drinks and supplies
- helium balloons
- CD or cassette player
- CDs or cassettes

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student
- Page B, 1 copy for every 6 students
- Page C, 1 copy for every 6 students (copy on the back of Page B)
- Page D, 1 copy for every 6 students
- Page E, 1 copy for each student

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on John 13:36-14:7; Revelation 21:1-9, 15-21; Mark 14:12-16:20 and 1 Peter 2:24-25.

Consider for a moment how you feel when someone you respect and admire saves you a place next to them during worship service. You feel special! It seals your friendship all the more. Through Jesus, God has done just that for you in heaven! Psalm 139:15-16 and John 14:2 tell us Jesus has prepared a place for each of us even before we were born. What an honor! This is the end of the "Quest" unit for your class, but their lifelong quest for the GREAT I AM continues. How exciting it will be for each of your students to realize that God also wants each of them with him in heaven! He has prepared a "room" for each of us. What will it be like? What will be in it? We don't know the details, but we do know that it will be awesome and that we will be with God. An incredible celebration is at hand if we accept Jesus as the way, the truth and the life.

TEACHER TIPS

During the week before this lesson, ask some of the parents to bring party foods and supplies (trays of pizza bites, chips, fruit and vegetable platters, sodas, cups, plates, napkins, ice, ice chest, etc.) You should invite the leader who introduced the Quest in the beginning of this unit to come join the party. He can fellowship with the students and find out the results of their personal quests.

Before class begins, set up a table using a colorful tablecloth, centerpiece, balloons, etc. in the back of the room. Put the food on the table ready to be served at the end of class. Have a Colour Blind, Radical Love or other Christian music CD/cassette ready to play.

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

A PEEK INTO HEAVEN

The purpose of this activity is to inspire the students to want to be in heaven and to help them understand how awesome it will be there!

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

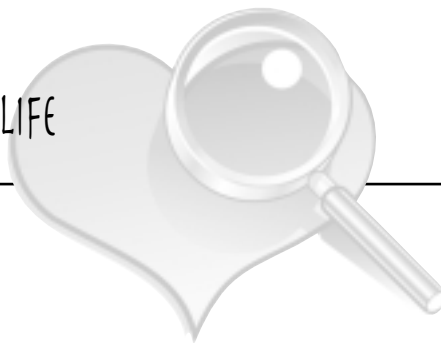
- poster board, 1 for every 3-4 students
- tissue paper (many colors)
- markers
- adhesive or glue

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. As the students arrive, have them divide into groups of three or four.
2. Distribute copies of Reproducible Page A (Heaven Fact Sheet) to each student.
3. Have the students read Revelation 21:15-21 from their own Bibles.
4. As a group, have the students draw John's vision of heaven using a piece of poster board, markers, colored tissue paper and glue.



STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

OPENING PRAYER

Who would like to say a prayer to start today's time together? Let a few students lead the prayer. Encourage the students to mention missing students, special church activities, illnesses and to be especially thankful that Jesus wants us to be with him in heaven with the Father.

VICTORIES

Take the time to have the students share about the challenges they were given at the end of last week's class. *Did everyone complete their challenge? How did it go? What fears did you face as you met the challenge to put the lesson into practice? How did everyone do with having consistent quiet times? Who would like to share something they learned this week?*

Praise and encourage all the students' efforts, especially noting any area of significant growth. Offer help and suggestions so they can have even more victories in the coming week.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE KINGDOM

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world

INSTRUCTIONS

Now let's take a few minutes to share "Good News from the Kingdom." Be excited as you read about what is happening around the world. Have a globe or map ready, pointing out the location as you share. Remind your students that the kingdom of God is worldwide and that the victories of our brothers and sisters in other countries can inspire us and spur us on.





SCRIPTURE STUDY

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles
- markers
- 1 roll of banner paper

Read John 13:36-14:7.

- *Why were the disciples' hearts troubled?* (Jesus told them he was going away, and they couldn't go with him at that point.)

Discuss briefly what a special relationship they had with Jesus for three years: all the fun times on the road, the amazing miracles, etc. They couldn't really grasp what he meant. They couldn't imagine being away from him!

- *Why couldn't they go with him?* (Jesus had to prepare the way for them to get there. / They needed to stay on earth and teach others so they could know Jesus too.)
- *What did Jesus say to comfort them?* (He was going to prepare a place where they could be with him forever.)
- *Did the disciples understand?* (no)
- *How did Jesus try to help them?* (He told them that they just needed to follow him and trust him because he is God. That would have reminded them of all the other times they trusted him and he took care of them.)

See example of time line below:

Let's take a few minutes to see what Jesus had to go through to prepare the way for them and for us:

As a group, have the students skim Mark 14:12-16:20 to make a time line of the main events from the Last Supper to the Ascension. Use the banner paper to write the time line for the class.

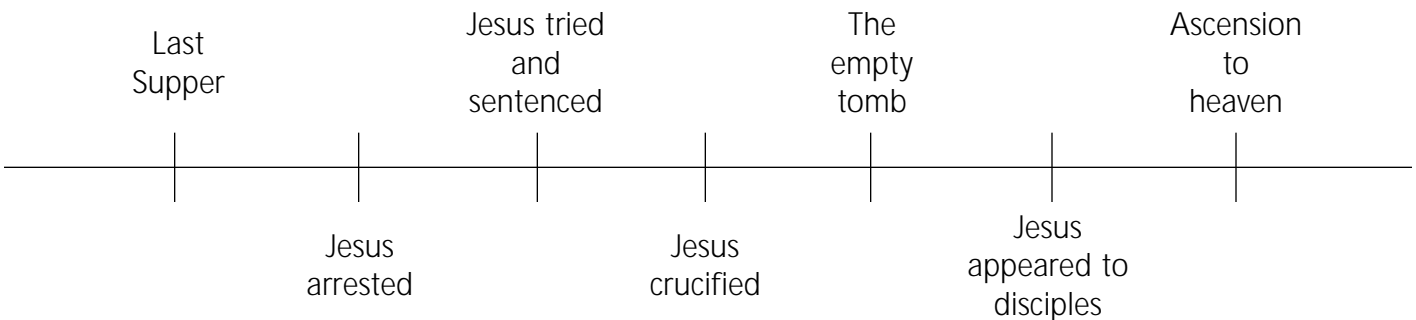
Read 1 Peter 2:24-25.

- *What made Jesus endure the sufferings he went through for us?* (He loves us and wants us to be with him.)
- *Is there any way we could have fixed our relationship with God on our own?* (no)
- *How does it make you feel to know Jesus went through so much to prepare a place for you?* (Encourage the students to share how it makes them feel and how grateful they are.)
- *How do we get to the place prepared for us?* (Jesus is the way. If we follow him, he will show us exactly what we need to do to get there.)

Read Revelation 21:1-9, 15-21.

Ask the groups of students from the Preclass Activity to share with the class their depictions of John's vision of heaven. Make sure that the students know that John's vision is symbolic. We don't know if heaven is literally made up of precious stones, but we know that it is very, very special. That is what God is communicating to us.

Jesus died to prepare a place for each one of us in heaven. This was God's plan from the beginning. It is exciting to think of a special place waiting just for us!





ACTIVITY 1

THE QUEST GAME

The Quest is a continuous game that is played throughout Unit 20. The purpose of this game is to reinforce the lesson objectives while giving the students a fun activity. For instructions about how to set up and play the game, see the extra sheet at the beginning of the unit entitled "The Quest Game Instructions." At the beginning of the unit you will also find a folded poster (Master Quest Game Board) that will serve as the guide to help the students tape together the individual game boards from each lesson.

If time allows, have the groups of students color the new game board before taping it to the game board from last week.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- 1 game piece (coin, piece from an old game, etc.)

For the teacher:

- 1 Master Quest Game Board poster
- 1 game die for every 6 students
- markers/colored pencils
- scissors
- clear tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for every 6 students
- Page C, 1 copy for every 6 students (copy on the back of Page B)
- Page D, 1 copy for every 6 students



ACTIVITY 2

THE QUEST CRAFT

The students will each create a picture of what they think their room in heaven might look like.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- 1 sheet of construction paper

For the teacher:

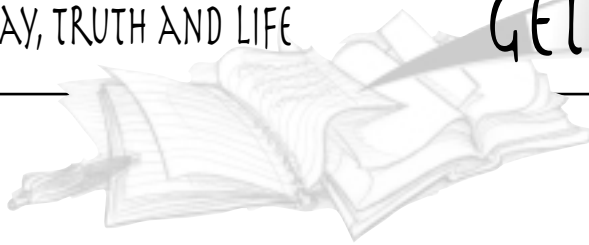
- fabric swatches
- wallpaper strips
- glitter
- cotton balls
- silk flowers
- magazines with pictures of rooms
- scissors
- adhesive or glue
- crayons/markers/colored pencils

PREPARATION

Set up the craft supplies at stations throughout the room for the students to use in making their crafts.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Before beginning the craft, have a short discussion with the students expressing the following: *You have made it to the end! You have reached your room! Have you figured out who the Great I AM is? (Jesus! If you need to give them a hint, ask them who prepared the room in heaven for them.)*
2. Have the students design the room that Jesus is preparing for them. Help them think without limitations about how their special room in heaven might look. On a sheet of construction paper, have the students create their own room, personalizing it in whatever way is meaningful to them. (They can add texture to their rooms by using fabric swatches, wallpaper strips, silk flowers, cotton or glitter. They can also use pictures from a variety of magazines.)



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- 2 sheets of white paper
- pen or pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Divide the class into two groups. Separate the groups so that they cannot hear each other talking.
2. Choose a scribe for each group.
3. Read just the first half of the verse to one group. Have them work together to create a code for the alphabet on the top portion of their sheet of paper and then encode the first half of the memory verse on the bottom: "Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life." The scribe will write out the alphabet code and the encoded part of the memory verse.
4. Have the second group do a code and encode the second half of the memory verse: "No one comes to the Father except through me."
5. Have the groups exchange and decode each other's half of the memory verse. Again, the scribe will write down the verse.
6. Hand out copies of Reproducible Page E to each student.

NOTE: Do not tell them the whole verse or it will make the decoding too easy.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Write a letter in your journal to Jesus expressing your gratitude for all he has done in your life through his sacrifice and his teaching. Share the letter with your parents or with another disciple.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND PARTY TIME

Throughout the past five weeks we have learned about the Great I AM statements that Jesus made. What are the five statements? (I AM the bread of life; I AM the light of the world; I AM the resurrection and the life; I AM the good shepherd and I AM the way, the truth and the life.)

Have the students spend some time thinking back over what they have learned during the past five weeks. Then have them write a letter to Jesus expressing how they feel about all he has done for them. When they are finished, ask them to share the letter with their parents or with another disciple. If they do not have time to finish in class, ask them to finish at home.

NOTE: Have the students take their journals home with them after class today.

PARTY

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- colorful tablecloth and centerpiece
- party food, drinks and supplies
- helium balloons
- CD or cassette player
- CDs or cassettes

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have a great time of celebration with the students for finishing the Quest.
2. Invite the guest speaker who introduced the Quest. Allow him to make an ending statement about Jesus being the Great I AM and about the joy it is to know him (his power and his love). He can come in costume again if you and he desire.
3. Eat the refreshments, enjoy the music and have a great time!

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.

THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE

LESSON TEXT

Matthew 28:18; John 14:1-7;
Revelation 21:1-4, 9-27

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will understand that, in order to know the way to God, they need to know and trust Jesus.
- The students will make one decision about how they will continue the Quest in their daily lives.
- The students will write a letter to Jesus in their journals about what the Quest has meant to them.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For the teacher:

- playing cards, 1 card for each student

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 2 copies for the teacher
- Page G, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page H, 1 copy for the teacher

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
Teacher Focus
Teacher Tips
Preclass Activity: Card Game
Starting Up
Welcome and Singing
Opening Prayer and Review
Great News Sharing

Getting into God's Word

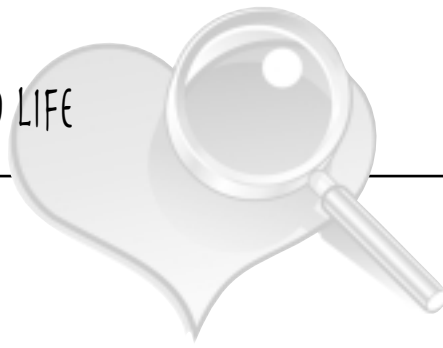
Activity 1: Road Map
Scripture Study
Activity 2: Interview with a Disciple

Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: John 14:6
Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on Matthew 28:18, John 14:1-7 and Revelation 21:1-4, 9-27. This is the final class for Unit 20 and the completion of the Quest. Your objective in this class is to have the students take what they have learned over the last five weeks of this Quest and apply it to their own "quest" for a relationship with Jesus and with God. Think and pray about how you can achieve this during the lesson.

TEACHER TIPS

You will be interviewing a disciple in this class. Pray for insight and wisdom in choosing the disciple to be interviewed. A strong disciple who was raised in the church would be an excellent choice. Ask questions about their conversion and their life now. Choose a disciple whom the students look up to: someone who inspires them, dresses cool, respects the preteens and has a spiritual mind-set. Get advice from your leaders about possible good candidates. You may want to choose a leader or teen worker. Before class let the person know what to focus on when talking to the students. Have some questions prepared to start off the interview (see sample questions on page 11.)

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

CARD GAME

This activity will serve as a reminder to the students of the different aspects of Jesus as the Great I AM.

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

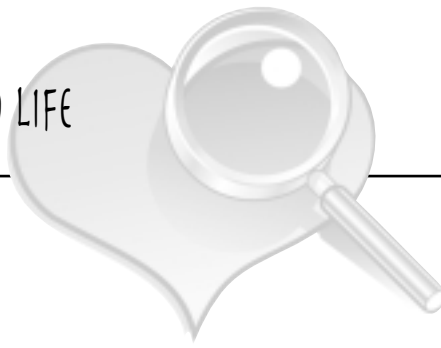
- playing cards, 1 for each student

PREPARATION

1. Separate the playing cards into suits (diamonds, clubs, hearts, spades).
2. On the back of each of the playing cards write one letter as shown below (one card per letter in random order):
 Hearts: W-A-Y T-R-U-T-H L-I-F-E Spades: L-I-G-H-T O-F W-O-R-L-D
 Diamonds: B-R-E-A-D O-F L-I-F-E Clubs: R-E-S-U-R-R-E-C-T-I-O-N
3. See page 9 for an example of a suit.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Shuffle the cards. Deal out one card to each student as he or she arrives.
2. If you have more cards than students, give two to some students. (But to avoid confusion, give both cards from the same suit.)
3. Ask the students holding cards of a similar suit to find each other and to begin decoding their messages. Have the students try to put the letters together to form the word or phrase. (Each group must use all their letters to form their word or phrase.)
4. The team that gets theirs right first, wins.



STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

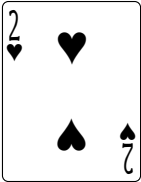

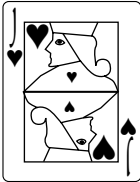

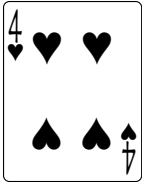

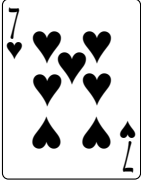
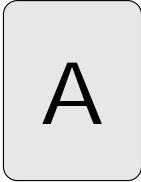
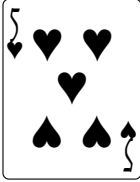
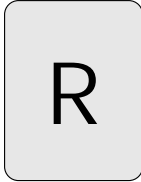
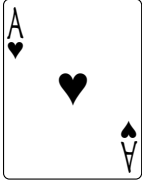
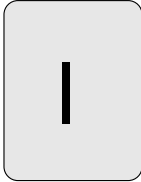
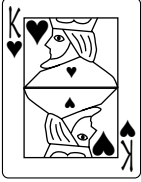
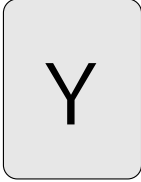
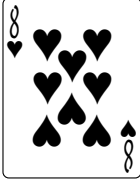

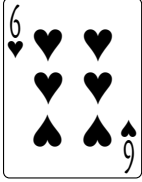


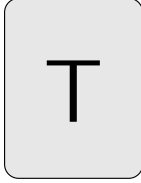
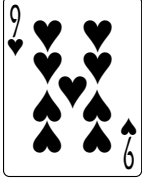

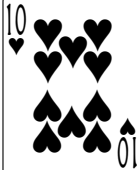
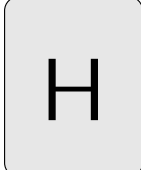
OPENING PRAYER AND REVIEW

- Open with one of the students thanking God in prayer for sending Jesus to show us the way to heaven.
- Have one student recite the memory verse for this lesson: John 14:6.
- Have a student briefly review the previous lesson (Core Lesson).

GREAT NEWS SHARING

Allow several minutes for the students to share great news about their lives. This could be about a family member who became a disciple, someone healed from an illness, someone studying the Bible, great grades, etc. Remind the students to be brief so as many as possible can share.

Example of Hearts Suit



ACTIVITY 1

ROAD MAP

Students will practice following directions on a map to emphasize the importance of knowing the way to get where they want to go. This will be applied to knowing Jesus as the Way to get to God.

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

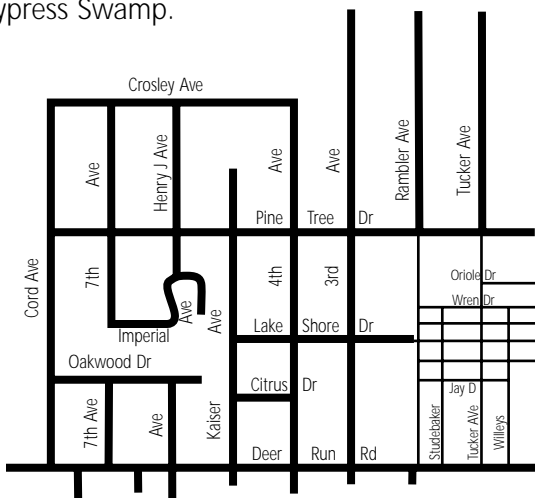
- Page F, 2 copies for the teacher
- Page G, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page H, 1 copy for the teacher

PREPARATION

1. Set up two tables.
2. Mark the starting point on each of the copies of the map (Reproducible Page F).
3. On one table have one copy of the map (Reproducible Page F) with the copy of Reproducible Page G next to it.
4. On the other table have one copy of the map (Reproducible Page F) with the copy of Reproducible Page H next to it.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Divide the students into two teams.
2. Assign each team to one of the tables.
3. Have the teams follow the directions on their respective tables and see which team can get to its destination first.
4. Answers: Destination #1 (Reproducible Page G) is Bass Lake. Destination #2 (Reproducible Page H) is Cypress Swamp.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Discuss the following questions:

- *How hard was it to follow the directions on the map?*
- *Have you ever gotten lost going somewhere because you didn't have good directions to help you?*
- *Jesus gives us directions too, and it is important to know what they are.*

Select a volunteer to read aloud John 14:1-7.

- *Where was the place Jesus was going?* (heaven)
- *Why did Jesus say "trust in God, trust also in me"?*
- *What did he want them to trust?* (that they would once again be with him, in heaven this time)
- *Why did he say they knew the way to the place he was going?* (They had seen his way of life and had heard his teaching and knew it to be the truth.)
- *Why did Thomas say he didn't know the way?* (Thomas was thinking of a physical place. He didn't think he had directions to the location Jesus was talking about. He was not thinking in a spiritual way!)

We can miss what Jesus is trying to tell us in our lives if we don't stop and think in a spiritual way!

- *Are his twelve disciples the only ones who know the way to where he has gone?* (no)
- *Who else knows the way to where he has gone?* (Anyone who chooses to know Jesus will discover the way to follow him.)

Select a volunteer to read aloud Matthew 28:18.

- *How can we know Jesus?* (by studying his word—the Bible—and letting disciples teach us about Jesus / imitating these disciples' way of life)

Take a couple of minutes to help the students think about all the things they have learned and how they can apply these things to their own "Quest." Challenge them to live their own Quest to be with Jesus every day and encourage them that Jesus, the Great I AM, will help them to make it to heaven and to be victorious!



ACTIVITY 2

INTERVIEW WITH A DISCIPLE

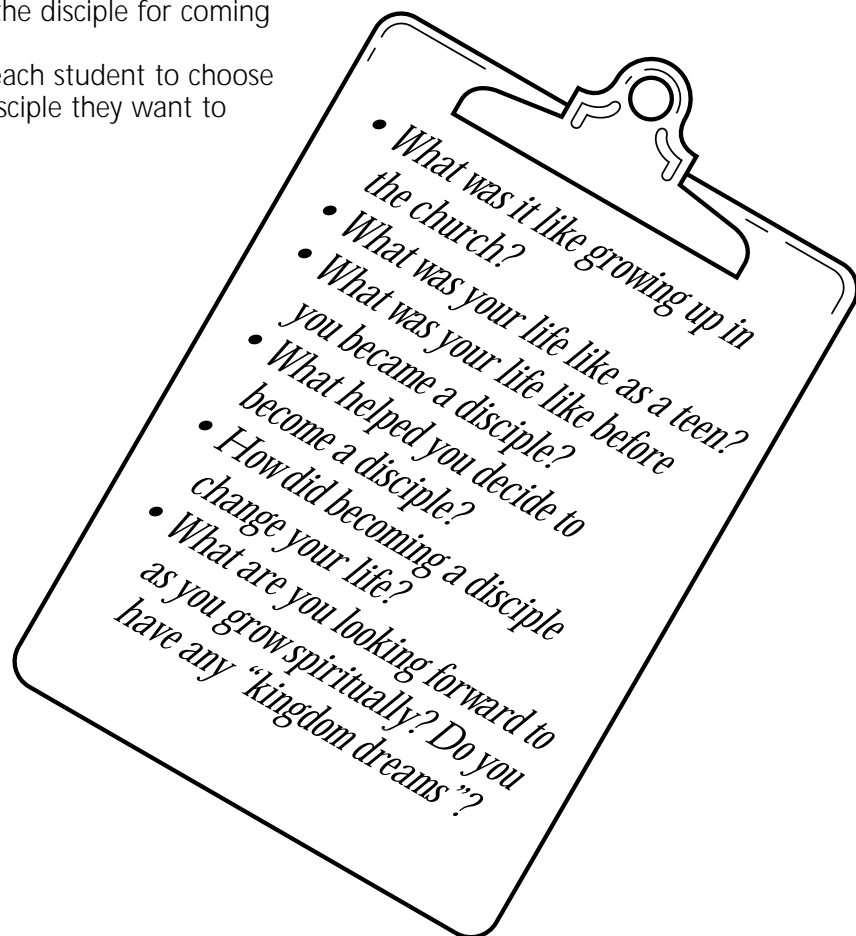
The students will interview a mature disciple to understand more about what it means to follow Jesus (to be on a continual quest to know the Great I AM).

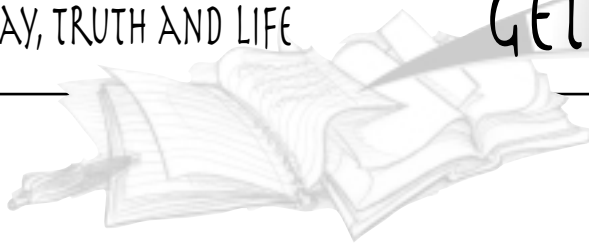
PREPARATION

Create some start-off questions for the interview. See questions below for ideas.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Introduce the disciple by saying: *In much the same way as Jesus was a flesh and blood example of God for us, we have older brothers and sisters in the faith to be flesh and blood examples of Jesus for us today.*
2. Have the students ask him questions. Use the start-off questions if needed.
3. Be sure the students thank the disciple for coming to their class.
4. After the guest leaves, ask each student to choose a Christ-like quality of the disciple they want to imitate this week.





SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Divide the students into pairs.
2. Have them review the memory scripture and say it aloud.
3. Bring the students together and have them say the scripture as a group.

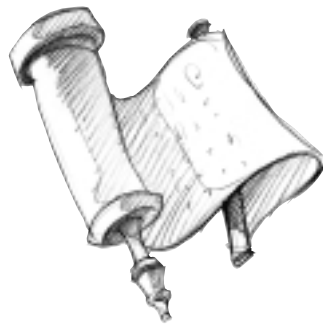
WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND SNACK TIME

If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat while you remind them of the challenge for the week.

Follow up with the students' challenge to write a letter to Jesus in their journals about what the "Quest" meant to them. Ask how many have written their letters. Then ask who might be willing to share what they have discovered about themselves during these few weeks.

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.



WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Write a letter in your journal to Jesus expressing your gratitude for all he has done in your life through his sacrifice and his teaching.

Share the letter with your parents or with another disciple.

HEAVEN FACT SHEET

- Shape: a square 1,400 miles long and wide
- Walls: 200 feet high, made of jasper [reddish-brown or yellow quartz]
- Foundation: decorated with precious stones in twelve layers
1. jasper—reddish-brown or yellow quartz
 2. sapphire—generally blue in color
 3. chalcedony—translucent to transparent white or gray quartz
 4. emerald—green transparent beryl
 5. sardonyx—alternating brown and white bands
 6. carnelian—pale to deep red or reddish-brown quartz
 7. chrysolite—gold-colored mineral
 8. beryl—bluish-green gemstone
 9. topaz—yellow variety of quartz
 10. chrysoprase—apple-green chalcedony
 11. jacinth—reddish-orange zircon (transparent)
 12. amethyst—purple
- Gates: each made of a single pearl
- Streets: of pure gold, like transparent glass

THE QUEST GAME—QUESTIONS

Q

1.

What is the primary scripture reference for today's lesson?

Q

2.

Why did Jesus tell the disciples not to let their hearts be troubled?

Q

3.

What did Jesus do to prepare the way to heaven?

Q

4.

Who asked Jesus how he could know the way to God?

Q

5.

How many gates are in the new Jerusalem?

Q

6.

Name three of the twelve stones in the foundation of the new Jerusalem.

THE QUEST GAME—ANSWERS

A

1.

John 14:1-7

A

2.

Because he was about
to leave them.

A

3.

See time line in lesson.

A

4.

Philip

A

5.

Twelve

A

6.

Jasper, sapphire,
chalcedony, emerald,
sardonyx, carnelian,
chrysolite, beryl,
topaz, chrysoptase,
jacinth, amethyst



SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

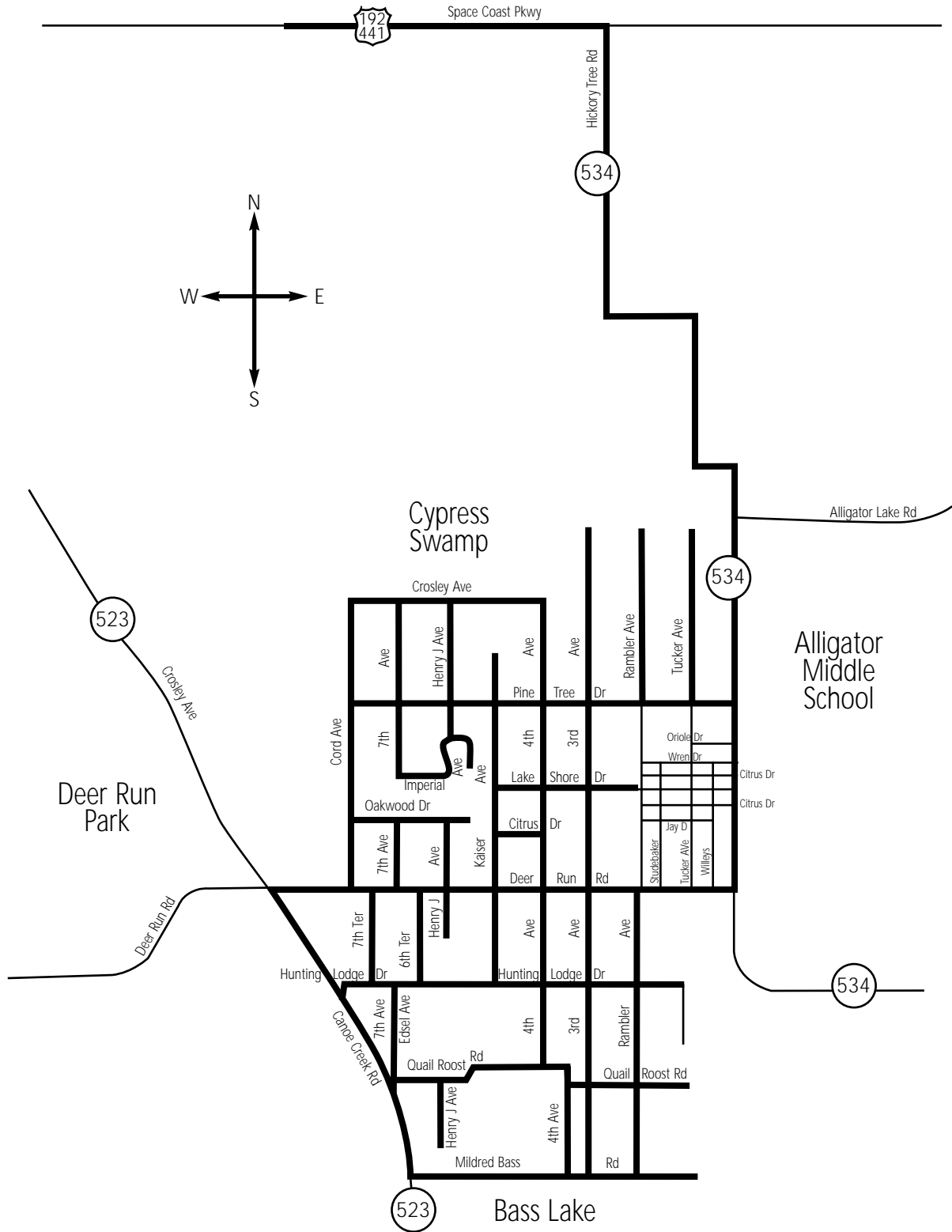
JOHN 14:6

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Write a letter in your journal to Jesus expressing your gratitude for all he has done in your life through his sacrifice and his teaching. Share the letter with your parents or with another disciple.

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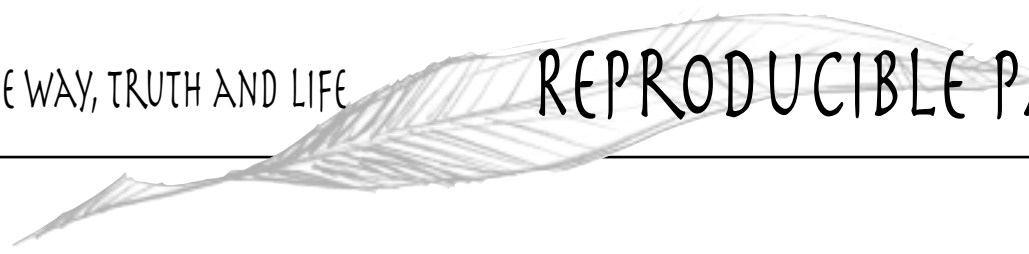
MAP





DIRECTIONS 1

1. Start on corner of Hickory Tree Road and Space Coast Parkway.
2. Go South on Hickory Tree Road.
3. Go West on Deer Run Road.
4. Go North on 4th Avenue.
5. Go West on Crosley Avenue.
6. Go South on Henry J. Avenue.
7. Go West at Imperial Avenue.
8. Go North on 7th Avenue.
9. Go West on Crosley Avenue.
10. Go South on Cord Avenue.
11. Go East on Oakwood Drive.
12. Go South on Henry J. Avenue.
13. Go West on Deer Run Road.
14. Go South on Canoe Creek Road.
15. Go East on Quail Roost Road.
16. Go South on 4th Avenue till the road ends.
17. Where are you?



192
441
Space Coast Pkwy
DIRECTIONS 2

1. Start on corner of Highway 441 and 534.
2. Go South on 534.
3. Go West at Deer Run Road.
4. Go South on 3rd Avenue.
5. Go East on Quail Roost Road.
6. Go South on Rambler Avenue.
7. At Mildred Bass Road, go West to Canoe Creek Road.
8. Go North on Canoe Creek Road to Hunting Lodge Drive.
9. Go East on Hunting Lodge Drive.
10. Go North on Kaiser Avenue.
11. Go East on Citrus Drive.
12. Go North on 4th Avenue.
13. Go West on Pine Tree Drive.
14. Go North on Cord Avenue until you intersect Crosley Avenue.
15. Where are you?

