

Materials I Need:

Legend:



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade

= Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade

Memory Work:

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

Aim Questions:

1. Why did Jesus go to Jerusalem in secret?
2. Who did Jesus say He was?
3. What did the people do when they heard Jesus say this?
4. Why did the religious leaders bring in the accused woman?
5. What did Jesus do while they accused Him?
6. What did Jesus say to them?



Hook:



What Is Blasphemy and Persecution? (Discussion). These two words will be important to understand for this morning's Bible Adventure. Spend a few minutes looking them up in the dictionary (perhaps have the students write out the definitions), and discuss what they mean. Are these words prevalent in today's society? This morning we will hear Christ making claims to be equal with God. What will be the reaction of the crowd? Will there be a different reaction between the people and the religious leaders?




Darkness In The World (Activity/Discussion). After coloring the globe on **JHN05.GF1** list out some of the sinful attitudes in our world today. Why are these attitudes so common? We will hear in our Bible Adventure this morning how Christ claims to be the “Light of the World,” and the people don't have a clue as to what He is talking about. Do you?




Old Testament Review (Discussion). Review who Abraham was and what the Feast of Tabernacles was. With both of these featured in today's Bible Adventure, it might be helpful to the students to have a quick review of them before moving into the BOOK time. If you need pictures or previous curriculum packets on these lessons, contact the Children's Ministry secretary.



Light Bright (Demonstration). Get a 500 watt Halogen light. Shine it up to the ceiling. Jesus claimed in today's adventure that He was the light of the world. Explain that those who don't know Jesus like the ones in today's passage cannot look into the light. It makes the whole room bright but it itself is too bright. The one who believes in Jesus can look to him as their light. The one who does not either can't recognize him or he has so much sin that Jesus' light is blinding.

 **Who Are You Going to Listen To? (Activity).** Tape lines on the floor making right and left turns or zig zags from one side of the room to another. Take turns blindfolding different students. Have a teacher play the part of a Pharisee and tell them to follow the Pharisee's directions across the room. Using caution, the Pharisee can give bad directions making them run into other teachers or helpers. Another twist would be to blindfold the Pharisee as well. Then have the Pharisee try to give directions. Discuss with the students that Jesus is the light of the world. He makes it possible to see and follow the way to God.

 **"I-AM" (Game).** The object of the game is:

1. To learn each of the I AM's that Jesus declared.
2. Match and cover each of the squares on the game board with the corresponding sticker.


Make a copy of **JHN05.GF2 Pg.2** onto card stock (have these prepared prior to class). Or use as a craft and have the children color pictures, cut and fold on lines. Tape or glue tabs into a cube.


To play the game: Use **JHN05.GF2 Pg.1** for the table version.

1. Roll the dice and match the verse to the appropriate box on the game board. One of the sides of the dice has two pictures. If rolled, the child has the option of which they would like to use.
2. Say the corresponding verse and reference it correctly.
3. Put matching sticker on game board in proper box, **JHN05.GF2 Pg.3** and **4**.

To play the full classroom version:


1. Have the verses enlarged to 8x11 sheets of paper to be applied to the floor of the classroom as the game squares, **JHN05.GF2 Pg. 4**.
2. Have the children take turns rolling the dice and moving to the appropriate square until all squares are covered.

 **What's the Sign? (Worksheet).** Use this worksheet, **JHN05.GF3**, and have the children look up the verses. Read the verses and discuss the attribute of Christ that is recorded in the verse. After each verse is discussed, the children may then place their signs (**JHN05.GF3 Pg. 2**) over the verse. You can either color the signs, or copy onto red card stock.

 **Know Your Sign "Hopscotch" (Game).** Jesus Christ showed many signs to prove His Deity while on earth. Some of these are recorded in the Book of John. Tape a hopscotch game outline on the floor (see **JHN05.GF4 Pg.1**). Cut out verses of **JHN05.GF4 Pg.2** and **Pg.3** and place each onto a square of the Hopscotch. Use a marker for the children to toss. Each child in turn tries to complete a round of Hopscotch. The child tosses the marker into a square. Then, jumping onto the squares, the child tries to say what the sign is that Christ performed while picking up the marker. Repeat until all signs (each square) have been said.




Book:

 **Jesus Teaches to the Believing and the Unbelieving Crowd (Illustration).** Use this coloring page to help with today's Bible Adventure, John 7:25-52, **JHN05.GF5**.

 **Jesus and the Woman Caught in Adultery (Illustration).** Use this coloring page to help with today's Bible Adventure, John 8:1-11, **JHN05.GF6**.

Presentation Ideas –

 **Blind Pharisee (Role Play).** Have someone dress up as a Pharisee who is blind. As you teach the Bible lesson, have the Pharisee give first-hand information regarding the claims of Jesus Christ and

how he believed Jesus was crazy in the things He was teaching. Have the children “boo” false statements, and ask them, “Kids, is this really true?” Let them interact with the Pharisee and ask him questions. Make sure that you show how “blind” these men really were as it related to the true character and nature of Jesus Christ.

Bible Adventure –

Life was never dull in Bible times when Jesus Christ came to town. People crowded around Him, watching every move and listening to what He had to say. They were never in total agreement about who He was or why He had come. In fact, many bitterly disagreed with each other about it. With the common people He became more and more popular, but the Jewish religious leaders hated Him more with each passing day. Jesus had gone back to Galilee because these leaders were looking for a way to kill Him. His brothers wanted Him to go back to Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles. They wanted Him to perform more miracles there. At that time, even Jesus’ own brothers did not believe He was the Messiah. Perhaps they wanted more proof before they would believe. In any case, Jesus sent His brothers to Jerusalem alone, saying it was not yet time for Him to go there. Jesus was dedicated to keeping God’s timetable, not anyone else’s (even his brothers’).

When the time was right, Jesus secretly went to Jerusalem. Chapters seven and eight of the Gospel of John tell about the things that happened during the Feast. In these two chapters, we hear more about people’s opinions of Jesus; but we hear something even more important--we hear Jesus telling those listening exactly who He is! It’s no longer just the Apostle John’s opinion that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus Himself leaves no doubt He is just that!

In the middle of the seven-day feast, Jesus went into the temple and began to teach. His teaching was so clear and refreshing that the Jews were amazed He could teach so well, having never received any training as a teacher or rabbi. Jesus heard them and explained that His teaching was different because of its source--straight from His Father. He could teach with power and authority because He was God’s Son and equal with God. But the people’s hearts were filled with unbelief, and they did not understand what Jesus was trying to tell them. Even the religious leaders’ eyes were blinded to the truth. They did not really honor God’s Word, they only said they did. They condemned Jesus for daring to heal a man on the Sabbath. They were more concerned with their set of rules than with the condition of those they were supposed to care for. Jesus broke their traditions and earned their hatred because of it. As people listened to Jesus, arguments began again as they questioned who He was. Some believed He was the Messiah, but others spoke their doubts. They said He could not be the Messiah because they all knew where Jesus came from. (The prophets said the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, and they all thought Jesus was born in Nazareth.) There was a Jewish legend at that time which taught the Messiah would be unknown until Elijah came to anoint Him. They had not seen Elijah, so they thought that Jesus could not be the Messiah. Jesus then said plainly that He had been sent by God. When men rejected Him they were rejecting God. The debate about Jesus continued on, dividing people into two groups. Even the Jewish religious leaders did not know what to think, and there were arguments among them too.

After the feast was over Jesus went again to the temple early one morning. All the people came to Him, and He began to teach. But the Jewish religious leaders, the scribes and Pharisees interrupted Him and brought into the temple a woman whom they had caught breaking a marriage promise by being involved in sexual sin (adultery). These men hoped to trap Jesus into saying something for which they could arrest Him, or at least make Him lose His popularity with the people. So they said to Him, “In the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” (8:5). Do you see their trap? If Jesus’ answer went against Moses’ law, the Jewish people would not like it. If He answered that the woman should be stoned, it would go against His message of mercy and forgiveness. What did Jesus do? He simply knelt on the ground and began writing things in the dirt. When the scribes and Pharisees kept asking Him, He stood and said to them, “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.” (8:7) Then He knelt down and began writing in the dirt again. We don’t know what Jesus was writing there, but we do know that His silence gave those leaders time to think. Could any of them say they were totally without sin? Of course not. So, one by one, the scribes and Pharisees left the temple until only Jesus and the woman were left there. Jesus asked the woman, “Where are they? Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you. Go now and leave your life of sin” (8:10,11). That’s the heart of our great Savior. He stands ready to forgive any sin, no matter what it is. We can’t

earn it; we can't totally understand that kind of love. Jesus gave the woman only one command--leave your life of sin. If you've received forgiveness from Jesus Christ, it's a very precious gift. Let's value it enough to turn our backs on the sin for which we've been forgiven.

After speaking to the woman, Jesus turned back to the crowd gathered to listen to Him teach. He told them, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (8:12). Jesus came to this world to shine light into the dark hearts of men. What He said about Himself was true, but not only because He is the Son of God--God Himself testified that Jesus was His Son. Add to that the witness of John the Baptist, the Samaritan woman, the Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Jesus, the crowds who believed in Him, and the Holy Spirit which was seen at His baptism. If the people truly believed in Him, they would have shown it by obeying His Word. Knowing the truth about who Jesus was and what He taught would have set them free from slavery to sin (8:32). He told the crowd that those who reject the truth belong to the devil because Satan has always rejected the truth and is a liar (8:42-47).

When the people heard this, they began to treat Jesus with disrespect and abuse. They even accused Him of being demon-possessed! They thought they knew what Jesus was talking about, but they were blinded by their own pride. They asked Him, "Who do you think you are?" (8:53). Jesus responded by telling them very clearly who He was: God! He told them, "Before Abraham was, I AM!" (8:58). "I AM" was a name for God, and everyone who heard Jesus that day knew it. Jesus was saying, "I am God!" So what did the crowd do? Did they fall on their knees and begin to worship Him? No, no. They picked up stones to try to kill Him. They could not believe their ears. This carpenter's son from Nazareth was claiming to be God Himself!

They heard right. That was exactly who Jesus proclaimed to be. And because of the sinful pride of these unbelievers, they could not see nor understand the truth of Jesus' claims. If people truly understand and accept the words of Jesus, they obey His words and no one else's--not even their own. No one can be a believer and reject what Jesus said about Himself and what the Bible says about Him; namely, that He is the Son of God. People will either respond in belief and give their lives to Jesus, or they will continue in their unbelief and live any way they want to.

Who do you say Jesus is? Jesus claimed to be God. That eliminates a lot of opinion options, doesn't it? He wasn't just a teacher or a good man. If you look at His own words you can come to only two conclusions: 1) He was a crazed liar, or 2) He is God. Only those who believe on Him can understand this truth and come to know Him. What will you choose to believe? Have you responded to Jesus, the Son of God?



Look:



Passage Review Questions (Worksheet). This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today's lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **JHN05GF7**.



The Reaction to Christ (Discussion). *** TEACHER PREP. REQUIRED*** Why did the religious leaders react to Jesus the way they did? Review chapters 7 & 8 and talk about the different reactions. Compare these with the reactions to Christ today.



How Did Christ React to the People? (Discussion). ***TEACHER PREP. REQUIRED*** How did Christ know that the people were not "Christians" (besides the fact that He is God and knows everything). Use these verses in your discussion: John 8:12, 19, 31, 39, 47, and 51. The reward of a believing Christian is *freedom from sin*, and the hope of eternal life with God. From these verses, and your discussion, ask the students to make a list of different ways people will know we are Christians.



Don't Be Confused and Lost in the Darkness! (Game). The chief priests, Pharisees, and the

people were confused as to who Jesus was. They couldn't understand His statements. He was bringing light into the world, and they were all living in the darkness. To play this game, divide the students into groups of two or more; have them scatter throughout the room sitting on the floor. Pass numbers out randomly from 1-15 to each of the groups. Using the 15 statements on **JHN05.GF8** allow the group which has the corresponding number to see if they can tell the class what Christ meant when He made that statement. With the lights out, use a bright flashlight to highlight each group as they take their turn to explain Christ's statement. The other groups are sitting in the dark listening.

Who Is Who? (Discussion/Activity). Have students read the passage and find out who the children of God are and who the children of Satan are. A teacher can stand at the board and write down what the children of God look like and what the children of Satan look like.

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord? (Worksheet). Use this worksheet **JHN05GF9** to help the children see exactly who Jesus Christ is. Either He was telling the truth as the Son of God, or He was a liar.



Took:

Compassion for the Lost (Discussion/Prayer Time). Jesus had compassion on the woman caught in adultery (John 8:3-11). He offered her forgiveness and allowed her the opportunity for a changed life. How can we develop that same compassion for unbelievers? Talk about those who are without Christ within your area of influence (friends, neighbors, family, teachers, coaches, etc.). Spend time praying for these people, and get the students to commit to continue to pray for these people throughout the week.

Jesus Is The Light Of The World (Craft/Ornament). See **JHN05.GF10** for instructions. As you assemble this craft, review your discussion from the HOOK time where you talked about the sinfulness of our world today. Give some examples of the manifestation of these sinful attitudes by citing several situations or events that are happening in our city, state, country, and around the world today. Pray for our missionaries and their efforts to spread the Light of Christ in other parts of the world.

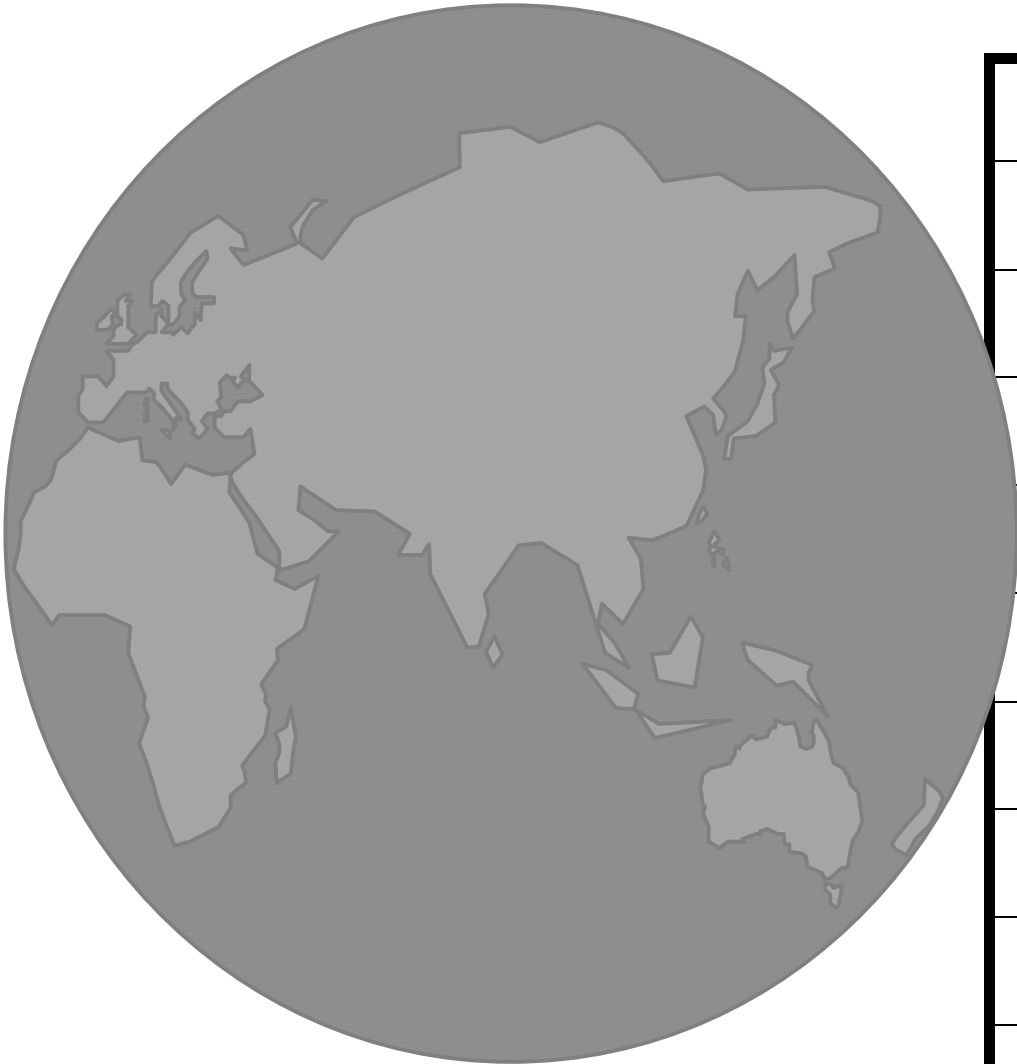
Variation on this craft: Instead of cutting out the shapes of the continents on both circles, put a solid circle backing on and have the students write an encouraging note to your class missionary. Package these up and get them in the mail right away; they might arrive in time to be used as ornaments on their Christmas tree.

In the Dark? (Application). Discuss with students at the table why according to this passage a person cannot be in the light and in the dark. It is either one or the other. There is no half way.

Sun Glasses of Pride (Activity). The main reason why the Pharisees could not see who Jesus really was was because of their pride. Pride is believing and going our own way rather than trusting and following God's way. They thought they were right when they were completely wrong. This activity helps the kids see why we can be spiritually "blind" like the Pharisees. When we remove the pride that covers our eyes, we will be able to see God for who He really is. Find an old pair of glasses and cover the lenses with black paper, or something to block out any light. The blackness represents the pride in our lives.

Darkness In The World

Discuss some of the sinful attitudes found in our world today. Why are these attitudes so common? What actions do these attitudes lead to? Color the picture of the world, and make a list, highlighting some of the sin that we see today.



I AM's Gameboard

John 6:35

John 14:6

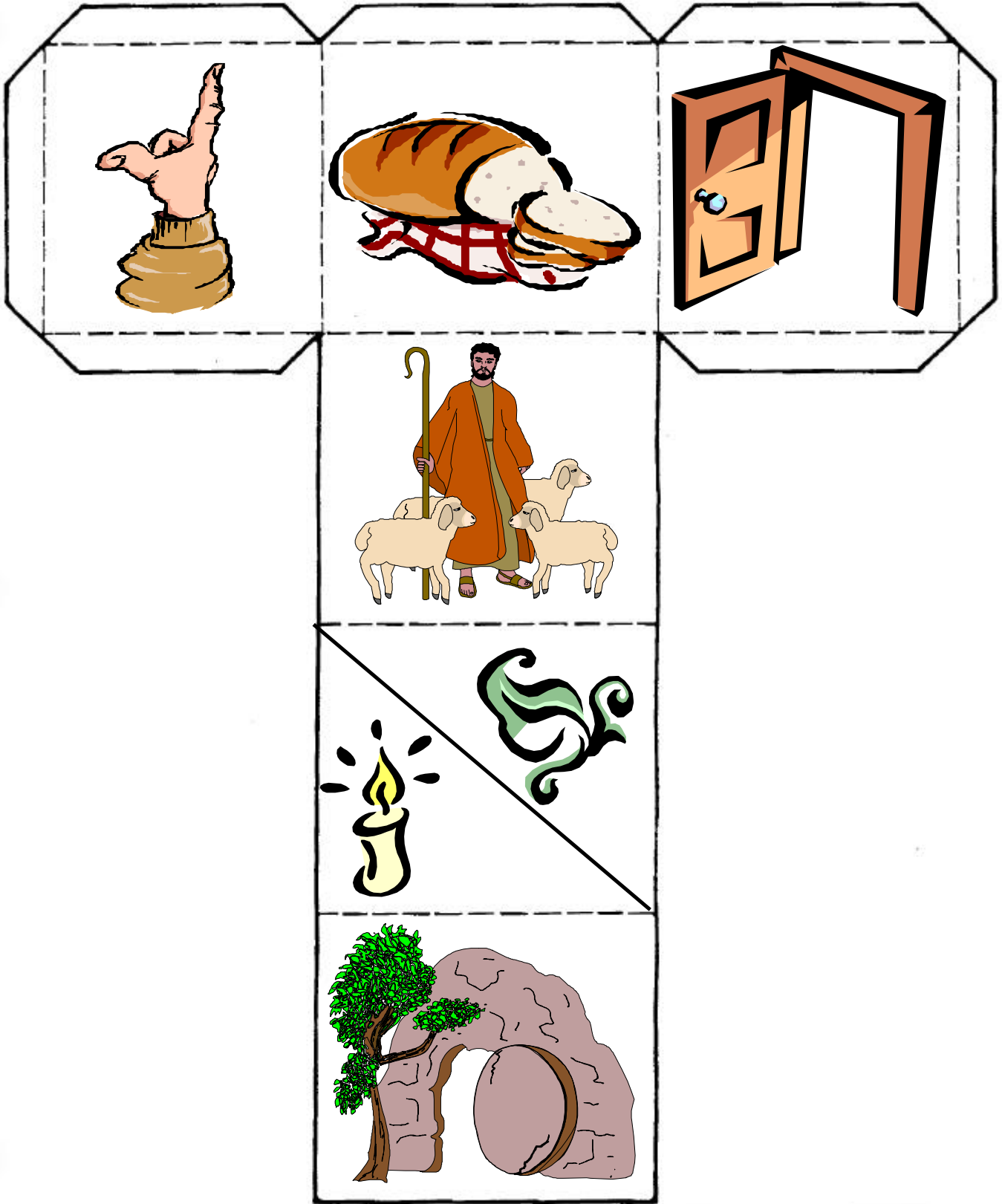
John 10:7

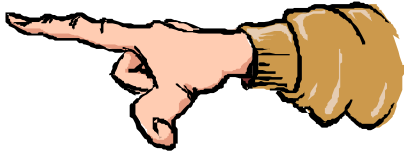
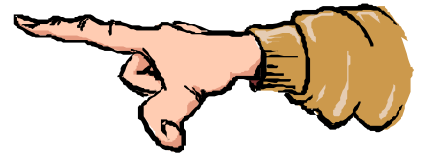
John 10:11

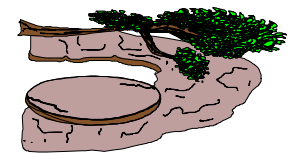
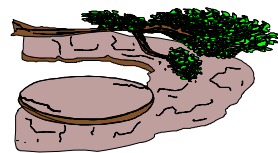
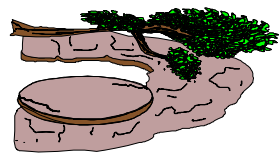
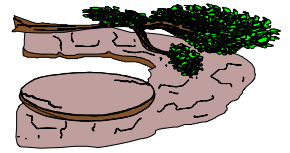
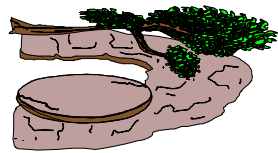
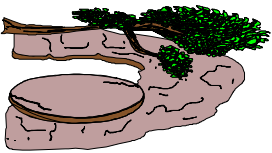
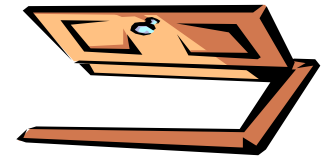
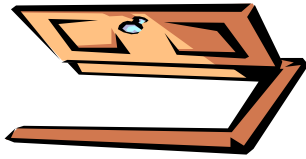
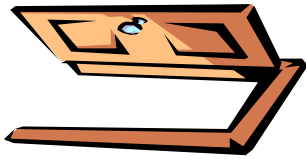
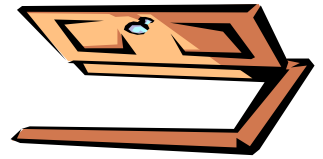
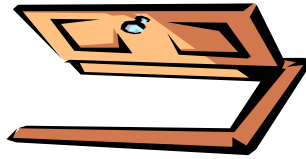
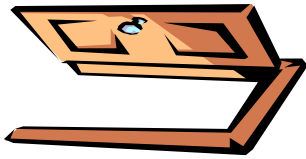
John 8:12

John 15:11

John 11:25









What's the Sign?

John 4
46-54

John 2
1-10

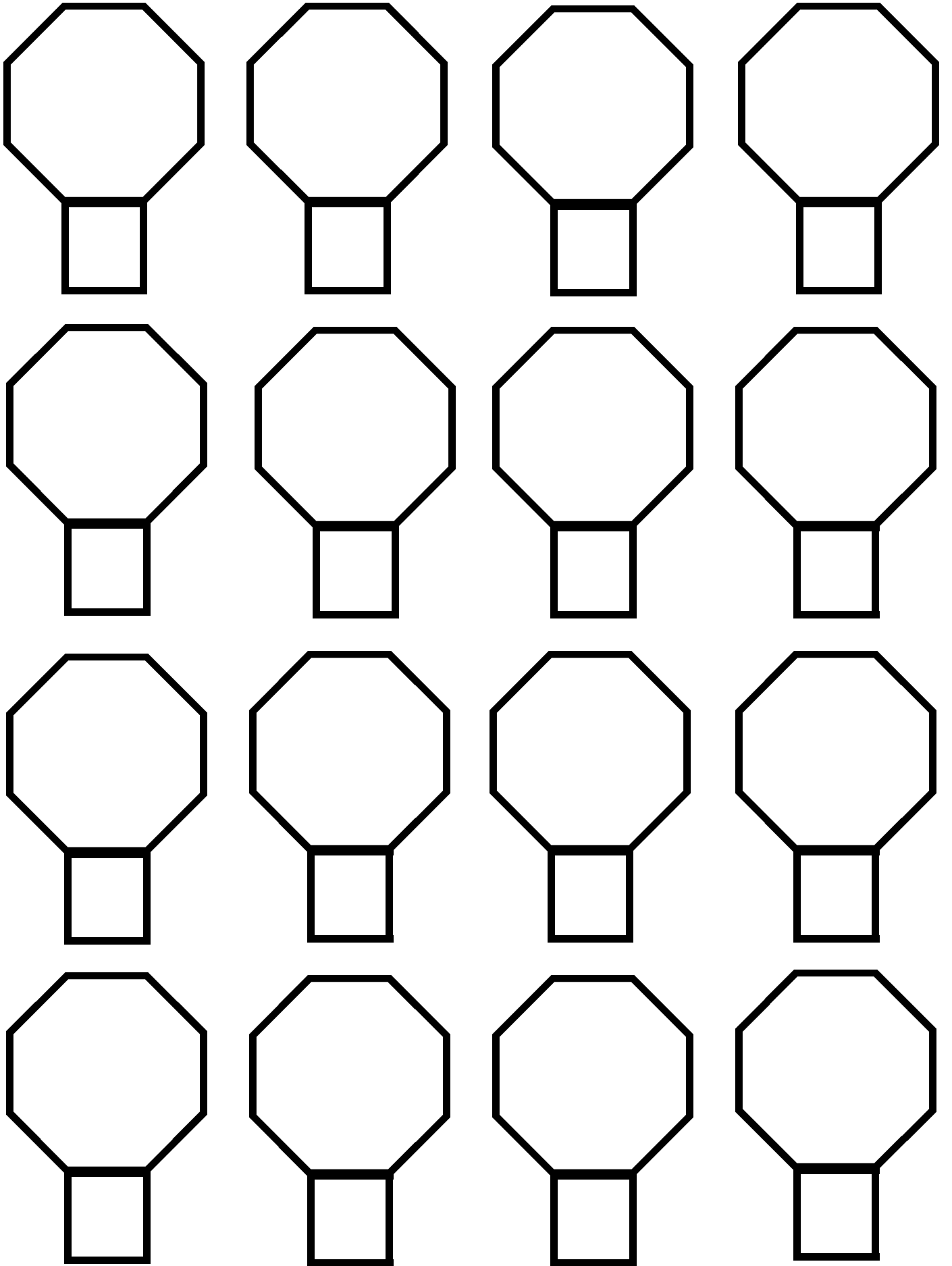
John 5
1-9

John 6
1-14

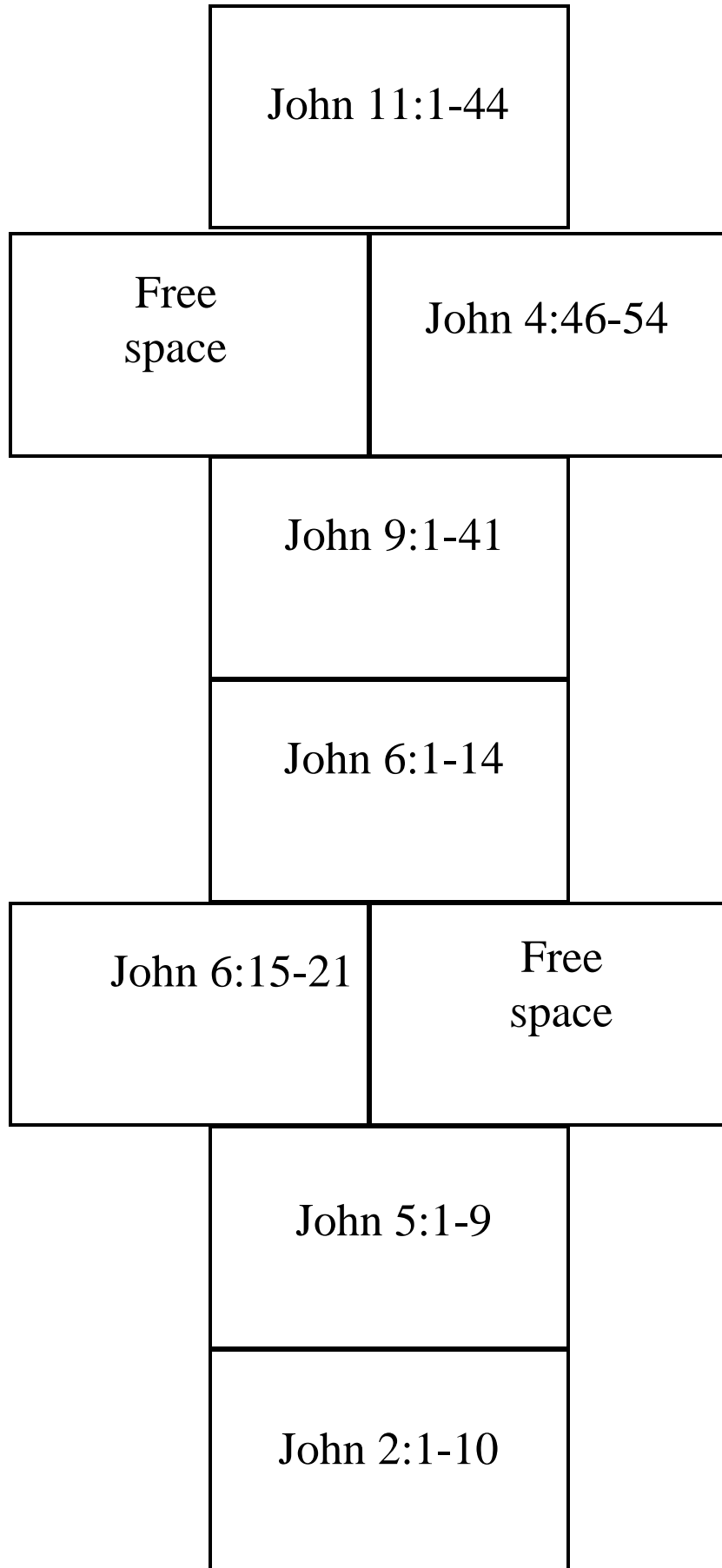
John 9
1-41

John 6
15-21

John 11
1-44



Hopscotch Game Board



John 2:1-10

John 4:46-54

John 5:1-9

John 6:1-14

John 6:15-21

John 9:1-41

John 11:1-44

Jesus Teaches to the Believing and the Unbelieving Crowd



Jesus and the Woman Caught in Adultery



36. Did Jesus ask glory for himself? 8:50a
37. Why did the people believe that Jesus was demon-possessed?
8:52-53
38. Who glorifies Jesus? 8:54
39. Who rejoiced at the thought of seeing Jesus and when he
saw him, was glad? 8:56
40. What did they try to do to Jesus in 8:59a

Passage Review Questions

John Chapter 6

1. In 7:12 what were the people whispering about?
2. Would anyone say anything public about Christ? 7:13
3. What happened half-way through the feast? 7:14
4. Why were the Jews so amazed? 7:15
5. How did Jesus answer them? 7:16-19
6. What did the Jews do on Sabbath? 7:22
7. What did some of the people of Jerusalem start to ask in
7:25-26
8. What was their reasoning for asking their question? 7:27
9. What did these people try to do to Jesus? 7:30
10. Did anyone in the crowd put their trust in him? 7:31a
11. What was the question the people who put their trust in
Jesus ask? 7:31b
12. What did the chief priest and Pharisees do? 7:32

13. Where the people divided because of Jesus? 7:43
14. What did Nicodemus ask and how was he answered?
7:51-52
15. Where did Jesus go in 8:1?
16. At dawn, where was Jesus found and what was he doing?
8:2
17. The Pharisees brought in a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand before Jesus and told Jesus what the Law of Moses commanded, (they wanted to trap Jesus). What did Jesus do? 8:6
18. How did Jesus answer them when they kept questioning him?
8:7
19. When Jesus stooped to write on the ground what happened to the people? 8:9
20. When Jesus straightened and asked the woman where the people were and if anyone had condemned her, what was her answer? 8:11a
21. What did Jesus declare to her? 8:11b
22. How do the Pharisees judge? 8:15a
23. What does Jesus do? 8:15b-16

24. How does Jesus answer the Pharisees when they asked him, "Where is your Father?" 8:19
25. Why did no one seize Jesus? 8:20
26. Once again, what did Jesus say to the Pharisees? 8:21
27. What did the Pharisees ask Jesus? And can you answer this yourself? 8:25
28. Did they understand what Jesus was telling them about His Father? 8:27
29. What is a slave's place in a family? 8:35-36
30. Why were the Jews ready to kill Jesus? 8:37
31. Jesus said that the Jews were doing the things that their own fathers did. Who is this referring to? 8:41
32. Who was a murderer from the beginning? Who doesn't hold the truth, for there is no truth in him? Who speaks his native tongue when he lies? Who is the father of lies? 8:44b
33. Because Jesus tells the truth the people don't do what? 8:45
34. Can anyone prove that Jesus was guilty of sin? 8:46
35. What did the Jews think that Jesus was? 8:48

DON'T BE CONFUSED AND LOST IN THE DARK !!!!

Use this list of questions for the game as described in the curriculum lesson. Distribute numbers from 1-15 to the groups playing the game. Turn out the lights and take turns asking the assigned group to explain these statements made by Jesus to the Chief Priests, Pharisees, and other people in John Chapters 7 and 8. They were confused as to

1	Jn. 7:16 My teaching is not my own. It comes from Him who sent me.
2	Jn. 7:28 Yes you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but He who sent me is true.
3	Jn. 7:33 I am with you for only a short time, and then I go up to the One who sent me.
4	Jn. 7:34 You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come.
5	Jn. 7:37 If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.
6	Jn. 8:12 I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.
7	Jn. 8:18 I am the one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.
8	Jn. 8:19 If you knew me, you would know my Father also.
9	Jn. 8:21 I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come.
10	Jn. 8:23 You are from below; I am from above.
11	Jn. 8:28 When you have lifted up the son of man, then you will know I am the one I claim to be and that I can do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.
12	Jn. 8:31-32 If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.
13	Jn. 8:43 Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say.
14	Jn. 8:51 I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.
15	Jn. 8:58 I tell you the truth, before Abraham was born, I am.

Liar, Lunatic or Lord?

Jesus Christ was either who He said He was, or He was a crazed liar. He could not have been just a “good man” like some people say. Look up the following verses to see whether or not Jesus Christ was a liar, lunatic, or the Lord of Lords.



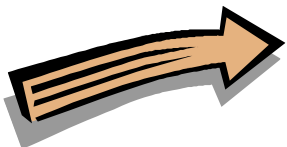
Look up John 2:7-11 and ask yourself, “Can a liar or a lunatic do what Jesus did at Cana?”

Look up John 4:17-19 and ask yourself, “Can a liar or a lunatic read the hearts of people?”

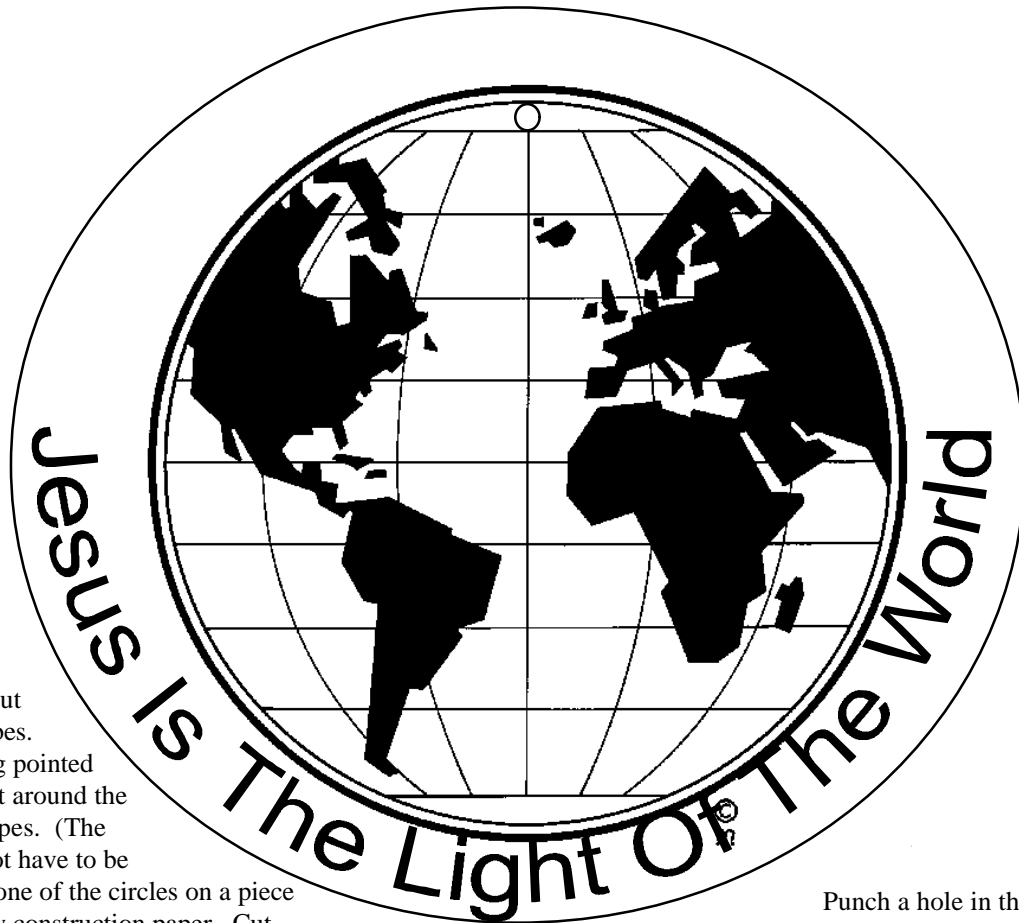
Look up 5:49-54 and ask yourself, “Can a liar or a lunatic heal the sick with his very words?”

Look up John 6:9-11 and ask yourself, “Can a liar or a lunatic multiply two loaves and five fish to feed 15,000 people?”

Look up John 8:58-59. In this passage, Jesus claimed to be God. Either Jesus was telling the truth as the Lord of Lords, or He was a liar or a crazed madman.



The obvious choice is that Jesus Christ was and is Lord!!!



Instructions:

Color and cut out each of the globes. Carefully, using pointed scissors, cut out around the continental shapes. (The cutting does not have to be exact.) Trace one of the circles on a piece of bright yellow construction paper. Cut this yellow circle out so that it is slightly smaller than the global circles. Carefully paste the globes on either side of the yellow construction paper. Be sure to put the paste on the back side of the global circle, and not on the yellow circle, or else the paste will show through the window which was cut out. Add glitter to the yellow portions for

Punch a hole in the top of the ornament, and thread a piece of ribbon or colored yarn through, tying it at the top for hanging.

