





Materials I Need:
Legend:  = Option 1, Appropriate for 1 st – 2 nd Grade  = Option 2, Appropriate for 3 rd – 6 th Grade Bolded Words in Story = Key concepts to Highlight during the Bible Adventure
Memory Work:  Verse  Verse
Aim Questions: 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.



Hook:



Guess Who? (Discussion). I am a student, but I don't go to the kind of school that you might be imagining. I follow my teacher wherever he goes. I eat with him and I sleep where he sleeps. I listen to everything he says and I watch everything he does. He explains many things as we walk. He tells stories and asks questions that make me think. I learn all I can because I believe that my instructor teaches the truth. From him, I can learn life's most important lessons. Who am I? (A disciple).



Favorite Subject (Discussion). Poll your class about which subject in school is their favorite (not lunch and recess). Make a bar graph to record your results.



Book:

Presentation Ideas-



Map of the Middle East (Illustration/Overhead). Show students where Israel is located. This can be used as reference tool throughout the Bible Adventure and also during the Geography Look time, **BLUK08.GF1**

Bible Adventure -

Have you ever imagined what it must have been like to be one of Jesus' 12 apostles? We have the advantage of having the whole Bible to read, study and learn from, but these men were definitely receiving on-the-job training. At times it was exciting for them, at others totally confusing. Jesus, however, had a definite plan in mind that these men were going to be a part of. Jesus was purposefully establishing the Kingdom of God, and He was training the apostles to be establishing it, too. If you remember our story last week, people were having different reactions to the coming of the Kingdom of God. Some accepted it openly, like the good soil we talked about. Others rejected it, like hard, rocky soil.

Jesus' disciples were watching Jesus and listening to Him proclaim the Kingdom. Now they had received

enough training for Jesus to give them a mission. That mission would be the same as Jesus' had been, to proclaim the Kingdom of God to all the nation of Israel. The only One who could establish that Kingdom had finally arrived. Jesus sent them from village to village, preaching the good news that the kingdom had come. If the people of the village did not welcome them, Jesus instructed them to leave that place, shaking the dust off their feet as they went. Why did Jesus ask them to do such a thing? When a Jew returned home from a Gentile country, they would shake the dust off of their shoes to signify breaking ties with those Gentiles. In the same way, the apostles were showing that those cities that rejected Jesus were no longer associated with the Kingdom of God.

The news of what Jesus and His 12 men were doing kept spreading through the region. It was causing quite a stir among the people. There was a lot of talk about who Jesus really was. Even Herod, King of the Galilean region, was anxious to meet with Jesus, but it was not yet in God's timing for them to come face to face. You'll remember it was Herod who had John the Baptist beheaded. In doing this, he had already shown his rejection of the Kingdom message.

When the 12 returned from their mission, Jesus took them away with Him to a place called Bethsaida. It wasn't long, though, before the crowds learned where He was and followed Him. Jesus welcomed them, spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed many people. As the day was getting late, the apostles came to Jesus with a very practical problem. They thought it was time for Jesus to send the crowds away so they could go find food and lodging for themselves. Jesus' answer astonished them. "You give them something to eat." Can't you imagine their reaction? There were about five thousand men there, plus women and children. "But Jesus, we have only five loaves and two fishes. Should we hit the local market and buy food for all these people?" Why do you suppose Jesus would ask them to do such a seemingly impossible task? They had been out healing people and spreading the gospel, and yet their understanding of who Jesus was still had to grow. They were about to learn their limitations in their own power as well as the limitless power of God's Son. You know the rest of the story. The people sat down and waited while Jesus gave thanks for the food, broke it and gave it to the apostles to distribute to the people. Everyone ate all they wanted and there was still food left over. Don't you wish you could have been there to see it? Jesus proved once again that without a doubt, He was the Messiah of the Kingdom.

Not long after this, Jesus asked the Twelve the question everyone else was debating, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" The answers were varied. "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and still others that one of the prophets of old has come back to life." But Jesus was interested in what the Twelve thought. They had been living with Him and witnessing all His miracles. "But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say that I am?" Peter's answer shows that he had an understanding of the Kingdom message. "The Christ of God," he answered. What Peter was saying was that Jesus was the Messiah sent from God for whom they had been waiting so long. The message was plain, but it was clear that there would be many people who would oppose it. Jesus told His men it would cost them to follow Him. It is the same for us today. Believing in and really following Jesus is not going to be an easy thing. It requires our whole life one way or another. Jesus said it like this, "Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." Then Jesus said a surprising thing; He promised that some of the apostles would actually see the Kingdom of God before they died. The next two verses of Luke chapter 9 tell us exactly what Jesus meant by this. Peter, James and John were taken to the top of Mount Hermon to witness the Kingdom of God by seeing Jesus in all of His glory along with a couple of His Old Testament friends, Moses and Elijah. The three men awakened from their sleep to a spectacular sight, the glory of Jesus. A cloud surrounded them and from the cloud came a voice saying, "This is My Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him." God was making it clear who Jesus was. He was and is the prophet Moses spoke about in Deuteronomy 18:15. (*Have someone read.*) This prophet, Jesus, would lead God's people into His Kingdom. After the three apostles witnessed this, Jesus asked them to keep it secret for a time.

The next day they came down from the mountain, and again a large crowd met them. In the crowd was a man whose son was possessed by a demon. The father was distressed by the torture the boy had been going through and had even begged Jesus' disciples to drive the demon out, but they had not been able to do so. Jesus called them an unbelieving and perverse generation. Their faith was not in God the Father or in His Son, Jesus. They still did not understand that there was the source of any power they might have. Jesus delivered the boy from the evil spirit and healed him.

Jesus reminded the apostles of His true mission, to give Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of all who

would believe in Him. His men had difficulty understanding this. It would not make total sense to them until they saw the cross He died on and the empty tomb where His body had lain. Their minds were occupied with other things. They were beginning to be recognized by people in the crowds that surrounded them every day. Then, out of the blue, Jesus selects only three of them to go to the top of a mountain, and when they returned, they weren't talking. Being human, doubts and debates began to rise. Just who is first around here? Jesus' answer is not what they expected. "Guess what, guys? If you want to be a leader, you must first be a servant!!!"

Jesus encountered people every day that voiced a desire to follow Him. Jesus' answer to them was that it would cost them, but the Kingdom of God was to be more valuable to His followers than any thing or any relationship. If we keep looking back, longing for the old life and not realizing the treasure we have in being part of God's Kingdom, Jesus said we are not fit to be part of that Kingdom. He put it like this, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the Kingdom of God." If you've ever been on a farm and watched someone plow a field, this will make sense to you. There are no guides in a field to help you plow straight. Whether you are using a horse or a monster tractor, there is only one way to plow a straight line. You pick a point at the end of the field and look right at it. The minute you take your focus off that point, you will veer to the right or the left. When you are plowing, there is no way to go back and erase your mistakes. Jesus is telling His disciples that we must be focused and committed to the tasks that are involved in His Kingdom. Like the tractor, our heart has to be continually and unwaveringly pointed toward Him. God knows our weaknesses and understands when we fail, but He wants our eyes fixed on Him and His purposes, not distracted by everything around us.

Perhaps you're thinking, "What is all this talk about the Kingdom of God? I'm not sure I really understand all that it means." We find ourselves in this same situation in a lot of things in life. Take your telephone, for instance. We all have one and probably use them every day. We know how to place a call and how to receive one, but do we know what all goes into making this communication device that we take for granted work? Your phone is not so grand and glorious as the Kingdom of God is, yet perhaps we take them both for granted. Is that what God intended us to do? Is it enough to know several Bible stories or to be able to say "Amen" or "Dear God" in the right place in your prayers? Certainly not!! Jesus continued to stretch the men who followed Him. He was not simply pushing them for the sake of getting them to achieve. Jesus knew that we must be pushed because we know so very little of all that God is and what Jesus can do.

Who do you say that Jesus is? If you say He is your God and your King, how is that truth being lived out in your actions and attitudes? Do you attend the dinner, like the 5000 did, but do nothing to try to get to know the Person who feeds you every day? Do you try to put yourself ahead of others in any way? Is your heart even open to the possibility of being blown away by knowing more of God? Is your hand steady on the plow of loving and serving God without veering to the right or to the left? Do you want to honor God more than anything else in your life?

We all have to be reminded of these truths, and Luke wrote these words so that we could learn, right along with the apostles, that our picture of the Kingdom of God needs to be expanded. God expects us to do our part by pursuing Him, and He does His part by giving us the power to live it!



Look:

NOTE: The disciples learned several "**lessons of the kingdom**" in Luke chapter 9. The following LOOK activities - which deal with some of these kingdom lessons - correspond to modern school subjects and events. They are designed to be used as "stations." Students can collect worksheets as they visit each station. Younger students need not write out their "short answers." They can just use these questions for discussion.




Field Trip (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9:1-6 Show an empty backpack. Jesus sent the disciples out on a journey to spread the gospel. What would you take if you were planning to travel for several days on foot? What did Jesus tell them to bring? Why? What did it mean when the disciples shook the dust from their feet when they left a town that wouldn't listen to their message?

BLUK08.GF2.

Math (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9:10-17. The disciples watched with their own eyes as Jesus fed an enormous crowd of people with one little lunch. What did they learn about Jesus from this “math” lesson?

 **BLUK08.GF3.**

 **BLUK08.GF4.** Bonus question answers: .001 or 1/1,000 of a loaf .0025 or 1/ 2,500 of a fish

Pop Quiz (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9:18-20. There was a lot of confusion about who Jesus was. Jesus asked the disciples what people were saying about Him. Then He asked Peter the biggest question of all, **BLUK08.GF5.**

Geography (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9:24 and 25. Have a **BLUK08.GF1** at this “station.” Help students see where this area “fits” into the world. Find Jerusalem. Help students memorize these verses, **BLUK08.GF6.**

History (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9: 28-36. Three disciples witnessed an awesome event. They saw Jesus in His glory with two men from history. Have students identify these men of long ago, **BLUK08.GF7.**

Science (Worksheet/Discussion). Luke 9: 37-43. Show a small lamp that plugs into a nearby outlet. What (or who) is the source of spiritual power? When the disciples were sent out earlier to preach the gospel, they had the power to heal and drive out demons. Where did it come from? Now the disciples tried to drive a demon out of a little boy, but they couldn’t. There is a problem with the “connection” to their power source. What is it? See Luke 9: 41. How do we stay connected - or plugged in - to our power source? **BLUK08.GF8**

English (Journal). Make entries in your “Journey with Jesus” journals. Peter, James or John might write about the awesome sight they saw on the mount of transfiguration. Other disciples might write about all the people Jesus fed with 5 loaves and 2 fishes. Write about being a student of the best teacher who ever lived.

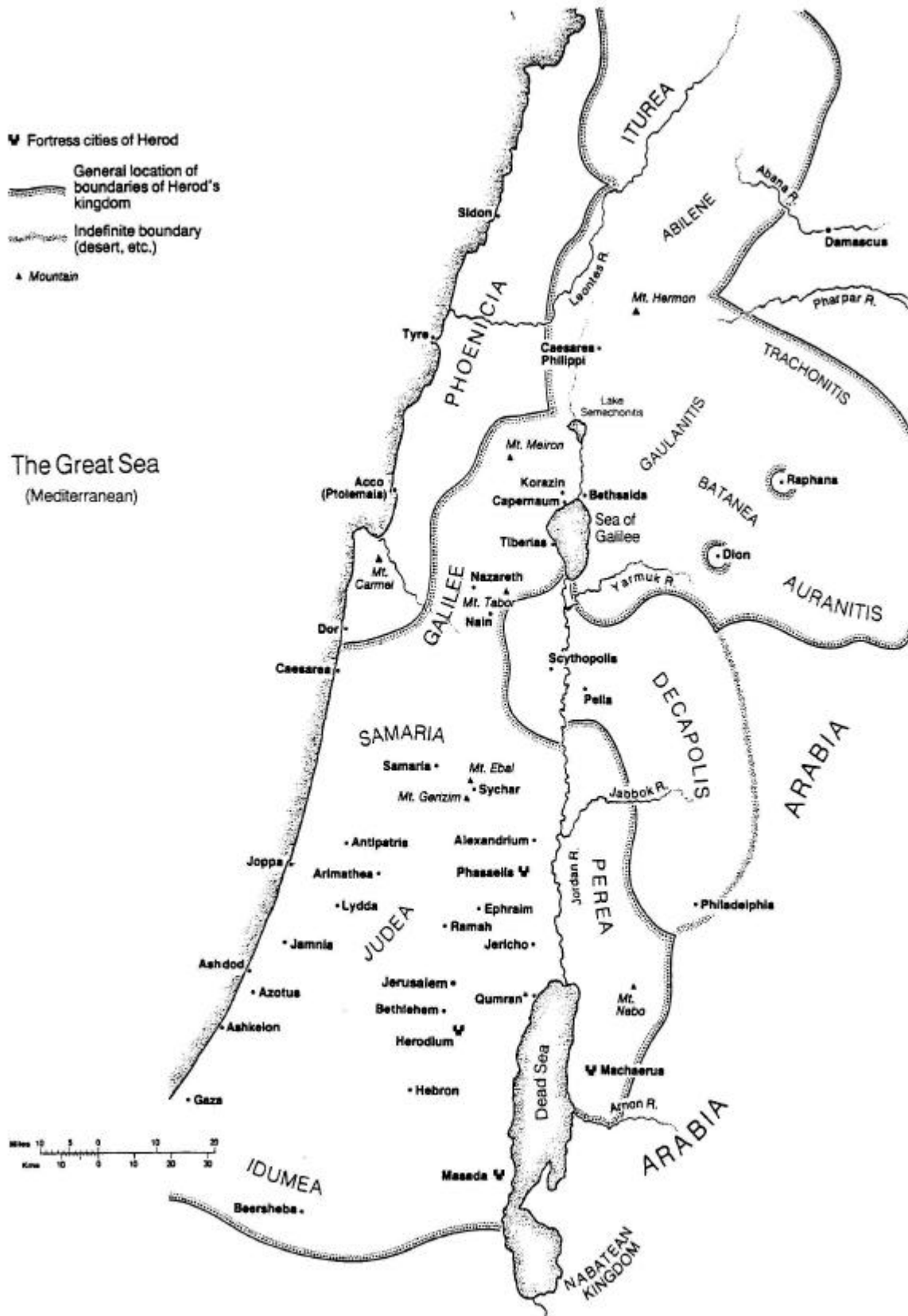


Took:

P.E. (Game). Luke 9:48 “He who is least among you all - he is the greatest.” (TERRY WRITE GAME IDEA (S)).

Art (Activity). Luke 9: 62 “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.” Roll out butcher paper across the floor of the classroom. Let students take turns trying to draw a straight line on the paper as follows: *Begin at one end of the paper dragging a long stick (like a broom handle) which has a marker fastened to the end. The student must look back (or to the side) not forward. To prevent his looking forward, the teacher should walk with the student holding a large piece of paper in front of his face.* Allow the same students to try again; this time looking straight-ahead (maybe at a cross or something that represents Jesus). Discuss the importance of keeping our focus on Jesus all the time. There are no “excused absences” from following Him!

The Middle East

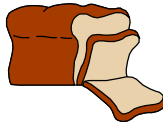


Field Trip - Luke 9:1-6

Jesus sent the disciples out on a journey to spread the Gospel.

What would you take if you were planning to travel for several days on foot?

Circle the things that Jesus told the disciples to take with them.



The disciples had a specific **assignment**. (Luke 9: 2)

They were to _____ the kingdom of God and _____ the sick.

SHORT ANSWER:

What did it mean when the disciples shook the dust from their feet as they left a town that wouldn't listen to their message?

Math - Luke 9:10-17

The disciples watched with their own eyes as Jesus fed an enormous crowd of people with one little lunch.

How many loaves?



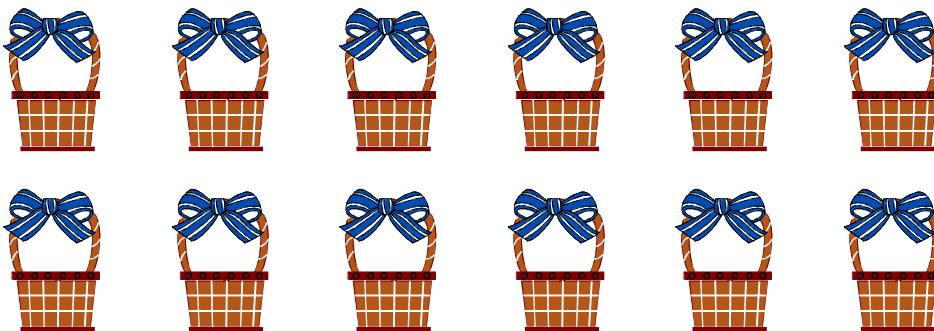
How many fish?



How many men were in the crowd?

If each man had a wife or child with him, how many people would there have been?

Do you think there might have been even more people?

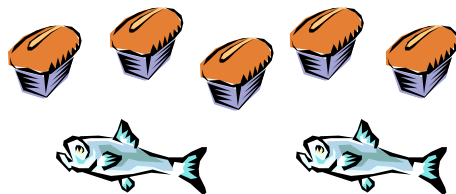


How many baskets of food were left over?

SHORT ANSWER: What did the disciples learn about Jesus from this “math” lesson?

Math - Luke 9:10-17

The disciples watched with their own eyes as Jesus fed an enormous crowd of people with one little lunch.



There were 5000 men in the crowd. If every man had his wife **or** child with him, how many people would there have been?

If each man had his wife **and** two children with him, how many people would there have been?

Jesus told the people to sit in groups of 50 each. If 5000 men divided into groups of 50, how many groups were there?

There were 12 baskets of food left over. If all the disciples helped with the clean-up, how many basketfuls did each one gather on average?

Bonus question; If Jesus had not performed a miracle and the loaves and fishes were divided among the 5000 men, what fraction of a loaf and what fraction of a fish would each man have received?

_____ of a loaf

_____ of a fish

SHORT ANSWER: What did the disciples learn **about Jesus** from this “math” lesson?

Pop Quiz - Luke 9:18-20

There was a lot of confusion about who Jesus was. Jesus asked the disciples what people were saying about Him. Answer true (T) or false (F).

People said Jesus was:

___ Jeremiah ___ John the Baptist ___ a King

___ Elijah ___ a Prophet ___ Moses

Then Jesus asked Peter the biggest question of all: “Who do **you** say I am?”
Circle his answer.

Peter said Jesus was:


- A. A Prophet from long ago.
- B. The Christ of God.
- C. The Conquering King.


Geography - Luke 9:24 and 25.

Where in the world is Israel? Circle the area.



Memorize these words of Jesus to His disciples in Luke 9:24 & 25.

“For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole  and yet lose or forfeit his very self?”

SHORT ANSWER: Would I be tempted to trade knowing Jesus for any other thing in this  ?

What one thing besides Jesus is most important to me?

If Jesus asked me to give up this thing for Him, would it be worth it?

History - -

Three disciples witnessed an awesome event. They saw Jesus in His glory talking with two men from history. Identify these historical figures:

God chose this man to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt. God gave him the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. His name was...

Exodus 3 & 4

God sent this prophet to proclaim His judgment on King Ahab. He challenged the prophets of Baal to a contest. His name was...

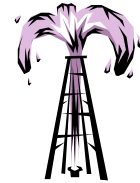
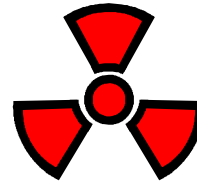
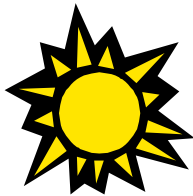
I Kings 17:20-21

God said, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen: listen to Him." This was a referral to something the disciples would remember from the historical writings of Moses. Look at Deuteronomy 18:15. What phrase did God repeat?

_____  _____

Science - e -

Match the following pictures with the correct description of the sources of power in our world.



Hydro-electric

Fossil Fuels

Wind

Solar

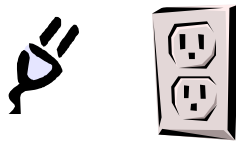
Nuclear

What (or Who) is the source of spiritual power?

When the disciples were sent out earlier to preach the Gospel, they had the power to heal and drive out demons.

Where did it come from? _____

Now the disciples tried to drive a demon out of a little boy, but they couldn't. There was a problem with the "connection" to their power source.



What was it? _____ Luke 9:41.

SHORT ANSWER: How do we stay connected - or plugged in to our Power Source?