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Unit 3   Trust God for Protection						
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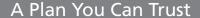
### Regular Baptist Press

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# STROAG

curriculum

A world weak on truth needs a strong, trustworthy message. STRONG Curriculum builds stronger churches by teaching all Scripture to produce spiritually mature believers who measure up to the stature of Christ.



Regular Baptist Press firmly believes God's Word is living and powerful and more effective than any idea or philosophy man could ever dream up. The Bible is Spirit empowered, so it cannot fail to strengthen kids who interact with its truths. Believing this, we purposefully built Strong Kids on Bible bedrock. We know the curriculum's solid Biblical foundation will make it transformational.

Strong Kids provides each age group with the age-appropriate plan to prepare kids to successfully take the next step in their spiritual growth. The lessons for all five age groups form five steps for building spiritually strong kids.

Strong Kids for Pre-Primaries reinforces foundational Biblical truths concerning creation, Jesus, salvation, and living for God. Recognizing that pre-primaries are starting to understand the need for personal salvation, this curriculum provides opportunities for students to trust in Christ as their Savior and begin to live for Him.

The Strong Kids scope and sequence is built on the seven teaching aims Jesus had during His earthly ministry. Identifying Jesus' aims helps you teach the Bible with purpose and clear goals in sight. Every lesson in the Strong Kids scope and sequence addresses at least one of Jesus' teaching aims.



Look for the BuildUP icons in the table of contents and on the first page of each lesson.

#### **JESUS' TEACHING AIMS**

- Believe the gospel. Jesus taught His students to understand, believe, and then share the gospel. This aim is obviously fundamental to all the rest.
- ed His students to live according to moral values. These values provided them with the tools to make wise decisions.
- Internalize godliness. Jesus taught His followers to be godly on the inside. He warned them not to become like Pharisees, with a mere outward appearance of godliness.
- Learn doctrine. Jesus knew the importance of teaching His students the truth and identified doctrine as one of the means for spiritual growth. Wishy-washy doctrine leads to faulty practice.
- **Develop life skills.** Jesus taught His followers to meet life's challenges in a way that honored and glorified God. He gave them the skills to navigate those challenges successfully.
- **Uplift others.** Jesus' life was all about others. Leading by example, He taught His followers to be all about others too.
- **Prepare to serve.** Jesus prepared His followers to serve in the context of local churches that were established soon after His ascension. He emphasized sacrifice and dedication.



#### **Kit Contents**

leacher Guide
Junior Church Teacher Guide
Student Book*
Set of Take-Home Papers*
One Attendance Chart and Sticker Page*
Teaching Picture Book
Flannelgraph figures
Resource CD with online download code
Bible Story DVD
Michael and Emily Storybook
Verse Posters

#### **Ordering Information**

\*Order additional copies for classroom use.

All materials are available from Regular Baptist Press.

• Web: www.StrongCurriculum.com

• E-mail: orders@rbpstore.org

 Toll-free orders in the United States: 1-800-727-4440

• Fax: 1-847-843-3757

• Canada: Contact your distributor.

Strong Curriculum builds stronger churches by teaching all Scripture to produce spiritually mature believers who measure up to the stature of Christ. In this quarter's Strong Kids for Pre-Primaries, children will learn that Jesus came to earth to die for their sins to provide salvation. They will also learn about God's direction for Jacob and God's protection of Joseph. Students will be encouraged to pray to God and trust Him in all circumstances.



#### Onetime Purchase (Sold Separately)

☐ Strong Kids Music Vol. 1



#### The Doctrinal Basis of Our Curriculum

A more detailed statement with references is available upon request.

- The verbal, plenary inspiration of the Scriptures
- Only one true God
- The Trinity of the Godhead
- The Holy Spirit and His ministry
- The personality of Satan
- The Genesis account of creation
- · Original sin and the fall of man
- The virgin birth of Christ
- Salvation through faith in the shed blood of Christ
- The bodily resurrection and priesthood of Christ
- Grace and the new birth
- Justification by faith
- · Sanctification of the believer
- The security of the believer
- The church
- The ordinances of the local church: baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper
- Biblical separation—
   ecclesiastical and personal
- Obedience to civil government
- The place of Israel

- The pretribulation rapture of the church
- The premillennial return of Christ
- The millennial reign of Christ
- Eternal glory in Heaven for the righteous
- Eternal torment in Hell for the wicked

# Children and the Nature of Angels

Snow angels, angel ornaments, angel-shaped jewelry, angel food cake. The list goes on and includes TV programs, music, and movies. Thinking about angels makes us feel comforted and secure. This quarter there are multiple appearances of angels. Our Christmas unit includes the appearance



to Mary, the appearance to Joseph, and the appearance to the shepherds. In unit 2 Jacob sees angels ascending and descending from Heaven on the ladder.

Pre-Primaries are at that age when they think about and begin to question the stories and images they don't understand. So do we, but as adults we often just accept that there are angels and don't really think too much about them. With so much emphasis on the supernatural in our society today, we need to be knowledgeable about what is truth and what is fiction.

Children are not always that interested in the details, but they want and deserve truth. They may ask a question about angels this week and then not ask about them for a couple weeks. However, that does not mean they are not thinking about them. Here are some questions and answers that might help you as you teach about angels this quarter.

**Do angels have names?** Apparently they do. We know of two mentioned by name in the Bible: Gabriel, who appears in three of our stories this quarter. He brings messages to people. And Michael, who is the archangel and the highest-ranking angel.

**How many angels are there?** More than can ever be counted (Heb. 12:22).

Where did they come from and why? God made them to serve Him (Ps. 148:5). They are not in human bodies; they are spirits. They were not born; they do not get old or sick; and they will not die. They are stronger than men, but not as strong as God. There are no baby angels. People who die do not become angels.

What do they do? They praise and worship God all the time. The angels that appeared to the shepherds sang. They always do specific things. God tells them what He wants them to do and say. They walk and talk just like us. Mary talked for a long time with Gabriel when he came to her. Remember that the angel told both Mary and Joseph to name God's Son, Jesus (Matt. 1:20; Luke 2:13). Some are messengers; some protect us. They watch us (Ps. 91:11) and know when we become believers in Jesus. They are wiser than humans but not as wise as God (Matt. 24:36). They do not get married, and they do not have children (Matt. 22:30).

What do they look like? They are not men or women; they are spirits. But sometimes Bible people saw them in dreams. The shepherds saw them as a bright light in the sky. Usually, they looked like men when people like Mary saw them.

**Do angels have wings?** Some angels have wings. Angels called seraphims have six wings. But those are special angels who guard God's throne. Some angels have four wings. Most angels are not seen with wings. They just appear.

**Should I pray to angels?** No. We only pray to God. God is above the angels. We are to worship and obey only Him.

**Will I ever be an angel?** No. God made you as a human, just like Adam and Eve. But you, too, were made to worship and praise God.

**Will I see an angel?** Probably not, though they are around us all the time. But when Jesus comes back, people will see angels with Him (Matt. 25:31).





# **Christmas Star Party**

Planning a Christmas party for your Sunday School class is not easy when you have so many other activities to attend to. This Christmas star party will make your students feel special. Lesson 5 in this winter quarter is the story of the wise men. Schedule a star party between lessons 4 and 5 to emphasize the Bible account.

If you have a large pre-primary department, ask other pre-primary teachers to join you in making this event special. Plan to use a classroom close to the church kitchen if you decide not to have the party in your own home. Read through the following activities and note what preparations you need to make ahead of time. If you decide to bake star cookies, you will want to have the dough mixed up and divided before the party begins. For game prizes, give star stickers or star ornaments.

As the children arrive, give each one a yellow cardboard star to sit on (also use the stars for a game). When all the children have arrived, read a Christmas story of your choice or retell the story of the wise men. Invite a teen to dress as a wise man and tell his story.

#### **Cookie Bake**

Make a batch of sugar cookie dough and divide it, putting enough dough in a ziplock bag for each child to make one star-shaped cookie. Keep the dough refrigerated until the activity. Help the children roll out the dough and use cookie cutters to make the shapes. Bake the cookies and set them aside to cool while the children play Christmas star games.

#### Star Art

If you decide to have students just decorate the star cookies, bake them in advance of the party. Provide white or yellow frosting and a variety of sprinkles, cinnamon candy, colored sugar, and decorating tubes. Make sure each child has a few damp paper towels to clean up his hands. Provide small paper plates and plastic wrap

for students to take their cookies home. As the children work, talk about how God led the wise men to find Jesus. Let them express how the wise men might have felt as they traveled and then found Jesus.

#### **Musical Stars**

Play musical chairs, using Christmas music and the cardboard stars. Put a star on each chair. Instead of removing a chair when the music stops, remove a star. The person who sits on the last star is the winner.

#### Pin the Star on the Tree

Make a poster of a large Christmas tree. Prepare a star for each child with his name on it. Put a loop of masking tape on the back of each one. Blindfold each student in turn and have him place his star as close to the top as possible.

#### Pass the Star

Cut out stars from yellow tissue paper. Form two teams and give each child a spring clothespin. Give the first person on each team a tissue paper star. At the signal, he must pass the star to the next team member, using only the clothespin. The team to finish passing the star first is the winner. If students drop the star or tear the star, their team must start over.

#### **Star Bingo**

Make Bingo cards with different colors, sizes, or designs of stars. (Look for various sticker designs.) Make individual star cards to hold up so students can match the star you show to the one on their cards.

Hosting a party for young children can be exhausting, but it also can be very rewarding. Your students will remember and talk about the star party for a long time. The emphasis on the wise men will make the upcoming lesson unforgetable. This activity will also give you an opportunity to meet parents who do not usually attend your church.

# Basic Supplies for Pre-Primary Teachers

#### **Teaching Aids**

Bible

Offering container

Flannelgraph board (26" x 36") (6063)

CD player

Pocket chart (8664)

Word strips (pkg. 75) (8666)

#### **Paper Products**

 $9" \times 12"$  and  $12" \times 18"$  construction paper

in various colors

White copy paper

Butcher paper

Poster board

Card stock

Index cards

Self-adhesive labels

Lunch-size paper bags

6" and 9" paper plates

Paper cups, napkins, plastic silverware

Paper towels

Tissues

#### **Markers**

Pencils; colored pencils

Crayons; washable paint daubers

Black and colored felt-tip markers

#### **Office Supplies**

Paper clips

Brass fasteners

Rubber bands

Paper punch

Cellophane tape

Double-stick tape

Masking tape

Stapler

Scissors (sharp points for teachers; blunt ends for

students)

#### **Adhesives**

Glue sticks

Craft alue

Sticky tack

#### **Role Play Items**

Child-size mop, broom, etc.

Dress-up clothes; lengths of fabric

Plush animals

Finger puppets

Nonworking cell phones

Paper towel or wrapping paper cardboard rolls

Aluminum foil

#### **Bulletin Boards**

Scalloped yellow border (8539)

Scalloped red border (8538)

Yellow 3" letters (8513)

Red 3" letters (8511)

#### Miscellaneous

Large blocks; other types of building sets

Cardboard boxes (all sizes)

Play-Doh

Clear Con-Tact paper

Craft sticks (regular- and jumbo-size)

Premoistened towels

Hand sanitizer

Plastic tablecloths for art or food projects

Stvrofoam

Large plastic bags or old shirts for smocks

Ziplock bags (sandwich- and snack-size)

Watercolors and brushes

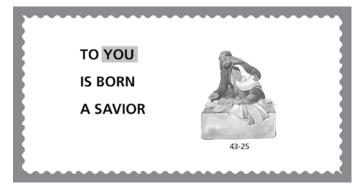
Yarn

Chenille wires

Cotton balls

Note: Products with an order number are available from Regular Baptist Press.

# Unit Bulletin Boards



#### Unit 1

Before the first unit begins, make a bulletin board display using 3" red letters (RBP; 8511) for the title: TO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR. Place as shown on the sample. Place a piece of yellow construction paper cut to fit behind the letters that spell YOU. This will emphasize that Jesus, the Savior, was born for each of your students. Add a red scalloped border (RBP; 8538). From the resource CD, enlarge and print flannelgraph figure 43-25 (manger scene) to place on the other side of the board.



#### Unit 2

Before lesson six, remove the unit 1 bulletin board. Use a dark backing and use the yellow scalloped border (RBP; 8539) to make a half bulletin board. Use the 3" yellow letters (RBP; 8513) to make the title: THE PROMISE. The teaching picture focus for this unit is 43-5 (Jacob's Ladder). Jacob is third in the line of God's promise. The picture will initiate a lot of discussion among students.



#### Unit 3

The five lessons of unit 3 comprise the story of Joseph. Use a yellow backing with the yellow scalloped border and red letters (see above). At the top of the board place the title: JOSEPH TRUSTED GOD. Print the following teaching pictures from resource CD #1243: 43-6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14. These comprise the overview of Joseph's life from prince to slave to prince again. Overlap as necessary to display on the board.



**DECEMBER 6, 2020** 

LESSON 1 UNIT 1

# Jesus Is the Eternal Creator

Jesus' deity

#### **Scripture Focus**

John 1:1–4, 14, 15, 18; Hebrews 1:1–3; Colossians 1:15, 16

#### **BuildUP Theme**



LEARN DOCTRINE

Jesus, the Son of God, created the world.

# Measurable Student Response

The student will recognize Jesus as eternal God.

#### **Memory Verse**

"Of old You laid the foundation of the earth" (Psalm 102:25, NKJV).

"Of old you laid the foundation of the earth" (Psalm 102:25, ESV).

# **Teacher Preparation**

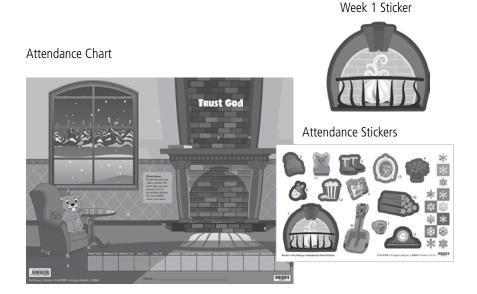
To prepare for this week's lesson, read the Scripture Focus several times, thinking on Jesus as eternal God. As we head into the Christmas season, your young students will be excited by lights, gifts, decorations, and the music of Christmas. Your job as their Sunday School teacher is to share with them the doctrinal truth behind the Christmas story.

Preschoolers love babies. Fours and fives are beginning to realize that they are growing up and can do so much more than a baby. Help your students see that there is more to Christmas than the baby in the manger. Guide them into the truth that the baby in the manger is eternal God, the Creator of the universe and the Savior.

Your students fully understand the concept of celebrating a birthday. However, they have a misconception that Jesus had a beginning, simply because He was born. Help them realize the truth that Jesus is eternal and that He existed in time past, before His arrival on this earth.

## **Attendance and Verse**

Distribute an attendance and verse chart (2308) to each student. Have students write their names on their charts. Today the students will place the fireplace sticker over the 1. Mount the charts on a wall or bulletin board at the students' eye level. Next week, students will add a snowflake sticker to their charts for saying Psalm 102:25, the memory verse for this week.



# Session Starters

#### **Option 1—Self-Portraits**



43-R1

## Gather

- Resource 43-R1 (face outline) from resource CD #1243.
- Colored pencils.
- Manilla pocket folders; cream construction paper.
- Mirrors (locker mirrors are unbreakable).
- A few nature items, such as a flower, a feather, a pretty leaf, a gemstone; a baby picture of yourself or your child.

#### **Steps**

- 1. Give each student a sheet of construction paper, a set of colored pencils, a folder, and a mirror.
- 2. Show each artist how to set up his station by opening the folder and standing it upright to block the view of other students. An artist must work in seclusion!
- 3. Instruct students to put their names on the back of their papers. Students look at themselves in the mirror and draw self-portraits.
- 4. After several minutes of working, ask students to submit their portraits to you.
- 5. Tell the artists not to reveal themselves as each portrait is shown. Ask the rest of the class to guess who the portrait is. Once the artist is identified, return the portrait to the artist.
- 6. Transition to the Bible lesson. Each portrait had a designer or an artist. Each artist carefully planned to create his portrait.

**ACTIVITY:** Show each nature item.

**ASK:** Who designed these things? Yes, God did. But the Bible is very specific about which Person of the Trinity did the work of Creation. You might be surprised to know Who it is. Let's go to Bible time and find out.

#### **Option 2—Play-Doh Sculptures**

#### **Gather**

- Play-Doh or craft clay (Crayola brand is good).
- Small corrugated cardboard square for each student.

#### **Steps**

- 1. Give each student a lump of Play-Doh and cardboard square to model on.
- 2. Instruct students to create something unique. It can be anything: realistic or imaginary. But it must not be like anyone else's sculpture.
- 3. After several minutes, let students display and tell about their creations.
- 4. Transition to the Bible lesson.

**ASK:** How many of you have a little brother or sister? How old is he/she? Would you ever give your baby brother or sister a lump of Play-Doh and expect him to make a car or penguin or butterfly out of it? Of course not! However, in our lesson today, we are going to learn that Jesus, God's Son Who came to earth as a baby in the manger, is the same Person Who created the universe! Let's go to Bible time to learn more about this!

#### **Transition**

- 1. Instruct students to help you clean up.
- 2. Sing "To God Be the Glory" (*Strong Kids Music* CD, track 25) as you work.
- 3. Guide students to your story time area for the Bible lesson. The teaching visuals and Bible time teacher should already be in the designated Bible story area.
- 4. Sing "To God Be the Glory" again after students are seated.
- 5. Fold your hands and bow your head as a cue to the students that you are going to pray. Thank God for bringing you together today. Ask Him to help you teach and to help the students listen, learn, and obey.

# **Bible Study**

Jesus Is the Eternal Creator (John 1:1–4, 14, 15, 18; Heb. 1:1–3; Col. 1:15, 16)

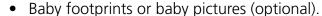
#### **Gather**

- December calendar with Christmas Day circled in red marker.
- Birth certificate.





43-R2



- Verse poster 43-A (resource kit #1243).
- Resource 43-R2 ("Long Before" rhyme) from resource CD or student book page 6.

**ASK:** Show calendar. What month is it? *December.* 

**ASK:** What very exciting, important holiday do we celebrate in December? *Yes, Christmas!* 

**ASK:** Why do we celebrate Christmas? What is Christmas really all about? *The birth of Jesus, our Savior, God's Son.* 

We all love Christmas. It is such a wonderful time to celebrate. We love talking about how God sent Jesus, in the form of a tiny baby, to be born here on earth. We love singing songs like "Silent Night" and "Away in a Manger." We love the lights and the manger scenes. Everyone loves a sweet, little new baby!

**ASK:** Where was Jesus and what was He doing before He was born in a stable and laid in a manger-bed? (Let students discuss. Their responses will help you get a glimpse of what your students might already know or what their preconceived notions are.)

God's Word tells us exactly where Jesus was and exactly what He was doing before He came to earth.

Listen closely as I read two verses that sound very much alike.

**READ:** Genesis 1:1.

**READ:** John 1:1.

**ASK:** What did I say two times? In the beginning.

**DISPLAY:** Verse poster 43-A. Point to Genesis 1:1 on the poster.

We have learned that God is eternal. God does not have a beginning. God does not have an end. No one made God. God has always been. We also learned that in the beginning, God made heaven and earth. God is the creator.

John 1:1 calls Jesus "The Word." (Point to "the Word" in the verse and read it.)

**ACTIVITY:** (On the board, write: "The Word" = Jesus.) This time when I read the verse, I am going to say "Jesus" instead of "The Word" to make it easier for us to understand. (Do so.)

**REPEAT:** Listen again. (Read verse 1 again.)

**ASK:** Where was Jesus? Jesus was with God.



43-A (NKJV)



43-A (ESV)

In the beginning, Jesus was with God, His Heavenly Father. He has always been with God. He is God's Son.

**READ:** John 1:3.

**ASK:** What did Jesus do? He made everything. Nothing was made without Him.

(Point back to Genesis 1:1 on the verse poster.) Jesus was in the beginning. Jesus is the designer, the creator, the builder of the universe and everything in it! Jesus is God's Son, therefore, He is God. When we read "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth," we could also read "In the beginning, [Jesus] created the heaven and the earth." Jesus and God both created the world at the same time.

**READ:** Colossians 1:16.

Because Jesus is God, Jesus had no beginning, and He will have no end. That is very hard for us to understand. Everything we know here on earth had a beginning. Each of us had a beginning.

**ACITIVITY:** Show your birth certificate.

This is my birth certificate. It is a legal document that tells who I am, who my parents are, when I was born, and where I was born.

**ACTIVITY:** Point to and read all the important information on your birth certificate. Let the students hold it and look at it. If you have the hospital footprint or a newborn picture for the students to see, they will enjoy seeing you as a baby.

Jesus was born on earth. But that is not the day Jesus started. Jesus lived forever in Heaven with His Heavenly Father long before He came to earth. Jesus lived in eternity long before He ever made the earth or the sky or the green grass or the animals. Jesus is God.

**READ:** John 1:14.

**ASK:** What did we say "The Word" was another name for? It is a name for Jesus.

In John 1:1 and 14, we learn that "In the beginning was [Jesus] and [Jesus] was with God and [Jesus] was God." "[Jesus] became flesh and dwelt among us." That means Jesus left the glories of Heaven and took on the form of a tiny baby. He grew up to be the Savior of the world!

**ACTIVITY:** Point to John 1:14 on the verse poster. Read the words. Move your finger down to the manger scene below. Read Psalm 102:25.

**EXPLAIN:** The words "Of old" mean a long time ago. The words "to lay the foundations" mean to create. We could say, "A long

Long Before

Use before the same to see,

Use of the same to see,

In th

43-R2



43-A (NKJV)



43-A (ESV)

time ago You, Jesus, created the earth."

**DISPLAY:** The calendar with December 25th circled in bold, red marker.

December 25 is the day we celebrate Jesus coming to earth to be born as a baby so that He could give His sinless life on the cross to be our Savior. Jesus is God. He came because of His great love for us.

**ACTIVITY:** Practice the action rhyme "Long Before." Have students do the rhyme with you as you teach the motions.

# Memory Builder

#### **Gather**

Verse poster 43-A (Psalm 102:25) from resource kit #1243.

#### Steps

- 1. Display verse poster 43-A.
- 2. Read Psalm 102:25 from your open Bible.
- 3. Read Psalm 102:25 from the verse poster, pointing to each word.

**ASK:** Who "laid the foundation of the earth"? *Jesus*.

**ASK:** What do you think the words "of old" mean? *Jesus created the earth a long time ago.* 

**ACTIVITY:** Do a team cheer. Practice the verse a few times in unison. Explain that you are all going to do a team cheer, using the verse. Conduct this activity as a team does before a game when players layer hands in the center of the group circle, recite, and cheer. Gather the students in a tight circle. Assign each student to say two words of the verse. Go quickly around the circle, reciting in order. Have all students place one hand in the center, layering hands on top of each other. After everyone has one hand in, say the verse together in unison and then break as you recite the reference. High five each other. Repeat the process as time allows. Try to get faster in reciting the verse.

# Session Application

#### **Gather**

Lesson 1 student book pages and Jesus, God, and arrow stickers.

- Pencils.
- Strong Kids at Home take-home paper and outside wrap for each student.
- Strong Kids Music CD Vol. 1.

#### Steps

- 1. Direct students to tables. Provide Lesson 1 workbook page, stickers, and a pencil for each child.
- 2. Read each question and discuss the picture choices. Help students add stickers. Let students volunteer the correct answer for each statement before they circle it.
- 3. Recite the rhyme on the back. Do the actions to the rhyme as a group.
- 4. Distribute any crafts students made and the *Strong Kids at Home* take-home paper and cover wrap (for parents) to students who are leaving the room at this time. The take-home paper has additional activities for parents to complete with their children as a way of reinforcing the lesson and measuring spiritual growth.
- 5. Challenge students to learn the rhyme and the motions for "Long Ago" on page 2 of the student book page.
- 6. Close in prayer and thank each child for coming to church today. Sing "To God Be the Glory" (track 25), if time permits.





