

God Sees and Hears Us



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Unit 1 | Praying to God

1	March 3, 2024	Praying in God's House	God hears our prayers.	1 Samuel 1:1–18	8
2	March 10, 2024	God Answers Hannah's Prayer	God answers our prayers.	1 Samuel 1:19–28	14

Unit 2 | Worshiping God's Son

3	March 17, 2024	Mary's Gift	God is glad when we give to Him.	Mark 14:3–9; John 12:1–8	20
4	March 24, 2024	Jesus' Triumphal Entry	Jesus deserves our praise.	Matthew 21:1–9	26
5	March 31, 2024	Jesus Rises from the Dead	Jesus died and rose again.	Matthew 28:1–8	32
6	April 7, 2024	Mary Sees Jesus	Jesus talked to people after His resurrection.	John 20:1, 2, 11–18	38

Unit 3 | Serving God

7	April 14, 2024	Samuel Helps Eli	God is pleased when children serve Him.	1 Samuel 1:24—2:11	44
8	April 21, 2024	Hannah Visits Samuel	God blessed Samuel for serving Him	1 Samuel 2:18–26	50
9	April 28, 2024	Samuel Hears God's Voice	God wants us to obey Him.	1 Samuel 3:1–10	56
10	May 5, 2024	Samuel Obeys God	God wants us to obey Him.	1 Samuel 3:10–20	62

Unit 4 | Worshiping God

11	May 12, 2024	Building God's House	God wants us to come together to worship Him.	1 Kings 6:1–9; 2 Chronicles 3:1—5:1	68
12	May 19, 2024	Singing Praises in God's House	God wants us to sing praises to Him in church.	2 Chronicles 5:11–14	74
13	May 26, 2024	Sharing God's Word in His House	God wants us to hear His Word in church.	2 Kings 22:8—23:3	79



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STRONG[®]

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.



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

A Plan You Can Trust


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 2s & 3s teaches Biblical truth concerning God, God's Son, God's Word, and God's world. Students learn that God is their creator and that He loves and helps them. They begin to understand what sin is and that Jesus came to earth as a baby and then grew up and died for them. This two-year curriculum prepares twos and threes to understand the gospel.


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.


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.


 **Understand Biblical ethics.** Jesus instructed 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.

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Kit Contents

- ☐ Teacher Guide
- ☐ Junior Church Teacher Guide
- ☐ Student Book*
- ☐ Set of Take-Home Cards*
- ☐ One Attendance Chart with Stickers*
- ☐ Teaching Pictures
- ☐ Flannelgraph Figures
- ☐ Resource CD with online download code
- ☐ Bible Story DVD
- ☐ Set of vinyl clings for dolls

*Order additional copies for classroom use.

Ordering Information

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.

In this quarter's Strong Kids for 2s & 3s, twos and threes will learn that Jesus died and rose again and that church is a special place to hear God's Word, sing, pray, and help others.



Onetime Purchases (Sold Separately)

- ☐ 2s & 3s Music, vol. 2
- ☐ Doll Board Set



The Doctrinal Basis of Our Curriculum

A more detailed statement with references is available upon request.

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|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 |
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Basic Supplies for 2s & 3s Teachers

Teaching Aids

2s & 3s Music, vol. 2 (20996)
Jesus Lives puzzle (5603)
Samuel's New Coat puzzle (5605)
Solomon Builds God's House puzzle (5618)
Easter Is Coming! (6110)
He Lives Finger Puppets (6685)
Flannelgraph board (6063)
Bible
Offering container
CD player

Paper Products

9" x 12" and 12" x 18" construction paper
in various colors
White copy paper
Butcher paper
Poster board
4" x 6" index cards
Self-adhesive labels
Clear Con-Tact paper

Writing Utensils

Large crayons
Black and colored washable markers
Permanent marker (for teachers)

Office Supplies

Paper clips
Paper punch
Brass fasteners
Cellophane tape
Double-stick tape
Masking tape
Stapler
Scissors (for teachers)

Adhesives

Glue sticks
Craft glue
Sticky tack

Homelife Equipment

Dolls, doll clothes, doll furniture
Toy dishes
Play food
Table, chairs
Child-size mop, broom

Bulletin Boards

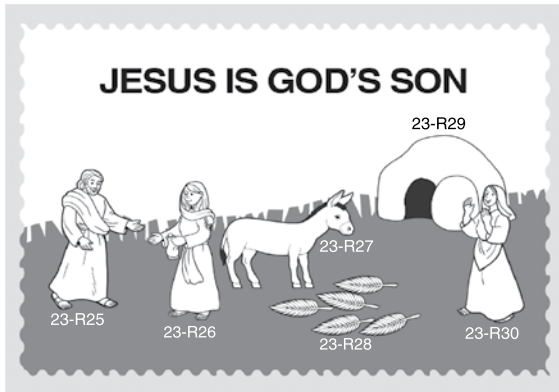
Scalloped blue bulletin board border (8537)
Scalloped yellow bulletin board border (8539)
Blue letters (8510)
Yellow letters (8513)

Miscellaneous

Large blocks
Play-Doh
Craft sticks (regular and jumbo size)
Lunch-size paper bags
6" and 9" paper plates
Wet wipes for cleaning hands
Hand sanitizer
Old plastic tablecloth for art projects
Clean plastic tablecloth for food projects
Paper cups, napkins, plastic silverware
Ziplock bags

*Products with an order number are available
from Regular Baptist Press. (See page 3.)*

Unit Bulletin Boards

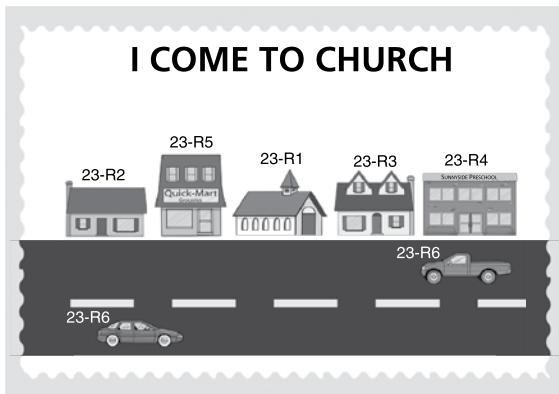


Units 1 and 2

Set up this bulletin board in anticipation of the lessons on Jesus' death and resurrection (lessons 3-6).

Attach a light blue bulletin board background. Cover the bottom third of the board with green paper. Cut 2" long slits along the top edge of the green paper about 1" apart to make it look like grass. Add the blue border. Use blue letters to create the title "Jesus Is God's Son." (For border and letters, see page 4.)

Print and cut out resources 23-R25 (Jesus) and 23-R26 (Mary/jar). Add 23-R25 on the left side of the board and 23-R26 to the right of 23-R25. You will further develop the bulletin board using resources 23-R27—23-R30 as indicated in lessons 4–6.



Units 3 and 4

Leave the light blue bulletin board background. Remove the blue border. Cover a strip along the bottom section of the board with gray or black paper. Cut several 1" x 3" strips of yellow construction paper. Glue the yellow strips across the middle of the gray or black paper, leaving spaces as shown to make the strips look like lines on a road. Add yellow border. Use yellow letters to create the title "I Come to Church." (For border and letters, see page 4.)

Print and cut out resources 23-R1 (church), 23-R2 (house), 23-R3 (house), 23-R4 (school), 23-R5 (store), and 23-R6 (car and truck). Mount the buildings above the road and the two vehicles on the road.

Take Your Teaching Up a Notch

We often don't realize that young children experience the world the same way adults do—through the senses. As teachers, we can take our teaching up a notch by appealing to the God-given senses of sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch.

Student Book Time

A few weeks after my three-year-olds had been promoted to the Pre-Primary Department, a young mother stopped me in the hallway and thanked me for having taught her son the previous year. "I didn't realize all the special things you did. I really miss the extra things you put on his student book sheet each week. They don't do any of that in his new class," she said.

I didn't do much really, and it wasn't hard. I helped children add fabric or felt to characters for clothes or to a bed for a blanket. We glued cotton balls to pictures of sheep or clouds. Sometimes a strip of sandpaper became a pathway or the roof of a house. Fabric flowers made a paper look two-dimensional. By doing those extra things, a student book sheet became a touch-and-feel project with depth and color.

Working with a child in this way also provides opportunities to review the Bible story. "Let's add this blanket to Samuel's bed. Who did he hear

in the nighttime?" "Let's put this rough piece of paper on the stones the men were cutting to build God's house. The men made the rough stones smooth. Who built God's house?"

Other touch-and-feel ideas include adding fur to an animal shape, taping a piece of netting on a picture of the disciples fishing, and taping lengths of yarn together to make the tail of a donkey or camel.

Little things added to a page give a point of interest for children. Let's investigate other creative things you can do.

Snack Time

In the teacher guide are suggested snacks that go along with the Bible stories. Here are some other snack ideas.

Animals. Spread cream cheese or frosting between two identical animal crackers to make a sandwich. Let children help you use cookie cutters to make animal shapes out of bread, pancakes, or waffles. Spread jam on top, and add raisins, blueberries, chocolate chips, or banana slices for eyes.

Fish. Prepare blue gelatin, pour it into clear plastic cups, and refrigerate the gelatin until it's partially set. Add gummy fish to each cup and return the cups to the refrigerator. During class, talk about the fishermen brothers whom Jesus called to be His disciples. Talk about the kinds of fish God made in creation.

People. Use a person-shaped cookie cutter to cut out the shape of people from pancakes or various kinds of bread (e.g., pumpernickel, wheat, rye). Spread the pancakes or bread with jelly or cream cheese, or add cheese slices to the bread shapes to create shirts, skirts, and pants.

Faces. Use a round cookie cutter to cut circles from bread or toast. Use a can of cheese spread to add facial features, and add shredded cheese for hair. Or make faces out of pancakes, using cream cheese to stick on raisins or chocolate chips for eyes and licorice for a mouth.



Make Your Own Rhythm Instruments

Incorporate rhythm instruments in a Bible story. Use them not only when a story talks about music but also to add sound effects, such as the sound of a donkey's clip-clop walk. Make your own rhythm instruments following these simple instructions.

Bells	String three or four large jingle bells onto a chenille wire; twist the ends together so the wire forms a secure loop.
Tambourine	String a jingle bell onto four chenille wires, one bell per wire. Poke four holes in the edge of a heavy-duty disposable plate. String the chenille wires through the holes.
Shakers	Put dry beans, dry rice, or unpopped popcorn into plastic eggs. Tape the eggs' halves together with bright-colored tape.
Drums	Cover an empty oatmeal container with Con-Tact paper. For drumsticks, use 12" dowel rods that have been sanded and painted.
Rhythm sticks	Sand and paint dowel rods that are ½" or ¾" in diameter and 12" in length. Show children how to tap two sticks together.
Wood blocks	Cut wood into blocks that are 1" thick, 2" wide, and 4" long. Sand and paint the blocks. Glue sandpaper to one 4" side of each block. Show children how to rub two blocks back and forth to create a brushing sound.

Almost any food can become a teachable snack. Half of a banana becomes a boat; add a pretzel stick for a mast and a triangular piece of fruit leather or cheese for a sail. Oyster crackers become manna. Chocolate pudding becomes the mud Jesus put on the blind man's eyes. Look in your refrigerator or pantry and have fun.

Bible Story Time

During the Bible story, children need to focus on you. Keeping the attention of a two- or three-year-old is not easy, so capitalize on children's senses. You want the children to wonder what you're going to do next.

Sight. Dress as a Bible character and tell the story in first person, or have someone dress as a character to introduce the story. A new mother could dress as Hannah and show the class her baby. A man might come dressed as Solomon, wearing a crown.

Sound. When you talk about the temple dedication, play a recording of a trumpet, invite someone to play a musical instrument, or play an instrument yourself. Add sound effects to stories.

Smell. For the story about Mary's gift, spray perfume on tissues. At the appropriate point in the story, give each child a tissue to smell. Or put a little perfumed hand cream on each child's wrist or let the children smell cinnamon sticks.

Taste. In one of the Molly and Anthony stories, Molly wants a piece of chocolate candy, and Mommy lets her have one. Let each child try a chocolate candy just like the one Molly tried. In another story Mommy makes an egg casserole for breakfast at church. Bring a portion of egg casserole and a plastic spoon for each child so the children will know what egg casserole is.

Touch. Bring a palm leaf or a small potted palm for the children to feel during the story of Jesus' triumphal entry. For the stories about building God's house, bring in fine wood, gold or brass candlesticks, and pretty stones. Let children hold an adult-size hammer to feel the weight. Let them touch textured tile.

Be creative! When you incorporate the five senses into your lessons, you are leaving a lasting impression of the truths you are teaching.

LESSON 1 | UNIT 1

Praying in God's House

Prayer

Scripture Focus

1 Samuel 1:1–18

BuildUP Theme



INTERNALIZE GODLINESS

God hears our prayers.

Measurable Response

Each child will pray in his church room.

Memory Verse

"Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation" (Psalm 64:1). NKJV

"Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint" (Psalm 64:1). ESV

Teacher Preparation

Read Psalm 55:17. Have you taken each child before the Lord in prayer today? Have you asked God to give you a sensitive spirit and the right words to say to each child in your classroom? How can you demonstrate to your students that prayer is important in your life? Remember that the same God Who heard Hannah's heartfelt prayer for a son still hears our prayers today.

During this week, take time to pray for each child in your class. In addition to the lesson text, read and meditate on Psalm 40:10–17.

Attendance

Give your full attention to each child who arrives. Stoop down to the children's level to greet them. Show them their new attendance charts, and help children place today's sticker over the 1. If children have brought offering money, let them put it in the offering container. Then direct children to the play areas.

Week 1 Sticker



Attendance Stickers



Attendance Chart



Guided Play

Choose the activities that work best for your class. As the children play, use the guided conversations to review the Bible story and Bible verse.

Option 1—Craft

Gather

- Resource 23-R7.
- Heavy white paper.
- Mini cereal boxes or juice boxes.
- Crayons.
- Glue sticks.
- Velcro.

Instructions

1. Before class, print resource 23-R7 (church, house, praying child) on heavy white paper. Each student will need a set. Cut out each image.
2. Children color their pictures of a house, church, and child.
3. Help children glue the church and house to the front of two mini boxes of cereal or juice boxes.
4. Glue a small piece of Velcro to the door of the church and house and a matching piece of Velcro to the praying child. Allow students to play with all three pieces, attaching the praying child to the house or church.

Conversation

We can pray to God at home or at church or anywhere!

Option 2—Puzzle

Gather

- Resource 23-R8.
- Con-Tact paper.
- Magnetic tape.
- Metal cookie sheet.

Instructions

1. Before class, print two copies of resource 23-R8 (church). Laminate both copies with clear Con-Tact paper. On one copy, cut out the



door, windows, steps, and steeple. Place a small strip of magnetic tape on the back of each piece. Tape the uncut copy to a metal cookie sheet.

2. Children place the cut-out pieces over the matching pieces on the cookie sheet.

Conversation

I have a special puzzle for you to do today. (*Point to complete image.*) What building is this? (*A church.*) These little pieces match parts of the church. (*Pick up the piece picturing the steps.*) Here are some steps. Point to the steps on the church. (*Show children how to place the steps piece over the steps on the church. Continue matching all the pieces.*) In our Bible story, a lady named Hannah made a special trip to a church. There she found a quiet place to pray.

Option 3—Blocks

Instructions

1. Provide blocks.
2. Children use the blocks to build a church.

Conversation

Church is important to God. He is very happy when we come to church. Let's see if we can build a church with our blocks this morning.

Transition

1. About five minutes before Bible Time, sing "Will You Put the Toys Away?" (track 30) to alert the children to complete their activities and straighten each area.
2. Guide children to the Bible Time area when they finish helping.

Bible Time

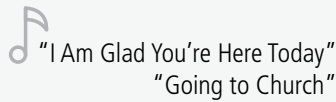
Praying in God's House (1 Sam. 1:1–18)

Gather

- Teaching picture 23-1.
- Baby doll.
- 2s & 3s Music, vol. 2.



"Will You Put the Toys Away?"



Sing

I'm so glad you're here today. (*Sing "I Am Glad You're Here Today" [track 14], naming each child and worker in your class.*)

We can do lots of things in church. This morning in our Bible story, we will learn what a lady did in God's house, a church. Let's sing a song about what we do in church. (*Sing "Going to Church" [track 11].*)

Pray

Praying to God is very important. When we talk to God, it's good to close our eyes and fold our hands to keep us from playing or looking around. (*Pray briefly, thanking God for letting us pray to Him.*)



Tell the story from your open Bible. Use picture 23-1 and a baby doll as indicated.

BIBLE STORY

The Bible tells us about a lady named Hannah. Can you say her name with me? It's a pretty name: Hannah.

Hannah and her husband loved each other very much. But one thing made Hannah very sad. (*Make a sad face; encourage the children to make sad faces with you.*)

"Why are you so sad?" Hannah's husband asked.

"I'm sad because I do not have any children," Hannah said. (*Have a helper rock a baby doll back and forth.*)

Hannah saw her friends with their children and babies. Her friends looked so happy. Hannah wanted a baby.

Soon it was time for Hannah and her husband to go to God's house. They had to walk a long, long way to get there. Hannah knew what she would do when she got to God's house.

When they arrived at God's house, Hannah found a quiet place where she could pray. She closed her eyes, folded her hands, and bowed her head. (*Show picture 23-1.*) Hannah began to pray. Her lips moved, but she didn't talk out loud. God could hear her thoughts, even though she did not speak a word. Hannah began to cry.

"Dear God, if it would please You, I would really like to have a baby boy," she prayed.

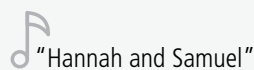
Eli, the special minister in God's house, was watching Hannah. (*Point to Eli in picture 23-1.*)

"Are you all right?" Eli asked.

"Yes," Hannah answered. "I was just praying to God. I was asking God to give me a baby boy."



23-1



Eli had happy news for Hannah. (*Smile and encourage the children to make a happy face with you.*) Eli said, "God has heard your prayer."

Sing

Let's sing a song about Hannah. (*Sing stanza 1 of "Hannah and Samuel" [track 12] twice.*)

"Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation" (Ps. 64:1). NKJV

"Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint" (Ps. 64:1). ESV

"Here Is Mrs. Hannah"

Memory Builder

(*Read Psalm 64:1 from your open Bible.*) Our Bible verse today is a prayer. God always hears us when we talk to Him in prayer. He hears our prayers just like He heard Hannah pray. Let's do some motions to help us learn the verse. (*Repeat the verse and motions three times. Point to ears and mouth, point up, and then fold hands in prayer.*)

Recite

Hannah was married, so we'll call her Mrs. Hannah in a little rhyme. Mrs. Hannah prayed to God in His house. We can pray in our church room. Let's do actions about Mrs. Hannah and her prayer to God. (*Recite the action rhyme "Here Is Mrs. Hannah."*)

Student Book Time

Gather

- Lesson 1 student book sheet and stool sticker for each child.
- Pieces of fabric.
- Crayons.
- Glue sticks.

Distribute the lesson 1 student book sheet. Show your completed sheet.

Look at my picture of Hannah praying in God's house. After Hannah prayed, Eli told her that God had heard her prayer. Today we call God's house the church.

Children color the picture and add the stool sticker over the X. Help each child glue a piece of fabric to Hannah's garment.



Cleanup Time

Ask the children to help you put away the student book materials. Take children to the restroom, making sure they wash their hands before returning to class.

Cleanup should bridge the gap between Sunday School and Junior Church. Some children may go home at this time. Be sure they have their student book sheets and take-home cards. Other children may be arriving only for Junior Church. Help them feel like they're part of the group. Make any personnel changes quietly and efficiently.