A CLOSER LOOK AT THE PROGRAM
For Children 8-14 Years Old

Your Goal
Rescue children from self-defining themselves as society’s orphans to children who self-define themselves as Christ followers, disciples who will thrive because they have the support and love of a Heavenly Parent and the support of God’s people who serve Him.

HELPING THE ‘WHOLE’ CHILD
All lessons have a strong Christian foundation. Children learn about God their Heavenly Father and how they can show their love for Him. When you look at all the lessons together, you will see that this program deals with the whole child. It deals with the spiritual lives of children, and it also deals with their social, physical and emotional lives. It is a holistic program that shows children that God is part of every aspect of their lives.

As a spiritual leader for these children, you will get to share biblical truths that impact EVERY area of their lives. Each lesson is designed to help a child in one of three ways: Deepening their personal relationship with Jesus, developing Christian Character, or gaining critical life skills.

This Program Is Built On 3 Types Of Bible Lessons:

Relationship—a Bible lesson helping orphans experience a relationship with Jesus
Character—a Bible lesson that helps children develop Christian character
Life Skills—a Bible lesson that provides orphans with life skills training
For many orphans and other children at risk, learning about Christian character is imperative. Children from healthy families learn these practices from parents. For orphan children, this may be their only learning opportunity.

You will also train children in life skills. These are skills that effective parents teach their children. Some of these skills will be survival skills. Others will help children discover that God-given talents.

**ONE LESSON A WEEK FOR THIS ENTIRE TERM**

This book contains 12 lessons, enough for one school term. You will complete one lesson each week for a total of 12 weeks. You will need to complete every lesson in this book to satisfy the requirements for this term.

Each term, you will teach a 4 week series of lessons; *Relationship* (4 weeks), *Character* (4 weeks), and *Life Skills* (4 weeks).

You will have 2 class sessions of 20 minutes each to cover 1 lesson. Each lesson is your focus for the week. You will find that the *Relationship* lessons will connect well to the *Character* and *Life Skills* lessons. A wise chaplain shows his disciples how the truths from one lesson connect to the next.

Each lesson will help you decide where Class session #1 ends and where Class session #2 begins. It is not always the same in each lesson, because different activities take different amounts of time.

**WHAT HAPPENS IN CLASS**

*In every lesson, you will follow a 3-step plan.*

When you teach a *Relationship lesson*, you will follow this 3-step pattern:

1. Bible Story (Class session #1)
2. Why This Story Is Important to Me (Class session #2)
3. What God Wants Me to Do (Class session #2)

When you teach a *Character lesson*, you will follow this 3-step pattern:

1. Character Trait Introduced (Class session #1)
2. Character Trait Illustrated (Class session #2)
3. Living with the Character Trait This week (Class session #2)

When you teach a *Life Skills lesson*, you will follow this 3-step pattern:

1. Focus on Today’s Life Skill (Class session #1)
2. Sharing Life Skill Truth (Class session #1 & Class session #2)
3. Living the Life Skill (Class session #2)
CLASS SIZE AND CLASS SESSIONS

Personal attention is one of the best gifts you can give to an orphan child. The smaller the class, the more personal attention each child can receive. The ideal class size for this curriculum is 15-30 students in a class.

You will teach this material to 2 age groups in separate class settings depending on amount of children in each grade level. For example:

1st–4th grade, Monday morning, Wednesday morning
5th–7th grade, Tuesday afternoon, Thursday afternoon

A wise chaplain will adapt his teaching to the age and maturity of his classroom. For example, if you are teaching 5th–7th, it is wise to have the students read the scripture passages together. If you are teaching the 1st–4th, you may need to read it for the children.

LEADER’S CLUES

In the lessons, there are clues to make your teaching easier. You MUST follow these clues.

• You must learn the “Objective” for each new lesson. This is what the children will learn.
• You may read all dark type words to the children. Also, look for this speak icon.
• Instructions to you, the leader, are written in regular type.
• Questions for you to ask the children have a large black dot in front of them, just like the one here. You may also look for this question icon.
• A list of materials for each session is listed at the beginning of each lesson. They will help children remember more of what you taught. They make the lesson more fun and creative. Please look for this materials needed icon.
RELATIONSHIP: OUR AMAZING CREATOR

Term 2 • Week 1
Focus on God’s Word

**Theme:** God loves it when we praise Him for what He created.

**Today children learn** how creative God was when He made the animals.

**Today children decide** to praise their Creator.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**
- Large piece of paper or blackboard with Psalm 104:24 written on it. (See Part 1)
- Marker or colored pencil
- Bible

This Orphan Children Discipleship Program was created jointly by Family Legacy Missions International and David C Cook. They are licensed and may be used freely in Family Legacy Missions Ministries. All uses by anyone else require written permission from David C Cook. E-mail Global@DavidCCook.org. ©2013 David C Cook. All rights reserved worldwide.

**A Note to You, the Leader:**

Many of the children in your group may accept our Christian God as just one power among many other spiritual powers. We certainly don’t want that to happen. That’s why we’re spending so much time in Unit 1 and now in Unit 2 emphasizing our God’s creation. He is the Only God, the One God! Some children have heard about power from witch doctors. It’s important that the children know that the God of the Biel has absolute power and authority over everything. We pray that the children will accept God as the God above all gods. He’s the one who created everything and that sets Him far above the other contenders.

Scripture emphasizes that God is the absolute Creator. The Genesis account clearly sets God apart from nature. This counters what some of your children may believe—that nature itself should be worshiped.

“You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32
Hebrews 11:3 and 2 Peter 3:5 tell us that God is not just part of creation. He is the actual Creator who conceived the idea of a universe—from the simple things to the more complex. He made living beings. Paul points out, “He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

What a great session you’re going to have with your children today. Enjoy talking about our wonderful Creator and one very special part of His creation that most children particularly enjoy—animals.

**LESSON TIME**

1. **BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 1:20-25** (COMPLETE DURING CLASS SESSION #1)

   **Objective:** Children will have fun celebrating our great God’s creation of animals—lots and lots and lots of animals.

Several activities recently asked you to allow the children to sit on the floor or stand in a circle. If you have a place to do this, rather than having children sit at desks, great! This curriculum is not another school class. It’s more of a “life” class where children practice what it means to love Jesus in their real lives.

So, if possible, ask children to sit in a circle on the ground or floor, and go around the circle asking each child to name an animal that God made, and to share one special feature about that animal. Consider sharing an example so children understand what you’re asking them to do. Tell them:

You might say, “God made cows. One special thing about cows is that they give us milk.”

Or, “God made sheep. One special thing about sheep is that they give us wool for warm clothes.”

Go around the circle several times until children start running out of animals.

Now, read or tell this Bible story.

*After God made day and night and the world, He made the sky with the sun, moon, and stars. He made water and dry land with plants and trees.*

*But something was missing. The earth was totally quiet. Nothing moved on the ground. Nothing moved in the air. Nothing moved in the water. What did God do? The Bible tells us.*

(Pick up your Bible and read Genesis 1:20 directly from it. This demonstrates to the children that you are not just telling a story—you are telling a story that comes directly from God’s Holy Bible.)
And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.”

Genesis 1:20

The Bible tells us that God filled the water with fish, hippos, and crocodiles, and thousands of other creatures. Each one was different. There were colorful fish and plain fish. There were fish that lived in salt water and fish that lived in fresh water. There were even fish that could breathe air. How amazing each fish was! God made so many that even today people who explore oceans will sometimes see a fish no one has ever seen before. All these years since God created fish, He is the only one to know what every fish looks like.

God filled the sky with birds—many different kinds! Some sang beautiful songs. Others made very loud noises that were not as pretty. Some had bright colored feathers. Others had feathers that blended in with nature. Some could fly very fast. Others could not fly at all. God created the fish and birds to have baby fish and baby birds just like themselves. He told them to fill up the water and sky. And they did.

That was the fifth day of creation. But God wasn’t finished yet. He wanted to create something else.

(Again, read the verse from the Bible.)

And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:24

They came in every shape and size. They came with every color and noise. Some lived above the ground and some lived below the ground. Some could climb trees. Others could swim. Some lived in hot places and some in cold places. Only God knows how many animals He created. Each year scientists discover new animals. In 2010, scientists discovered a six-foot-long lizard that no one had ever seen before. It eats fruit and lives in treetops in the Philippines. They also discovered a cat-sized, red-bearded monkey in Colombia, South America. They named it a titi, and guess what! When it is happy, it purrs like a kitten.

God created the animals to have babies just like themselves. Soon cows began to have
calves. Giraffes began to have baby giraffes. Just as the fish and birds had obeyed God, so did the animals.

Nothing happened by accident. God carefully made each animal to live in a certain place. God carefully planned the foods they would eat. He thought about the places they would live. And God knew that all He had made was good.

God created so many different kinds of animals. Only an amazing God could create these amazing animals!

Discuss these questions. Allow several children to answer each question or to add on to what someone else said:

- What is your favorite thing that God made on the fifth day?
- What is your favorite animal that God made on the sixth day?
- Why did God create all the creatures to give birth to babies like themselves?
  
  So there would always be that kind of animal on earth. God also planned creation and the earth to be orderly. God planned for nature to be orderly. So, lions give birth to baby lions and whales give birth to baby whales. Without this order, our world would be in chaos.

- Why do you think God created all the animals to look and act different from each other?
  
  Ask several children to give different answers.

When we meet again we’ll start by learning a Bible verse that I think you will enjoy.

2. WHY THIS STORY IS IMPORTANT TO ME (COMPLETE 2 & 3 DURING CLASS SESSION #2)

Objective: Children realize how much they have to praise God for as they take a “Praise the Creator” walk.

Explain that you have a Bible verse about creation that you think they would enjoy. It’s Psalm 104:24. At the end of this lesson you will find the verse printed large enough so children can read it. Hold it now, or cut it out of the book and put it up where children can see it. Follow this pattern in all lessons where there is a memory verse.
“You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32

FOCUS ON GOD’S WORD

WEEK 1

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
Psalm 104:24

Have the children read this verse together three times. Then ask them to close their eyes and try to say it without peeking. Suggest they read it every day this week from their Bibles, and think about how wonderful God the Creator is.

• What does our memory verse say we can learn about God from animals?

Adapt this next fun activity to your own situation. You can have children close their eyes and imagine things created by God. You can also take children outside in groups of three or more. When they see something that God created, they should point to it, and then put their heads together and all whisper: “Praise to our wonderful Creator.” So, when they look up at the sky, they should whisper together, “Praise to our wonderful Creator.” Give them a few minutes for the walk.

Bring them together and ask them:

• What things did you praise our wonderful Creator for?
• How do you think it makes God feel when we praise Him for His wonderful creation?
• How do you think it makes Him feel when we never praise Him?

3. WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO DO

Objective: Children will plan ways to praise God, our amazing Creator, this week.

It’s easy to praise God when we’re all together like this. I can suggest that you praise Him, and it’s easy to follow my directions. But what about other times when no one is suggesting you praise God for what He has made. Will you do it on your own? Here’s an idea. Every day this week, look for one special thing that God created, and tell Him how much you appreciate it. Think how happy this will make Him. He loves you and when you thank Him without being told, wow! That must make Him really, really happy.

Close by asking children to say short prayers to God. Follow this pattern. Have everyone stoop in a circle. Begin by praying, “God, we praise You for being . . .” Then, one at a time, the children should pop up and call out one word, such as creative, powerful, good and quickly sit back down. They may pop up with praise as many times as they wish.

“You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32
End the prayer time by praying together the memory verse, Psalm 104:24.

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
The earth is full of your creatures.
Psalm 104:24
How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you made them all; The earth is full of your creatures.

Psalm 104:24
**Theme:** It is my conviction, my strong belief, that I will follow Jesus all my life.

**Today children will learn** about the character quality conviction.

**Today children will decide** how they will demonstrate Christian conviction in their lives this week.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**
- Ball
- Colored pencils
- Sheets of blank paper
- Large sheets of paper on which the “Living with Conviction This Week” statements are written (See section 3.)

This Orphan Children Discipleship Program was created jointly by Family Legacy Missions International and David C Cook. They are licensed and may be used freely Zambia in Family Legacy Missions Ministries. All uses by anyone else require written permission from David C Cook. E-mail Global@DavidCCook.org. ©2013 David C Cook. All rights reserved worldwide.

**LESSON TIME**

1. **CHARACTER QUALITY: CONVICTION** (CLASS SESSION #1)

   **Objective:** Children define the word conviction and discuss how, with God’s help, they can live their Christian convictions every day.

   Play a game of catch with your group. Throw a ball to any child in the circle and ask him or her to pass the ball to any other child. As play continues, tell the group there is only one game rule: no one can keep the ball for longer than one second before passing it to another player. After a short time, take the ball and start bouncing it. Tell the children that you don’t like the rule anymore and you want to play with the ball by yourself.

   “You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32
Option:

Before class, secretly ask one of the children to take the ball and bounce it. That child will refuse to play by the one rule.

End of option

After a minute or two, have everyone sit around you.

- Sorry! I disobeyed the game rule. How did that make you feel?
- Why is it important to have rules in a game?
- Some people think life would be more fun if there were no rules. What do you think?
- What are some of the rules most Christians follow? How important are Christian rules—things Christians always do and things Christians try to never do?

Share the following information about conviction with your children.

In the game, I did not follow the rules, and it ruined the game. Because I did not follow the game rule, you may have gotten angry at me. You may have wondered what kind of person I am. If this happened over and over, you might not want to play with me anymore.

There are some rules in life that all of us follow. The best rules are the ones we follow because in our hearts we know it is the right thing to do. For Christians, we know some rules that tell us what God wants us to do. When we are determined to follow these rules, they become our convictions.

Conviction is a big word. But its meaning is simple. Conviction means holding on to a belief, so tightly, with such strength, that it has the power to influence everything you say and do.

Conviction is when a student lives One-Way even when no one is looking. Conviction is also when a student lives One-Way even if no one else in his or her home is willing.

For Christians, conviction means having a strong, unshakeable faith in God and the determination to act in ways that please Him. Conviction can inspire ordinary people like you and me to achieve extraordinary things.

Here are some examples of convictions. These are convictions that anyone could have, whether or not he or she is a Christian.

- It is my conviction that gravity always works, so I will not jump off high buildings.
- It is my conviction that others trust people who always tell the truth, so I will always tell the truth.
– It is my conviction that taking drugs is dangerous, so I will never take them.

Here are some more examples of convictions. These are convictions that a Christian should have.

– It is my conviction that Jesus loves me, so I will obey Him.
– It is my conviction that God created everybody, so I will help others who are in need, to the best of my abilities.
– It is my conviction that Jesus always told the truth, so I will speak truth also.
– It is my conviction that God created me with gifts and talents so I will work hard in school so I can use these gifts to serve Him.

Clap three times if you want to be boys and girls of conviction!

THE BIBLE STORY (GENESIS 12, 17, 18, 21, 22:1-18; ROMANS 4:18-22)

Abraham was a man with a huge conviction. He believed in God so strongly that no matter what God told him to do, he did it. His conviction led to one of the most exciting stories in the Bible. I’m going to tell it to you.

One day, thousands of years ago, God surprised an old man named Abraham.

“I will make you the father of many nations,” God promised. Abraham wondered how this could be possible, since he and his wife were very old and had no children of their own. How could he have nations of people in his family tree someday if he had no children at all today? But God performed a miracle. This old couple had a baby! How joyful they were at the birth of Isaac. He was born when Sarah, Abraham’s wife, was age 90 and Abraham was age 100!

Years later God tested Abraham’s belief in Him. God wanted to see if Abraham’s conviction to follow Him would work even when God gave him something very, very hard to do. God said, “Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love—and sacrifice him as a burnt offering.” Although his heart felt torn into little pieces, Abraham never gave up his conviction to follow God. He also believed God’s promise that he would be the father of many nations. That would mean he would have to have children, and Isaac was his only child. Would God perform another miracle and bring Isaac back to life after the sacrifice? He knew that child sacrifice had never been something God wanted or asked for. Puzzled but believing, Abraham obeyed God by preparing an altar just as God directed. He laid his only son on that altar.
As Abraham lifted the knife to sacrifice Isaac, the Angel of the Lord shouted from heaven, “Abraham! Lay down the knife! Do not hurt the boy in any way, for now I know that you truly fear and obey God. You have not withheld even your beloved son from me.”

With strength and conviction, Abraham believed in God, his spiritual Father. He was willing to obey God’s command to sacrifice his son. In return, God saved Isaac and blessed Abraham with descendants as numerous as the stars in the night sky.

How would today’s story have been different if Abraham had not been a man of conviction? Remember, conviction means holding a belief in God so strongly that it influenced his actions.

2. CHARACTER QUALITY **CONVICTION ILLUSTRATED** (CLASS SESSION #2)

Objective: Children will demonstrate their conviction that Christians should do positive things for others.

Here’s a conviction God wants all of us to have. Conviction: we should try to do positive things for others. We’re going draw a picture of how that conviction might work right here today.

Ask children to work in pairs. Give each child a piece of paper and colored pencils. Ask children to draw the outline of a pot. Say: **Think of ways you can do positive things for others your age. These are things that make others smile. Positive actions influence others in happy ways.** (Examples could include: share my book, share my lunch, give a hug, sing a happy song, take care of a friend, tell the truth, return a lost item. If Mother Teresa were alive today, she might suggest children speak kind words to others. Share her famous quote with the children: “Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”)

Children should share ideas with their partners and then draw a smiling face in their pot for each idea they come up with. Their job is to fill the pot with happy faces!

When you love Jesus so much that you want your actions to be influenced by your love, you are demonstrating conviction. Remember: a conviction is a value or belief that you believe so completely that it influences your attitudes and actions.
3. LIVING WITH CONVICTION THIS WEEK

Objective: Challenge children to live lives of conviction.

Before class write the following five sentences on a large sheet of paper or a board. Circle the theme words trust, confident, solutions, enthusiasm, positive. Also print each of the words on separate small pieces of paper.

Explain to the children that you are going to suggest five convictions that are excellent ones for Christians to have. Many of the children may already hold these convictions. Challenge those who don’t have these convictions to think about how important they are this week.

MY CONVICTION GOALS—THINGS I BELIEVE IN STRONGLY:

1. I will Obey Christ
2. I will Help Others
3. I will Speak Truth
4. I will Work Hard

Have children repeat the list with you.

Ask children to sit close for a fun activity. Read aloud the first conviction goal. Repeat the theme word and place the word you’ve printed on paper between any child’s ‘scissor’ fingers (the pointer and middle finger). Say, Pass the phrase, Obey Christ, to the child sitting next to you as quickly as you can. Try not to let the phrase drop. When you receive the phrase, touch your heart with it and say the sentence, “Even if no one stands with me, I will obey Christ who loves me and gave Himself for me” before passing it on. Allow “Obey Christ” to enter your heart as it travels around the circle! Do this activity for each of the five statement goals. If your class is very large, just pick a small group of children to pass each word. Make sure every child has a turn.

Jesus, the Son of God, welcomes our unshakeable faith and trust. He welcomes our conviction that He is the only true God. We will talk more about conviction—holding a value or belief so firmly that it influences our attitudes or actions.

Conviction is when a student lives One-Way even when no one is looking. Conviction is also when a student lives One-Way even if no one else in his or her home is willing.

Close class in prayer or by singing a song everyone knows.

“You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32
LIFE SKILLS: PAINFUL EXPERIENCES 1

Unit 2 • Lesson 9
Focus on Life Skills

Theme: I can grow through painful experiences.

Today children learn that they can ask God to help them deal with their pain when someone they love is hurting or has died.

Today children decide to grow through painful experiences.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Exercise books
- Two glasses of water, one filled with clear water and the other one with dirty water
- Bible

A Note to You, the Leader:

It comes as no surprise to most children that life includes pain. Many of them have had more than their share of pain and dying. They may not realize that no one can escape pain. Although it appears in different ways and in different amounts, it comes to everyone. The question of this universal suffering severely affects children without the support systems God meant for them to have. This lesson emphasizes that an almighty, powerful God rules the world and He lovingly plans for their best. He does not usually alter the natural laws He set in order to keep someone from being hurt or dying. If a person steps in front of a speeding bus, God usually doesn’t stop the bus in time to save him or her. What God does do is go through the pain and suffering with the child. God is there to help children live through the pain and hurt.

“You will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.” John 8:32
This term has four lessons on this topic. You will have the opportunity to talk about these difficult issues. You'll begin with the universality of suffering. You will discuss the truth that God is able to help us grow through painful experiences. By understanding the steps of grief, you will be better equipped to support children who grieve. Talking about suicide in a loving, hopeful atmosphere will offer troubled children an opportunity to ask for help. The goal is this—that your children will replace fear and helplessness with understanding and the glorious hope Christians have in God and His provision for them.

**LESSON TIME**

1. **FOCUS ON TODAY’S LIFE SKILL** (CLASS SESSION #1)

   **Objective:** Children will learn that suffering is universal, and God is able to help everyone through their painful experiences.

   Ask children to raise their hands if these sentences are true for them:

   - I have been sick.
   - I have felt pain either from being hurt, or because someone I care about is hurting.
   - I have lost a good friend.
   - I have had someone I love get sick.
   - I have had someone I love be in pain.
   - Someone I love has died.

   Explain that you will be talking about these painful issues several times in the near future. The topics will be difficult. Children are going to look at pain in the lives of people they have loved, even the pain of death coming to someone they love.

   Say something like this:

   Why are we going to look at such a sad part of our lives? Because some children are unable to let go of terrible pain! They may know that Jesus wants to help them, but they aren’t able to let Him. Instead of healing, the pain only gets worse. If we don’t deal with the pain of sickness and death, we can never be totally healthy children, or grow to be totally healthy adults.

   Every human person experiences pain and death. But we don’t often talk about these things. The next four weeks, we are going to do something very difficult—we are going to talk about our pain and the deaths of those we love.
FOCUS ON LIFE SKILL

WEEK 9

Ask:

- If you could design a perfect world, what would it be like? What things would you put into your perfect world?
- What things would you leave out of your perfect world?

When God created the world, He made it perfect. He liked what He created. It was good. Remember how perfect the world was when God created Adam and Eve? We left the story when everyone was happy. We didn’t talk about the rest of the story. So here is the next part of the story, and it is sad.

Adam and Eve disobeyed the one rule God had given them. God punished them by turning them out of their beautiful garden. When they disobeyed, they sinned. God could not be friends with them any longer in the way He had been friends with them. After they sinned, they lost their home. They lost their time to talk with God face to face. For the first time, they had to work hard to survive. And, sadly, their physical bodies would not last forever. When they sinned, sickness and death also entered the world. Adam and Eve would eventually die.

Each of us sins too. We disappoint God. We just can’t help it. God still loved Adam and Eve after they sinned, and He still loves us.

He provided a happy ending for them and us. God promised to give everyone a way to become good friends with Him again. He promised them and us that He would send a Savior. That Savior is Jesus, God’s Son. When we love Jesus, He promises that He will be with us forever—in this world and in heaven, after we die.

Several class times in the near future, we are going to talk about pain and death, and how God helps us as we go through pain and even the deaths of those we love.

Let children write in exercise books. Ask the children to share some of the pains they have had. Children might write “My mother died.” “My father left.” “I have a leg that doesn’t work right.” “My auntie got sick.” Collect the exercise books at the end of class. Read and pray for these children. You may choose to have specific ministry sessions with certain children when you read what they have experienced. Explain that you will read every one of the slips and pray for each person every day for the next month, even though you don’t know the name of the person who wrote the slip.

Note to You, the Teacher:

Make your class a safe place for kids to share the personal hurts and fears they have. Listen to their problems with an open mind and compassionate heart. Don’t act shocked by anything children
confess or discuss. Be sensitive to the way children react to each other. Be careful to stress the
personal nature of these lessons. You may find it necessary to talk to a child privately. You may
be the only one a child feels comfortable enough to tell these things to. Two of the most helpful
comments you can make when a child shares privately are, “Thank you for sharing your pain with
me, and I will pray for you,” and “I hurt with you and so does Jesus.”

• If you could ask God to answer one question about pain or death, what would it be?
Be prepared to share a question you have, in case no children answers. Encourage children
to share their fears and doubts about suffering. God wants us to trust Him with our honest
questions. He doesn’t even care if we get mad at Him. He loves us anyway.

While no one has all the answers to all our questions, we can know for sure that God is still
in charge. God wants what is best for each of us. He doesn’t cause our pain or the deaths
of people we love, but He does want to use what happens in our lives to make us more
sensitive to Him and to the pain of other people.

Tell or read this story to illustrate how God uses the bad things that happen to us. He doesn’t cause
them, but He uses them for good.

A mother had a healthy baby boy. The doctor told her she would never be able to have
any more children. She wasn’t sad because she had a healthy baby. But 24 days after he
was born, the baby caught intestinal diarrhea and died. She cried and cried and felt like
her heart would break. She knew that her baby’s death was caused by germs. God didn’t
cause the baby’s death. For the rest of her life she felt sad that her baby had died. She
never stopped missing him. But one day she asked God how He could use her baby’s death
to bring glory to Him. He answered by having her meet dozens of other women who had
also lost their babies. She would talk to them about God’s love and how He wanted to help
them heal from their pain. She prayed with each woman. Years later, she said, “I know God
was with me when I lost my precious baby, and I also know He used me to help many other
women because I understood their pain. God turned something awful into something He
could use.”

2. SHARING LIFE SKILL TRUTH (CLASS SESSION #2)

Objective: Children can demonstrate that they love Jesus by the way they
depend on Him when something goes horribly wrong.

The Bible tells a lot of stories about Paul, one of the first people God called to be a
missionary. You would think he must have had a great life because he was called by God
for such a difficult job. But God doesn’t build a safety wall around people who love Him.
People who love Him live in the same world as everyone else. Paul ended up in prison. He
was beaten and suffered on shipwrecks. He almost drowned. He was robbed, betrayed, hungry and thirsty, and on top of all that, he had what the Bible calls “a thorn in the flesh.” Many Bible scholars think this was a physical disability. God didn’t keep all these things from happening to him. Instead God was with him in every situation. God used the difficult things Paul went through to make Paul a better missionary. Pain and suffering come to the lives of everyone who lives on this planet. Christians are not spared from suffering. Pain is not imaginary. It’s real and it hurts.

Even though God allows pain to come to us, we can also trust Him to bring good out of it. Most pain in our lives happens just because we are human beings. Often pain is the way that we gain the greatest knowledge of and fellowship with Jesus. When people think back on the hard times in their lives, they realize those were the times they were closest to God. Times of suffering help us reconsider what is important in life. Pain also makes us concentrate on the things in our lives that keep us from loving and serving God wholeheartedly.

**DEMONSTRATION**

Bring out two glasses of water. These glasses should be so full that they will spill over when you bump them. Gather the children around you so they can easily see. Explain that the glass with the clear water represents the life of someone who loves Jesus. The glass with the dirty water illustrates a life of someone who doesn’t love Him.

Bump both glasses so water spills out. Explain that pain and death hit everyone.

When pain and death strikes people, whatever is in them spills out. If they are filled with fear and helplessness, bitterness spills out. It can damage them for their rest of their lives.

But if they love Jesus, Jesus will help them through the pain, and perhaps even use the pain and death to point others toward Him. Hope and a deeper love for Jesus spill out. Trust that Jesus is with us spills out, no matter what we go through.

**3. LIVING THE LIFE SKILL**

**Objective:** Children plant God’s truth in their minds, “I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

Doctors and counselors tell us that people get bitter if they focus only on why they suffer or who is responsible for their pain. People who know that God is with them, helping them as they suffer, get through their pain and are healthier in the end. This helps them lead more successful lives.
Our attitudes make a difference. Listen to what God says to us.

Hold up the Bible verse printed at the end of this lesson.

*Call upon me in the day of trouble;*  
*I will deliver you, and you will honor me.*  
Psalm 50:15

Point out the verse says, "I will deliver you." This doesn’t mean that God will keep bad things from ever happening, but He will deliver children and adults from the deep pain and anger that can keep them from living successful lives.

Ask children to repeat the verse with you three times.

1. The first time, they are to think of their own troubles and ask themselves if they have called on the Lord to help them.
2. The second time, they are to think of other people who are going through difficult times and ask how they can help those people call on the Lord for help.
3. The third time, they should say it as a prayer, thanking God that He will be there when they are in trouble.

Close in prayer. Before they leave, tell children you will talk with them privately if they would like.
Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me. 

Psalm 50:15
## Term 2

### WHAT YOU WILL TEACH THIS TERM

**Term 2** May 13 – August 2, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>May 13-17</td>
<td><em>Relationship: Our Amazing Creator</em></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>May 20-24</td>
<td><em>Relationship: God Created Me</em></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>May 27-31</td>
<td><em>Relationship: Actions Have Consequences</em></td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>June 3-7*</td>
<td><em>Relationship: God Knows</em></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>June 10-14*</td>
<td><em>Character: Conviction 1</em></td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>June 17-21*</td>
<td><em>Character: Conviction 2</em></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>June 24-28*</td>
<td><em>Character: Conviction 3</em></td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>July 1-5</td>
<td><em>Character: Conviction 4</em></td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>July 8-12*</td>
<td><em>Life Skills: Painful Experiences 1</em></td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>July 15-19*</td>
<td><em>Life Skills: Painful Experiences 2</em></td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>July 22-26*</td>
<td><em>Life Skills: Painful Experiences 3</em></td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>July 29-Aug 2</td>
<td><em>Life Skills: Life After Death</em></td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Aug. 5-9</td>
<td><em>No Class—Final Week of School</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Potential Camp LIFE week for your students

**Camp LIFE 2013**—Please note that your students will be participating in Camp LIFE during June or July. You will not teach your Bible class during Camp LIFE week. Teach the next Disciple One lesson the week you resume classes after Camp LIFE.

---

This Orphan Children Discipleship Program was created jointly by Family Legacy Missions International and David C Cook. They are licensed and may be used freely by Zambia in Family Legacy Missions Ministries. All uses by anyone else require written permission from David C Cook. E-mail Global@DavidCCook.org.

©2013 David C Cook. All rights reserved worldwide.