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School Year 2024-25

# FAITH HOPE LOVE

**Weekly Object Lessons  
for Schools**





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**Object Lessons for 2024-2025**

SAMPLE

PROTESTANT VERSION

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

### About the Object Lessons for Chapel Talks

In these 47 object lessons for chapel talks, based on the appointed Gospel readings for the Sundays of the 2024-2025 school year, students learn from God's Word **as they prepare to hear the Good News proclaimed on the coming Sunday**. Each lesson includes suggested Bible readings, hymns, a children's message and a brief prayer based on the coming Sunday's Bible readings. These object lessons may be used for school chapels, for homeroom devotions or for Sunday children's sermons.

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for August 11, 2024

### Theme Verse

[Jesus said,] “It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.” John 6:45

### Bible Readings

1 Kings 19:1-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:17–5:2; John 6:35-51

### Songs

I Am the Bread of Life; Taste and See; God Is So Good

### Needed

A picture of a loaf of bread

### Message

☐ Hello, boys and girls. (*Show the picture of the loaf of bread.*) What is this a picture of? (*Allow the children to answer.*) That’s right! It is a loaf of bread. What do we use bread for? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! We use bread to make sandwiches for lunches or toast for breakfast. We use it to make fancier things like French toast and cinnamon toast as well sometimes, don’t we? Well, why do we eat bread? (*Allow the children to answer.*) That’s right! We eat it to satisfy our hunger and to nourish our bodies with the vitamins and minerals in the wheat and grain. So why does Jesus call himself the Bread of life, do you think? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! He calls himself the Bread of Life because he nourishes our souls and fills our spirits with

good things like grace and hope that we might stay strong and grow in our faith.

There are many ways in which Jesus nourishes us spiritually. He gives us his Word, the Bible, that sustains our faith with stories about his ministry among us and accounts of his many miracles and healings. We become closer to Christ by knowing more about him in the pages of Scripture.

Jesus nourishes us with his forgiveness, too. He went to the cross to rid us of our many sins caused by the devil, the world and our own sinful flesh. The bread of his body in Holy Communion takes away all our wrongdoing and makes us clean again to live a new life for him.

The presence of Christ nourishes our souls so that we no longer live in fear and dread of what is to come, but we live instead in confidence and joy that we will one day eat together with all the saints in the banquet halls of heaven, where we will dine on the richest of foods and be freed from any pain and sorrow or grief.

Each time you eat some bread this week, think of Jesus and all the blessings he grants to us. Let us pray:

#### **Prayer**

- ① Dear Jesus, thank you for nourishing our bodies and our souls with your goodness. Amen.

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for August 18, 2024

### Theme Verse

[Jesus said to the crowds:] “Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” John 6:56

### Bible Readings

Proverbs 9:1-10 or Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:12-22; Ephesians 5:6-21; John 6:51-69

### Songs

Abide With Me; Christ the Life of All the Living; Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

### Needed

A sign that reads, “ABIDE”

### Message

🗨 Hello, boys and girls. What is the word that is printed on this paper? (*Hold up sign that reads, “ABIDE,” and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! It says, “ABIDE.” What does the word “ABIDE” mean? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That’s right. It means to be with us. Jesus abides with us or is with us in many ways.

Jesus tells us in the Gospel reading that he abides with us in Holy Communion. You may not be old enough to take Holy Communion right now, but when the time comes when you can take Communion, you will receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in, with and under the bread and wine. Jesus will be with you in this sacrament and will grant you his forgiveness in this sacred meal.

Jesus also tells us in the Bible that “where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Matthew 18:20). That means that every time we get together with other people to worship or read the Bible or pray, Jesus abides with us. He is with us right now as we take part in this activity.

St. Paul says in the Bible, too, that “Christ is in you” (Romans 8:10). That means he abides in you, and he abides in the people around you. Because Jesus died on the cross and rose again on Easter, we “no longer live for ourselves, but for him” (2 Corinthians 5:15). Because Jesus dwells in us, he helps us and guides us and protects us. We can trust in him to take care of us.

At Christmas time, we sing the song, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” Emmanuel is a fancy word that means “God with us.” I am going to sing (or speak) the first verse of this song. It goes: “O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.”

This song reminds us that we are slaves to sin and cannot free ourselves except through Jesus, our Emmanuel. So we rejoice, as the song says, We rejoice again because Jesus comes to dwell with us each and every day. Enjoy having Jesus with you all the time. Let us pray:

### **Prayer**

- 📖 Thank you, Jesus, for abiding with us in our lives and helping us to follow your will. Amen.



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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for August 25, 2024

### Theme Verse

And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” Mark 7:5

### Bible Readings

Isaiah 29:11-19; Psalm 14; Ephesians 5:22-33; Mark 7:1-13

### Songs

Give Us Clean Hands; Take My Life and Let It Be; Lord, Be Glorified

### Needed

A picture of dirty hands

### Message

☐ Hello, boys and girls. What is this a picture of? (*Hold up the picture of dirty hands, and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! These are dirty hands! Does your mom or dad tell you to wash your hands before you eat dinner sometimes? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That is a good thing for us all to do, right, to get rid of dirt and germs? That is what people were saying that Jesus should tell his disciples to do, since they were not washing their hands when they ate.

But Jesus answered in a way that we might not expect. He did not tell his disciples to go and scrub their hands. Instead, he told the people who were complaining that

there are things they should worry more about than dirty hearts. They were acting like they were really clean on the outside, but inside, they were filled with sin—things like unkind thoughts, evil intentions and selfish feelings. Sin is a much bigger problem than germs. Sin leads to death and hell and no amount of soap can wash our sins away.

Only the blood of Jesus shed on the cross can clean our hearts of sin and make it possible for us to live eternally with him in heaven. So that is why it is good for us to pray before we eat: to remember that Jesus cleanses us from sin and makes our hearts clean for entry into heaven.

It's still good for us to wash our hands before we eat, of course. But it is even more important for us to be washed clean of sin by Jesus, who died and rose for us. Let us pray:

#### **Prayer**

- ① Dear Jesus, we believe in you, and we thank you for washing our sins away every time we confess our wrongdoings to you. Let us remain clean of sin for you, even as we keep our hands clean of germs. Amen.

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for September 1, 2024

### Theme Verse

And [Jesus] called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." Mark 7:14-15

### Bible Readings

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 119:129-136; Ephesians 6:10-20; Mark 7:14-23

### Songs

Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing; Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens;  
10,000 Reasons

### Needed

A picture of speech bubbles

### Message

🗨 Hello, boys and girls. I have a kind of unusual picture for you today. (*Hold up the picture of speech bubbles.*) Can any of you tell me what these images are called? (*Allow the children to respond.*) These are what are called speech bubbles. You might have seen them in cartoons or comic books. What do we put into speech bubbles like these? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That's right! We put in words that we say, words that come out of our mouths. Some words are nice words like, "I love you" or "You are great!" Other words that can come out of our mouths are not so nice, like mean names or crude language.

Jesus said in the Gospel that we should watch what comes out of our mouths. What comes out of our mouths should only be loving and kind and uplifting, not mean or angry or hateful. There are two commandments that speak to the words we say. One is the Second Commandment that says, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in vain." That means we should never swear using the words "God" or "Jesus" or any other words referring to them.

The other commandment that talks about words we should and should not use is the Eighth Commandment that says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." That means that we should never say anything unkind or untrue about somebody. We should always speak well of people and show them respect in how we talk about them.

One survey says that the average person uses at least 6,000 words a day (some people use a lot more; you know who you are). So we need to do all we can with God's help to use those 6,000 or more to spread the kindness and love of Christ to as many people as we can and stop ourselves from speaking if a bad or mean word wants to come out. Let us pray:

#### **Prayer**

- ① Dear Jesus, keep our mouths from speaking words that are not pleasing to you or others, but open our mouths to say words of praise to you and encouragement to one another. Amen.

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for September 8, 2024

### Theme Verse

[Jesus] put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” Mark 7:33b-34

### Bible Readings

Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10, 14-18; Mark 7:(24-30) 31-37

### Songs

Listen, God Is Calling; Open the Eyes of My Heart; Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

### Needed

A picture of an ear

### Message

☐ Hello, boys and girls. What is this a picture of? (*Hold up the picture of the ear, and allow the children to respond.*) That's right! It is a picture of an ear. I want you to try something with me. Put your hands over your ears right now. (*Put your hands over your ears, and allow the children to do so as well.*) Now see if you can hear me say something. (*Whisper quietly "Jesus love you."*) Okay. You can uncover your ears now. Did you hear me say something to you? (*Allow children to respond.*) Some of you couldn't because it was hard to hear me with your ears covered. I whispered, "Jesus loves you." You all heard me say, "Jesus love you" now, I hope. Now, imagine if it was like your ears were completely covered up all the time, and you could not hear

anything. That would be very hard, wouldn't it? We call people who cannot hear deaf or hearing impaired.

In the Gospel reading for this week, people brought a man who was deaf to Jesus. Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears and said, "Be opened!" (Mark 7:34). And the man's ears were opened right away. What do you think it must have been like for that man to go from not hearing anything to hearing everything around him? (*Allow the children to respond.*) It must have been pretty shocking to hear so many things all at once. The people were so excited that they wanted everyone they met to know what Jesus had done for the man who could not hear.

What does this story tell us? It tells us that we need to look out for people who need Jesus' help and bring them to him in prayer. We can also bring them to doctors who can help them. We need to trust in Jesus to heal people in need, according to his will.

It is also our call to tell people when Jesus has brought healing to someone so that they, too, may trust and believe in Jesus. Let us pray:

#### **Prayer**

- 📖 Bring healing to those in need, dear Jesus. Help us to serve those who need our help, and open our mouths to proclaim your goodness to those you have healed. Open the ears of even those who can hear so that they listen to and follow you. Amen.

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## Object Lessons for 2024-2025

Preparing for September 15, 2024

### Theme Verse

And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. Mark 9:15

### Bible Readings

Isaiah 50:4-10; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 9:14-29

### Songs

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me; All Things Are Possible;  
All Who Believe and Are Baptized

### Needed

A sign that reads, "BELIEVE"

### Message

📖 Hello, boys and girls. What does this sign say? (*Hold up the sign that reads, "BELIEVE," and allow the children to respond.*) That's right! It says, "BELIEVE" In the Gospel reading for this week, there was a lot of unbelief going around about Jesus. But by the end of the story, there were many who came to believe in Jesus. It all started with a boy who was very sick. His father apparently wanted to bring him to Jesus, but the religious leaders at the time stopped the father and the boy, it seems, and did not believe that going to Jesus was a good idea.

Jesus asked what was going on, and they eventually brought the boy to him. Jesus said that all things were possible to those who believe. The father was amazed, and he said to Jesus, "I believe. Help my unbelief" (Mark 9:24). Jesus healed the boy right then and there. Any unbelief the father had must have gone away in the moment.

There are times when we, like the father in this story, hover between belief and unbelief. It is looking to Jesus and trusting in him and seeing what he can do for us that helps us to say, "I believe!" All unbelief goes away the moment we put everything on Jesus and let him do his work for us.

The next time you are sick, and you are worried, trust in Jesus. He will carry you along and help you to get better. The next time you have a big test and think, "I can't do this," put the test in Jesus' hands, and he will help you survive it. And the next time you have a big project you don't think you can ever get done, go to Jesus, and let him take you through it. Anything that seems impossible becomes possible when Jesus is involved. You can believe it.

### **Prayer**

- 📖 Help me, O Lord, to turn all my difficulties over to you, and help me to have faith in you that believes everything you say and do. Amen.