

Lesson 11: Jesus Blesses and Prays for the Children

Activities

Craft Project: Watercolor Blessing

Craft Project: *Christ and the Children* Notebook

Craft Project: "Jesus Loves Children" Heart Pocket

Prayer Activity: Give a Blessing

Memory Work: Review the Books of the New Testament

Coloring Page: Jesus Blesses the Little Children

Craft Project

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Watercolor Blessing

There are many blessings in the Bible, but the blessing in Numbers 6:24–26 is one of the most famous.

Materials

- Blessing from Numbers 6:24–26 (Student Page 113)
- Watercolors and paintbrush set (like Crayola), and a cup of water OR crayons

Directions

- 1 Tear out Student Page 113.
- 2 Color the border with crayons or paint it with watercolors. Using the watercolors, color the blessing.
- 3 Put it up in the student's room or classroom.

Craft Project

Christ and the Children Notebook

This painting is by the Danish artist Carl Bloch (1834–1890). He painted 23 paintings of the life and death of Christ for the King's Praying Chamber at the Frederiksborg Castle Chapel. Although he also painted portraits and historic scenes, his paintings of Jesus are largely recognized as his artistic legacy.

Materials

- *Christ and the Children* (Student Page 115)
- Scissors
- OPTIONAL: Brightly colored scraps of paper (stamps, gift wrap, old scraps of wrapping paper or construction paper, magazine clippings, or photographs)
- Glue stick
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- 8½" x 11" notebook, any color

Directions

- 1 Tear out Student Page 115, which contains the painting *Christ and the Children* by Carl Bloch. Show the student how Jesus refuses to send the children away, despite the disciple on the right who seems to be objecting. To see this painting in vivid color, visit the Hope Gallery website at www.hopegallery.com/php/artwork.php?artwork=688.
- 2 Have the student decorate our black-and-white version, on the Student Page, to look like the original. She can color the people's clothing with crayons, or she can collage the clothing using the brightly colored scraps of paper. It's all right to overlap papers, place them at an angle, or place a smaller item on top of a larger one.
- 3 When she is satisfied with the scene, use the glue stick, applied evenly, to glue the picture to the front of the notebook. This will make a cover that, every time she sees the notebook, will remind the child of Jesus' care for her.

Craft Project

"Jesus Loves Children" Heart Pocket

Materials

- 2 thin white paper plates
- Hole punch
- Yarn (about 2 ft.)
- Tape
- Scissors
- Markers
- Parenting magazines (they have many pictures of kids)
- OPTIONAL: Picture of the student, heart stickers

Directions

- 1 With the student's help, cut one of the paper plates into a rounded heart shape. Just cut the top of the plate to make two humps, and leave the bottom of the heart round.
- 2 Cut the second plate in half down the center to make a semicircle.
- 3 Place the two plates together facing each other. The semicircular plate should match against the bottom of the rounded heart plate to make the heart pocket.
- 4 While the student holds the plates together, use the hole punch to make holes 1 inch apart along the outside edge where the plates touch.
- 5 Wrap some tape along the end of the piece of yarn to make a "needle." Thread the yarn through the holes to stick the heart pocket together. Tie or tape the ends in place.
- 6 Let the student decorate the heart with markers (and stickers if you have them). Write "Jesus loves the little children" on the heart.
- 7 Cut pictures of children from the magazines (and the student's photo if you have it) and stuff them into the heart.

Prayer Activity

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Give a Blessing

Formal blessings are sometimes performed in church services by priests, pastors and deacons. But informal blessings can be done by anyone. Help your child to come up with a blessing for those in the family—for her siblings and other family members.

Suggested blessings:

- "God loves you very much." (John 3:16)
- "May God give you peace." (Numbers 6:26)
- "God will give you everything you need." (Matthew 6:32–33; I Timothy 6:17)

The child can lay a hand on the person's shoulder or back and say a simple blessing. Additionally, have your child ask you for a blessing, and you place your hand on her shoulder and offer a blessing.

Memory Work

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Review the Books of the New Testament

Directions

Say to the student: "Let's review all the books of the New Testament that you've learned so far. Remember, the first five books you learned were Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts. Let's chant those together three times."

(Together, three times): Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts.

Say, "Then we learned about the letters that one of Jesus' messengers, named Paul, sent to

different groups of Christians. There were nine of them: Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians. Let's chant those together three times."

(Together, three times): Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians.

Say, "Now let's say all of those together."

(Together): Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians.

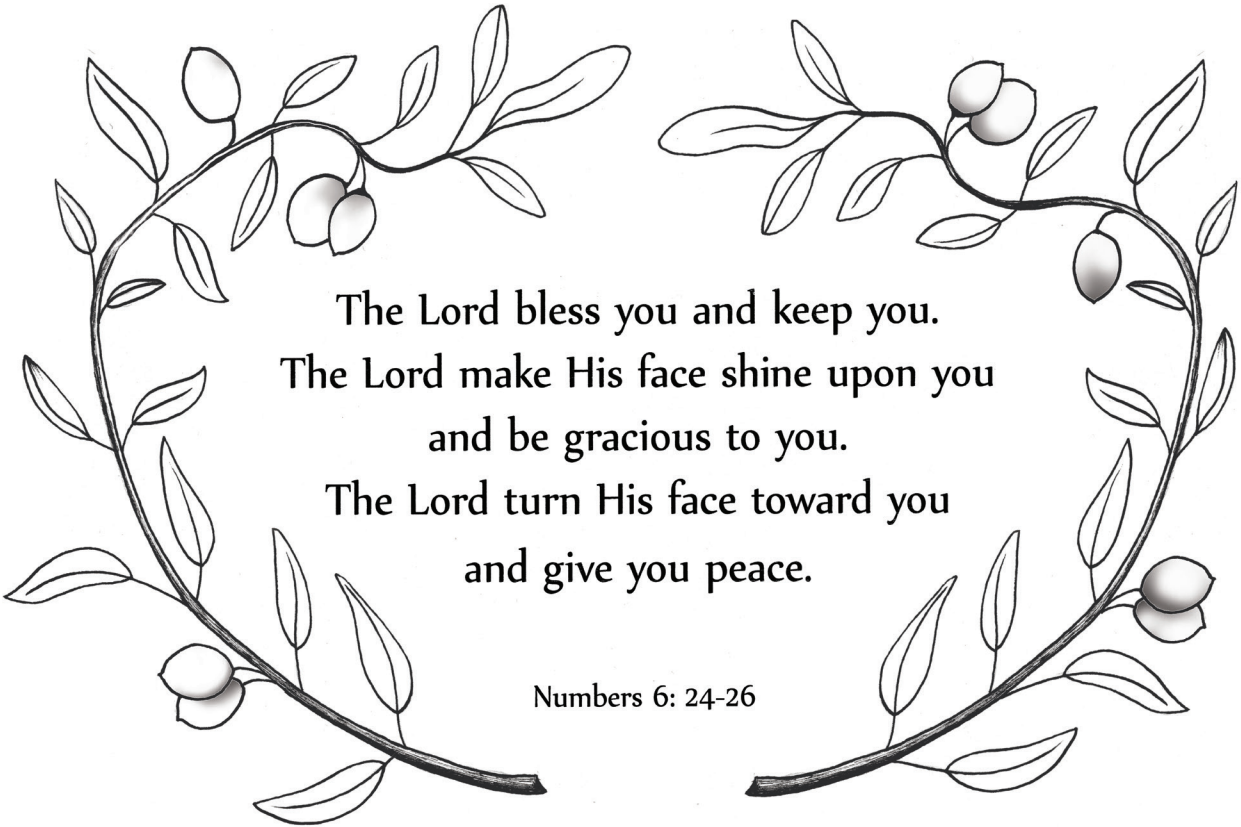
Coloring Page



Jesus Blesses the Little Children

Jesus cared about little children. He wasn't too busy to pray for them.

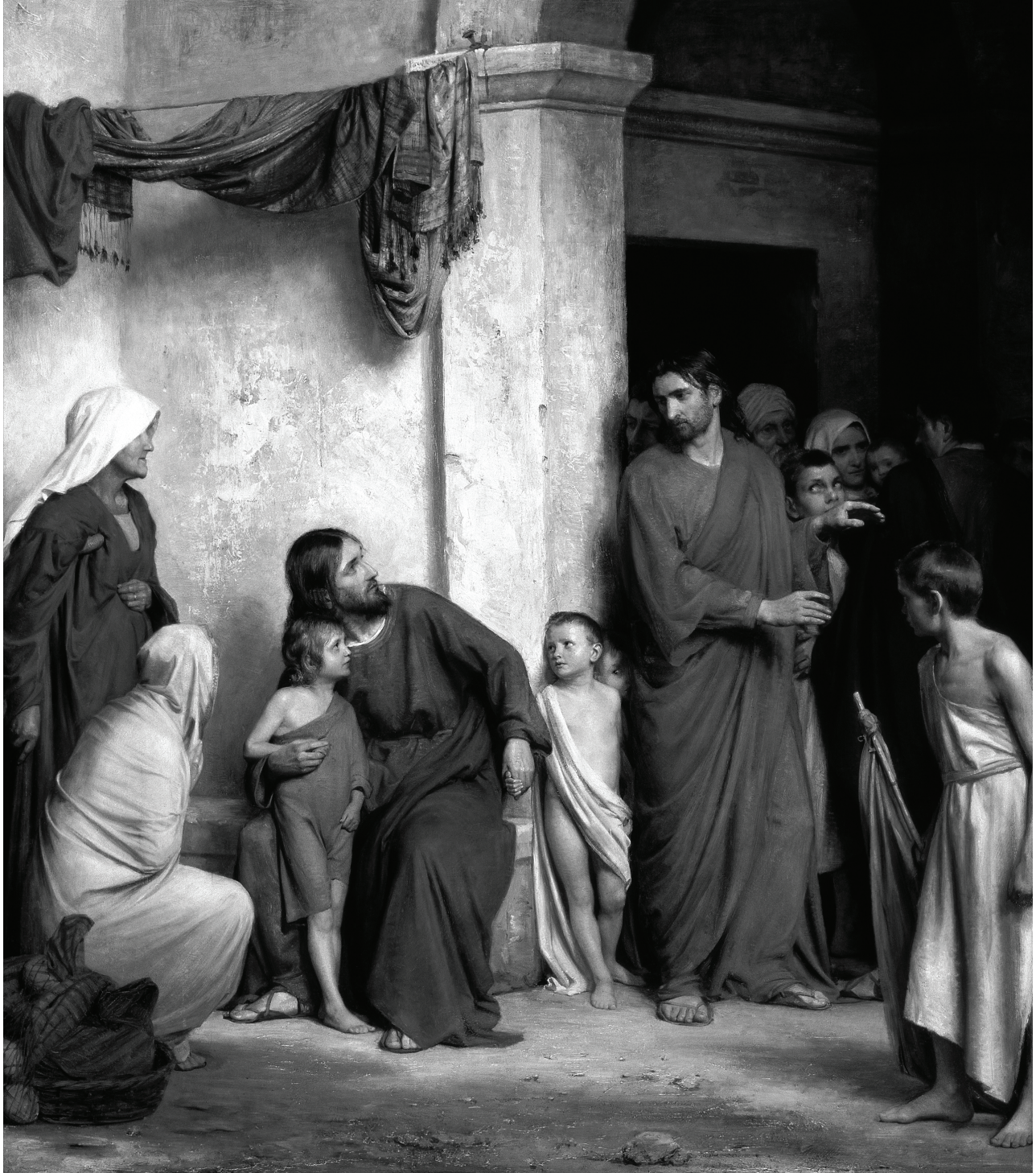
A Blessing



The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you
and give you peace.

Numbers 6: 24-26

Christ and the Children by Carl Bloch



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Matthew 19:13-15