



Cain and Abel

Lesson Aim: To see God's justice and mercy and to challenge children to be their brother's keeper.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Provides

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16

What He has done: God showed mercy and justice to Cain.

Key Verse: Genesis 4:6

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Romans 13:9-10

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

Unit 6: The God Who Provides			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
27	Adam and Eve Sin, Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6, 8-9, 12-13, 19, 21-24	God banished Adam and Eve from the garden after they disobeyed Him.	To explore trusting God's boundaries and His solution for the Fall of Man.
28	Cain and Abel, Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16	God showed mercy and justice to Cain.	To see God's justice and mercy and to challenge children to be their brother's keeper.
29	God Saves Noah, Genesis 6:5-9, 14, 19, 22; 7:16-18, 23-24; 8:1, 6-12; 9:13-15	God provided a way to save Noah and the animals.	To see God's salvation of the faithful and destruction of evil. (Salvation Message)
30	The Tower of Babel, Genesis 11:1-9	God scattered the builders of the tower of Babel.	To challenge children to trust God enough to follow His plan and acknowledge Him.
31	The Call of Abram, Genesis 12:1-8	God called Abram and promised to bless him.	To challenge children to trust Jesus and fully live for Him.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read John 4:7-24. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for relationships with family, friends, and You. Forgive and remove our jealousies. Help the children love You and others well. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Sibling Scramble	Sturdy colored paper
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "Search Me, O God" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Trust and Obey" "Standing on the Promises" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 51:10	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 28 Bible Barn script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Romans 13:9-10	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: The Best Snack	Cupcakes (or a snack your children love to eat), plain crackers (or a similar snack which the children will be less likely to choose)
	Up to 10	Game: Brother's Keeper Clothes Relay	One set of clothing such as a loose shirt, pants, hat, and big shoes for each team
	Up to 10	Game: Heart Offerings	Two buckets, scrap paper, markers
	Up to 15	Craft: "Give My Best" Gift Boxes	Note cards, small box, gift wrap, ribbon or a bow, pencil, crayons or markers, tape or glue, scissors
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	None
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Yahweh—Trust in the Lord	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord," CD player, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is the best gift you have ever given someone?

GAME: SIBLING SCRAMBLE

Purpose: To get to know each other better as the children prepare to learn about caring for each other.

Supplies: Sturdy colored paper

Prepare: Cut each sheet of paper in half using a "puzzle cut" (jagged or wavy line) so the cut on each sheet is different. Cut one sheet into three parts in case you have an odd number of players.

Today's Bible story is about two brothers, Cain and Abel. Cain was jealous of Abel and did not care for him. God wants brothers and sisters to care for and love one another. In God's family, we are all brothers and sisters because God is our heavenly Father. Let's play a game in which we get to know our brothers and sisters better.

Directions:

1. Have the children close their eyes.
2. Shuffle the paper puzzle pieces and scatter them on the floor.
3. On your signal, the children open their eyes, pick up a puzzle piece, and find the person with the matching piece.
4. Once everyone has matched their pieces, allow one minute for partners to ask each other for the following description: **Describe someone who is as close to you as a brother or sister.**
5. Collect and shuffle the puzzle pieces and play again.
6. Play as often as you like.



The God who provides **THE WORSHIP**

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

Welcome! Today, we thank God our Provider who gives us what we need including fair punishment, mercy, and forgiveness when we do wrong in His eyes. Just as God knew Cain's heart, He knows ours. God is the only one who can truly give us a clean heart and lead us in doing what is right.



Sing Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord."



Read Psalm 51:10.



Sing: "Search Me, O God" while offering is collected. You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's mercy, forgiveness, and our love for God and others.



Perform Bible Barn script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 6, Lesson 28.



Cain was jealous of Abel

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we discovered how sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. After they were banished from the garden, Adam and Eve started a family. They had two sons named Cain and Abel. If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Cain and Abel. For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Today, we will learn about these two brothers.**



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Genesis 4:6.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

Listen carefully as we read how Cain was jealous of Abel because Abel gave an offering that was more pleasing to God. Read Genesis 4:2b-9, 12-16.



Justice and mercy for Cain

THE WAY

In this story, God showed His justice and mercy in four ways: instruction, warning, punishment, and protection. What instruction did God give Cain about giving offerings? (He told Cain if He did what was right, God would bless him, too.)

What warning did God give Cain? Ask a volunteer to read Genesis 4:7. **What did God mean when He said “sin is crouching at your door”?** (Sin is always a nearby possibility. Being angry and jealous put Cain in a state of mind where he was more likely to sin against Abel.) **Instead of focusing on giving a better offering or being happy for Abel, Cain focused on his anger and gave in to the temptation to hurt Abel. Focusing on the good God wants us to do strengthens us against giving into temptation. How might this story have ended differently if Cain had listened to God’s warning?** (Children respond.)

What was Cain’s punishment? (He would not be able to grow any more fruit and vegetables. He would wander around the earth away from his home.) **What did Cain fear would happen to him?** (Someone would try to find and kill him.) **What protection did God promise?** (He would put a mark on Cain so people would know God was protecting him.) **Cain committed a terrible sin and God gave him a fair punishment. How did God show mercy to Cain afterward?** (He protected him from danger.) **God always gives fair punishment to help us understand right and wrong. God promises to be with us. He loves us even though we sin.**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

What did Cain ask God? (“Am I my brother’s keeper?”) **To be our brother’s keeper means to care for our brothers, sisters, friends, family, and neighbors. Thousands of years after Cain killed Abel, Jesus commanded us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Let’s see how Paul explained this to the Romans.**



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Romans 13:9-10. **Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Romans 13:9-10.

Paul used another word for brother. What was it? (Neighbor.) **Everyone in the world is our neighbor. Paul listed some of the Ten Commandments and said together, they made one rule. What was the rule?** (Love your neighbor as yourself.) **Jesus had given that rule a few years earlier. He wanted us to know that to love others is the best way to be your brother’s keeper; you will always want what is best for your brother.**

This week, will you take the Brother’s Keeper Challenge to improve the way you treat your family members and friends? I challenge you to celebrate their blessings instead of being jealous. I challenge you to love others more than you love yourself. It will not be easy, so remember to ask God each day to help you be your brother’s keeper.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a Picture Puzzle Card (available at ResourceWell.org). Let's figure out what it says together. Guide children through reading: "You are Excellent!" The next time your brother, sister, or friend does something great, remember God does not want you to be jealous. Instead, love him or her well by giving them this card. Celebrate together!

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #28. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Cain and Abel giving their offerings to God. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: THE BEST SNACK

Purpose: To offer a choice between two snacks to help children understand the importance of giving God their best.

Snack Suggestion: Cupcakes (or a snack your children love to eat), plain crackers (or a similar snack which the children will be less likely to choose)

We have two choices for our snack today. Show the children both options. **You may choose either snack.**

Directions:

1. Let each child choose the snack he or she would like to eat.
2. Serve drinks.
3. Child prays to thank God for the snack.

I see many (all) of you chose the cupcakes. Why? (Children respond.) **I could have chosen to give you just the crackers and keep the cupcakes for myself, but I wanted to give you the best of what I had. In today's story, Cain and Abel had the chance to give the best of what they had to God.** As you eat, ask them to each tell you about the best gift they have ever received.

GAME: BROTHER'S KEEPER CLOTHES RELAY

Purpose: To raise awareness of being our brother's keeper.

Supplies: One set of clothing such as a loose shirt, pants, hat, and big shoes for each team

Cain and Abel were the first children ever. As brothers, they may have had to share things. If you have a brother or sister, you may share things with them, too. Maybe you share a bedroom, toys, or clothing. Let's have a Cain and Abel clothes relay race. We will each be our brother's keeper by helping each other in the relay.

Directions:

1. Divide the class into two teams.
2. Each team divides into two groups: Cain and Abel. The Cain and Abel groups stand in a line at opposite ends of the playing area.
3. Give each Cain group a set of clothing.
4. On your signal, the first child in the Cain group puts on the set of clothing (on top of his or her own clothing).
5. Cain runs to the first child in his or her team's Abel group, removes the clothing, and helps that child put on the clothing.
6. That child runs back to the second child in the Cain group, removes the clothing, and helps that child put on the clothing.
7. Continue the relay until all the children on a team have run the relay.
8. The first team to complete the relay wins.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: HEART OFFERINGS

Purpose: Remember to give our best offerings as Abel did.

Supplies: Two buckets, scrap paper, markers

God accepted Abel's offering because it was the best he had to give and it came from his heart. Let's remember to give our best offerings as Abel did while we play this game.

Directions:

1. Divide the children into two teams. Give each team a marker and an equal stack of paper.
2. Teams line up at one end of the play area.
3. Place a bucket for each team several feet away from the teams.
4. On your signal, the first person on each team draws a heart on a piece of paper, crumples it, and "gives their offering to God" by tossing the paper into his or her team's bucket. If the paper misses the bucket, the child retrieves it and tries again. If the paper misses the bucket again, the child may drop the paper into the bucket.
5. Team members take turns giving their offerings until their team's stack of paper is gone.
6. The first team to get all of its paper heart offerings into the bucket wins.

CRAFT: "GIVE MY BEST" GIFT BOXES

Purpose: For children to create a gift to remind them to give their best to God and others.

Supplies: Note cards, small box, gift wrap, ribbon or a bow, pencil, crayons or markers, tape or glue, scissors

Prepare: Cut the gift wrap into small squares.

On the three note cards I will give you, write different ways you can give your best to God and to others. Then, we will each create a special box to hold your gift idea cards. Each time you see the box and read your note cards, it will remind you to give your best. At home, you can add as many gift idea cards into your gift box as you wish.

Directions:

1. Give each child three note cards, a pencil, and a box.
2. On each card, children will write or draw a way they can give their best to God and others.
3. Children decorate the box by gluing on squares of gift wrap and attaching a bow or ribbon. They can also use crayons or markers to decorate the box.
4. After decorating, children place their note cards inside their boxes.
5. Give the children extra note cards to take home.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Proverbs 3:5-6 to each child or group.
2. Direct each child or group to quickly stand, say the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and then down to the thighs, and then sit down.
3. Repeat three times, saying the verses faster each time.

GAME: YAHWEH—TRUST IN THE LORD

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Supplies: Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song “Yahweh Everyday: Trust in the Lord,” CD player, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Display the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster. Create a hand jive or dance motions to go with the verse or plan to have the children help you create motions.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song while children sing along.
3. Add a hand jive or dance motions.
4. Sing again with the motions. Challenge the children to keep the motions going as the song goes faster and faster.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Creation: What did God create on the first day? (Light, day, night.) **What did He create on the second day?** (Sky, the air above the water.) **What did God fill the heavens and earth with on the third and fourth days?** (Trees, plants, sun, moon, stars.) **What did God create on the fifth and sixth days?** (Birds, sea creatures, animals, creeping things, people.) **What are some ways we can care for God's creation?** (Recycle, do not litter, water plants, care for animals, help people.)

Adam and Eve: What did Adam and Eve do that was the first sin in the world? (Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.)

Cain and Abel: Why was Cain upset with his brother? (He was jealous of Abel because God accepted his offering.) **What did Cain do?** (He killed his brother.) **What did Cain ask God?** ("Am I my brother's keeper?")

How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350.B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

Unit 10: John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)