

At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9 Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts – Revelation Unit 6, Lesson 30

# Letters to the Seven Churches

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus cares about our ongoing relationship with Him. (Salvation Message)

# **THE WELCOME**

MEET & GREET: If you could write a letter to anyone, who would it be?

**GAME:** Speedy Delivery

# **THE WORSHIP** THE SPIRIT WHO SHOWS US

Read Worship Scripture: Revelation 3:20

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Lead children in the ABC Prayer.

Perform the Mail Call script or read storybook.

# **THE WORD** LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God gives us the armor of God so we can be strong in Him.

Today, we will read letters from the last book in the Bible. Revelation tells us what will happen in heaven. Jesus told John what to write to seven churches in Smyrna, Sardis, Philadelphia, Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira, and Laodicea. Jesus gave them encouragements, warnings, and the promise of rewards in heaven. We will read from the letter to Laodicea. Point to Laodicea. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Revelation 3:14-16, 19-22. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Revelation 3:20. Pray. Read.

## THE WAY JESUS STANDS AT THE DOOR AND KNOCKS

What was Jesus' warning to the church in Laodicea? (He warned them to turn from being "lukewarm" in their deeds.) What do you think He meant? (We are not excited or interested in serving the Lord.) Jesus wants us to be strong in our actions and work hard for His kingdom instead of being lukewarm – believing, but not really caring.

Jesus loves us so much that instead of being angry with us for our sins, He warns us to change our ways. He promises a reward in heaven to those who overcome temptation and stay faithful to Him. In each of the letters, He promised rewards such as the crown of

life, the white stone with a new secret name, and the morning star. He mentions the right to rule over nations, to eat from the tree of life, to walk with God in white robes, or to sit with God on His throne. Which one of these rewards would you enjoy most?

Read scroll aloud. What did Jesus promise to do if we open the door when He knocks? (Come in.) He waits for us to invite Him into our hearts. That means choosing to believe in Jesus and to live His way. If you have never invited Jesus into your heart, you can pray a special prayer now. If you are not ready, know that Jesus is always standing and knocking at the door. When you are ready, you can invite Him into your heart. Pray the ABC prayer with any child who asks.

Anyone who prays a prayer like that then has the Holy Spirit in his or her heart forever. But, sometimes believers focus on other things and forget to put Jesus first. When that happens, remember He is still standing and knocking at the door of your heart. Even after we belong to Him, it is important to keep inviting Him to lead us in every choice we make, forgive us, and bring us closer to Him. Let's take 60 seconds of silence to do that now. If you don't want to pray, spend this time thinking about God's love for you. Pray silently.

#### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

One thousand years before, David knew the Lord would stand at the door to our hearts. Reveal Psalm 24:9-10. Find It First. Highlight. Read. Jesus is always with us, ready to come into our hearts and lives and bring us closer to Him. Even after we have decided to follow Him, He continues to knock at the door of our hearts to be closer with us every day.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

#### FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: New Testament Postcard about the seven letters, stamp or sticker of church
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Your favorite thing about today and something special about the letters from the New Testament you just learned
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

## **GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Loud Crunchers

**GAME:** Letters to the Seven Churches **CRAFT:** Care Package—Letters to Churches

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: New Testament Line, Next Book,

Light My Path, Pass the Word!

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW