

TARGET GRADE

High School/9-12th grade

DESCRIPTION

In this lesson, students will learn that children are gifts from God, and sometimes those gifts come in unexpected and messy ways. But with God there is forgiveness, and He has promised that all things work for good for the sake of those who love Him.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to explain how the Bible is, above all, the story of God's salvation for real sinners. Students will arrive at that conclusion after diving into planned and unplanned parenthood Bible stories. While these stories are about sexual sins (explained in pretty frank and explicit ways) they also deal with parental disobedience, murder, theft, false testimony, and covetousness.

AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED

Approximately 50-60 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ✓ Bibles and catechisms
- ✓ Laptop with or without projection to show students presentation slides
- ✓ Cell phones or tablets to play [Quizlet](#) (OPTIONAL)
- ✓ Parenthood Worksheet
- ✓ Closure Activity Worksheet
- ✓ Notebook to take notes (OPTIONAL)

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Begin with today's [Reflection](#) (3 min).
2. **Quizlet Live Preview Game:** Use this game to get students to start thinking about the topic with

facts about unplanned parenthood in today's world (10 min).

3. **Think, Pair and Share Discussion** (slide 6). Students should read each prompt. Tell them to think about the answer before talking. After a minute of thinking time, tell them they have a set amount of time to discuss their answer with their partner. After their discussion time is ended, call on some or all of the pairs to share their answers with the entire group. Don't forget to look at the provided presenter notes on the slide for info. (5 min)
4. **Parenthood Worksheet:** Hand out a copy of the Parenthood Worksheets to students. Group students in pairs and assign each pair a different number to start to begin working on the table of planned and unplanned Bible pregnancies. They should proceed in numerical order. Give pairs about 15 min to work before coming back together as a group and sharing answers (20 min).
5. Next, begin working on the remaining worksheet questions as a group; you may use the divide and conquer strategy or work as a group. Remind students to use the completed table as a reference aid in answering the questions. Use the answer key provided to assist you (20 min).
6. **Closure Activity ("Stoplight"):** Pass out the closure activity worksheet cutouts to each student. Show them the corresponding slide. Students should choose "stop, go, or slow" and then explain on the lines provided. Use the answers you collect to see how the lesson went. If students still have questions or concerns, answer those the next time you meet. If you need help, ask your Pastor! (3 min)
7. Close by praying together **Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer or the Lord's Prayer** (3 min).

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

Think, Pair and Share

Assign students a partner. Show or ask them a question. Tell them to think about the answer. After a minute or two of thinking time, tell them they have a set amount of time to discuss their answer with their partners. Walk around and listen in on their discussions, making comments or asking questions of groups if you wish. After their discussion time is ended, call on some or all of the pairs to share their answers with the entire group.

Quizlet and Quizlet Live

Quizlet is a digital flashcard app. Higher Things has already loaded new study decks (flashcards) for this lesson into Quizlet. You will need to create a free account and sign into it to play the game.

Students will need to use a mobile device with the free app downloaded to sign into the game. If they haven't downloaded the app yet, they'll need to do so before starting the game. If a student doesn't have a mobile device, he or she can share with a friend.

The teacher will need a computer with internet access projected to a screen so the class can see the quiz together. Once you've created your free account, go to the link provided in the lesson above. Click on "Play," select the "Teach" option, and choose the "Classic" format. Tell the students the unique PIN for your class to access the student side of the quiz.

Divide and Conquer

If you are running short on time for any activity, divide up the questions and assign them to individuals or pairs of students. Give them a set amount of time to find the answers. (There are free countdown timers on YouTube for any amount of time.) At the end of the time, have them share their answers with the class.

Closure

Closure activities assist your students by helping them to attach personal meaning and relevance to the lesson which in turn cements the lesson in their memory. It also can assist the teacher in checking for how effective their teaching was and whether or not there are misunderstandings that need to be cleared up.

CLOSING PRAYER OPTIONS

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and all evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day, and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PRE-CLASS MATERIALS**Bulletin Insert**

This week's Bible Study will focus on planned and unplanned parenthood Bible stories. They will hear the compelling story of a young teen mother who chose life. Students will learn that children are gifts from God, and sometimes those gifts come in unexpected and messy ways. But with God there is forgiveness, and He has promised that all things work for good for the sake of those who love Him. Join us at [TIME] on [Day, DATE] where we'll dive in and come up with some answers!

Parent Communication

Following are some paragraphs you may copy and paste into your church's newsletter or share at a parents' meeting with your youth group's parents to keep them in the loop about what their teens are learning at church.

Dear Parents,

We are continuing to discuss life and life issues today.

This week's Bible Study will focus on planned and unplanned parenthood Bible stories. Students will learn that children are gifts from God, and sometimes those gifts come in unexpected and messy ways. But with God there is forgiveness, and He has promised that all things work for good for the sake of those who love Him.

After Bible study, we encourage you to talk to your child about what they discussed. Look at the pre- and post-lesson questions and see what they can tell you. If you or your child still has questions or feels confused, you are encouraged to speak to the pastor or Bible study leader to further your understanding and learning.

GROUP TEXTS

If you have group chats/texts with your youth groups, here are some examples of texts you may send as conversation starters and teasers to invite and follow up after class about this topic. You can also use them for introductory and filler conversation during your group discussion.

Pre-Lesson

- When should people have children? How does God view children?
- Do you know anyone who had an unplanned pregnancy? What happened?

Post-Lesson

- How does God view planned and unplanned parenthood?
- How can you help someone who is struggling with an unplanned pregnancy?