



Date: _____
Series: God Teaches Me His Ways
Summer Year 2, Lesson 11

The Vine and the Branches

Take Home Point: *GOD TEACHES ME...*I live my life for Jesus.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: John 15: 1-8

We will help children know:

- The meaning of the parable of the vine and the branches: when we are connected to God, we are able to live for him and produce good fruits (good works).
- Ways in which we can stay connected to God.
- Why we want to live for Jesus.

We will help the children feel:




- Desire to stay connected to Jesus.
- Eager to live for God and produce good fruits.
- Motivated by the knowledge that Jesus lived and died for them.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Thumbprint Grapevine.
- Snack: Fruit.
- Game:
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: GOD TEACHES ME...*I live my life for Jesus.*
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 11- 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 5	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubba puppet holding a wilted dandelion • Bible <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three-foot cross - two-sticks or boards wired together • large pot of soil to hold cross • real or artificial vine (place one end in soil in pot, wrap upward around main trunk of cross and out around both limbs) • two clusters of real or artificial grapes (wire or hot glue grapes on each arm of the cross) • small, dead branch, if possible with shriveled leaves attached
Small Group Application 	8 9 10 11	Activity 1: Craft Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • piece of white paper for each child • purple ink pad or purple markers • leaf stamp and green ink pad or green markers • Label printed with: Jesus is the vine, I am the branches. <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins, cups, water or juice • fruit of your choice <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-8 foot piece of yarn or rope
Large Group Wrap-up 	12 12	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • Albie puppet • Example of craft • Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Bubba puppet holding a wilted dandelion; Presenter holds a Bible

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: Hi everyone.

Presenter: Hi, Bubba. Why are you carrying that dead flower?

Bubba: It's for my grandma.

Presenter: Does your grandma like dead flowers?

Bubba: No. I picked it yesterday. It was nice then.

Presenter: Dandelions need water and sun to stay alive.

Bubba: I put it in a glass of water and set it in a sunny window but it still died.

Presenter: Bubba, plants need something else to stay alive.

Bubba: What more could they want besides water and sun?

Presenter: See if you can guess.

Bubba: I know...is it lots of other dandelion friends?

Presenter: Noooo. Guess again.

Bubba: Is it lady bugs?

Presenter: No. It's not lady bugs.

Bubba: I don't know. Please tell me what it needs to stay alive.

Presenter: Plants need roots that go down into the dirt to stay alive.

Bubba: Why?

Presenter: The roots and dirt give it the food it needs to stay alive.

Bubba: That makes sense.

Presenter: Bubba, do you know that we are like a dandelion?

Bubba: Hey, I'm not fuzzy and yellow!

Presenter: (laughs) That's not what I'm talking about Bubba.

Bubba: What are you talking about?

Presenter: The dandelion needed to stay connected to its plant to get enough food to stay alive. We need to stay connected to Jesus to keep growing in our love for God and others.

Bubba: What happens if we don't stay connected?

Presenter: If we are cut off from Jesus, just like the dandelion was cut off from the plant, we won't grow and we won't produce good fruit.

Bubba: I am a boy, not a tree. How can I produce fruit?

Presenter: The fruit you produce is not the kind of fruit that you eat.

Bubba: Then what is it?

Presenter: People produce good fruit like showing Jesus' love to others and doing the good works Jesus has for us to do.

Bubba: Oh, I think I get it.

Presenter: In our Bible event today, we are going to learn about a vine, branches, good fruits and how they can stay connected to the vine to produce good fruits.

Bubba: That sounds like a lot!

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Bubba: Yes I would.

Presenter: First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

Presenter: ***GOD TEACHES ME...now you say, “I live my life for Jesus.”**

Bubba: I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: **Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?**

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: **OK everybody, *GOD TEACHES ME...**

Bubba: (and everyone): I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: **One more time. *GOD TEACHES ME...**

Bubba: (and everyone): I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: **Wonderful. Say “goodbye” Bubba.**

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Imagination Theater

Supplies: large pot of soil holding a three foot cross; real or artificial vine with one end in pot of soil; wrap upward around trunk and arms of cross; small dead branch; Bible

Presenter holds the Bible

Boys and girls, look at these two plants. Can you see what is different about them?

Point to potted plant. **One plant has grapes growing on it and looks like it is alive. It is planted in this dirt. It must get plant food from the soil.**

Point to dead branch. **Look at this branch here. Do you think it is alive or dead? What happened to it? It must have pulled apart from the plant that it was attached to and it couldn't get any more food or water.**

These plants remind me of a story that Jesus told. The story describes people as branches and Jesus as a vine. Listen to John 15.

Open Bible and read script for “The Vine and the Branches.”

The Vine and the Branches

Jesus said, “I am the vine. You are the branches.” Can a branch live by itself if it is not attached to a vine? No! Can a branch make grapes by itself if it is not attached to a vine? No! Can a branch be green and growing by itself, if it is not attached to a vine? No!

Jesus said he is like this vine.” Point to the potted vine. You are like these branches.” Point to the arms. If you stay connected to Jesus, you can grow and grow and grow. You will be just like this branch that produces fruit or grapes.

Presenter puts down Bible and says:

So how do we stay connected to the vine? Look at this.

Unwrap the grapevine revealing the cross. Bring a child forward and have her hold onto a vine.

Presenter asks children:

Did you know Jesus is God’s own Son? Did you know that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for sin and all the wrong things we’ve ever done? Do you trust Jesus to live in your life? If that is so, then you are hanging onto Jesus. You are trusting Jesus as your Savior. You are like a branch connected to the vine.

Have the child hang onto the cross. **Will grapes now start growing out of this child’s hand? No! But this person will start doing wonderful things to show God’s love to others because he is connected to Jesus. Those wonderful things that he can do are just like the yummy fruit that a grape branch produces when it is connected to a vine.** Dismiss child touching cross.

So, let me ask you a question. Who is the vine? Jesus! Who can be the branches? Point to one. Can you point to yourself? Now point to each other.

If we trust Jesus, do we make grapes? No! But we do special things to show our love and -- that is what Jesus says is making fruit for him.

Boys and girls, let’s practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. *GOD TEACHES ME.../ live my life for Jesus.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me.
I will live my life for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

I will LIVE my LIFE for JESUS.
LIFE for JESUS. LIFE for JESUS.
I will LIVE my LIFE for JESUS.
God WILL teach ME how.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft “Thumbprint Grapevine”

Supplies: white paper; brown markers; purple ink pads or purple washable markers; green markers, option: leaf stamper and green ink pad; label that says: Jesus is the vine, I am the branches.

If you think it is too difficult for children to draw a vine, draw a long twisting vine with branches across the paper before class.

Boys and girls today we are going to make a vine with leaves and thumbprint fruit. This will remind us that who is the vine? (Jesus) Who are the branches? (we are)

1. Turn your paper the long way. Draw a long brown vine across the paper. Put several branches on it. (if you did not do before class)
2. Now you can use the green marker to make leaves (or use leaf stamper).
3. Next you will make fruit with the purple marker. Just color your thumb and quickly stamp the paper with your thumb. (Or use purple stamp pad.)
4. When you are finished, you can put the sticker on your craft.



Review the Bible Event.

What happens to a branch or a flower when it is not connected to its plant? (It dies.)

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...I live my life for Jesus.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me.
I will live my life for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

I will **LIVE** my **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
LIFE for **JESUS**. **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
I will **LIVE** my **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
God **WILL** teach **ME** how.

Activity 2: Snack “Fruit”

Supplies: your choice of fruit; napkins, cups, water or juice.

*****CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me.
I will live my life for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat fruit to remind us to produce fruit for Jesus.

Give each child napkin, water and fruit of your choice.

Remember when you trust in Jesus, you are connected to him and he helps you produce good fruits.

Review the Bible event.

What happens to a branch when it is connected to its plant? (*It lives. It is green and healthy. It produces leaves, flowers, or fruit.*)

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...I live my life for Jesus.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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LIFE for **JESUS**. **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
I will **LIVE** my **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
God **WILL** teach **ME** how.

Activity 3: Game “Join the Grapevine”

Supplies: 6-8 foot piece of yarn or rope

Today we are going to play Join the Grapevine. First we need to learn the chant. Repeat after me: Vine, vine, come join the grapevine. (kids repeat) Come join and you will be mine. (kids repeat) Practice several times.

“You will be mine” means that when you join the grapevine, you will belong to Jesus.

All you children will stand around the room. I will pretend to be Jesus and weave in and out of the children while you say the chant. When chant is finished, I will choose a child to join the grapevine. You will grab the yarn and follow me.

We will keep going until all the children are on the grapevine.

Review the Bible event.

What is a good fruit? *(Any way we show that we love Jesus and we love others.)*

How can we stay connected to Jesus? *(listen to Bible stories or Bible tapes, watch Bible videos, attend church.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. ***GOD TEACHES ME...I live my life for Jesus.**

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me.
I will live my life for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. *(To the tune of Mary Had a Little Lamb)*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

I will LIVE my LIFE for JESUS.
LIFE for JESUS. LIFE for JESUS.
I will LIVE my LIFE for JESUS.
God WILL teach ME how.

Prayer Time:

What are some good fruits you can show others? (*Answers will vary. Examples may include: sharing with a friend, pick up toys when asked, and saying something nice to a brother or sister.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...I live my life for Jesus.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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God WILL teach **ME** how.

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Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming. (If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is a vine with branches and fruit. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say:

...I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says:

Hey, I think I feel a flea on me!



Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It is fruit to remind us to produce fruit for Jesus. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say:

...I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says:

I have a few nuts in my family tree!

Presenter: Albie, today we played a game called Join the Grapevine. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say:

...I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says:

Have you ever tried to train a bumblebee?

Presenter says:

Albie, listen one last time.

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids response:

...I live my life for Jesus.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)

***GOD TEACHES ME...I live my life for Jesus.**

Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
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You teach me.
I will live my life for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*)

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I will **LIVE** my **LIFE** for **JESUS**.
God **WILL** teach **ME** how.

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants you to live your life for him.