



Date: _____
Series: Join God's Family (Spring)
Year 1, Lesson 55

Timothy's Mother Shares Her Faith

Bible Event: 2 Timothy 1:5

Take Home Point: *THANK GOD FOR FAMILIES –
Families share Jesus' love.

*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*).

Jesus Link: Through faith, Jesus lives in me.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Kids will learn that we all have moms or special family members to be thankful for. God gives us families to take care of us and to teach us about Jesus. Just like Timothy's family shared God with him, our families share God too. Kids will take home the point: ***THANK GOD FOR FAMILIES – *Families share Jesus' love.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.

Lesson 55 - 1



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Your choice, if available.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Mystery Box

The Mystery Box contains objects that will help the presenter tell the Bible event in creative fashion. They can be lifted out and shown as the story is told. Another option is to have a hole cut in the top of the box so that a child could put a hand in and guess what the object is before it is shown.

This presentation requires three gift-wrapped boxes, one inside another, with removable lids. The smallest, innermost box should be labeled "Lois," the middle box should be labeled "Eunice," and the largest, outermost box should be labeled "Timothy." Each box should contain a paper heart with a cross in the middle, in sizes that correspond with the box. The presenter should introduce the event by reading the Bible verse and explaining that today we are going to talk about moms and families and why they are so important.

Presenter: We all have moms or special people in our families who help take care of us. In today's true Bible event, Timothy talks about his mom and grandma and what they did for him.

Moms and families do so many things for us. They love us, feed us, they tuck us into bed at night, they take care of owies when we get hurt.... (Invite children to name other important things that moms or family members do for us.) **All of those things are very important. But there is something else that is very, very important that moms and families can do for us. They can teach us about God and Jesus. Families can help us pray and teach us to trust in Jesus and know that he died on the cross for us.**

Here's how it worked in Timothy's family: (Pull out the wrapped boxes.) **Let's pretend that this box represents Timothy.** (Open the Timothy box and pull out the heart and cross without showing that there is another box inside.) **Timothy had faith in God. That meant that he believed in Jesus and had his Spirit in his heart. And do you know who taught Timothy to believe in God and Jesus? His mom did!** (Pull out the Eunice box.) **Timothy's mom was named Eunice and she believed in God and Jesus too!** (Show Eunice's heart and cross, but not the third box.) **And do you know where she learned about God and Jesus? From her mom, Timothy's grandma!** (Show the Lois box.) **And she had faith in God too!** (Open her box and show the heart and cross. Place the lids back on each box, but leave them out side by side.)

You see, these boxes show how God's love can be passed on to family members. God's love is like a gift – it fills our hearts with joy and Jesus' Spirit. Lois loved God so much, she wanted to pass it on to her daughter, Eunice. So she did! And look what happened to the box. It got bigger! God's love grew! And then Eunice loved God so much that she wanted to pass it on to her little boy, Timothy. And look what happened to the box. It got bigger again! God's love grew even more! That's what happens when moms and families pass on God's love! It keeps growing and growing!

Let's take a minute and think about someone special in your family – like your mom – who has passed God's love on to you somehow.

While the children are thinking of that special person, close with a prayer thanking God for moms and families that take care of us and pass on God's love.

Remember: *THANK GOD FOR FAMILIES – *Families share Jesus' love.*



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Hershey's Hugs and Kisses candies – some to eat and some to take home to mom. Another option: Provide heart-shaped sugar cookies for the kids to frost and decorate. Again, eat one and take one home in a sandwich or snack bag for mom.

HEALTHY SNACK OPTION: When you cut an apple in half around the middle, the seeds are exposed as a perfect star. Slice any apple in half and talk about whom the star of their lives might be. Cut thin slices and let them eat around the star. They can take this idea with them and have that special "star" in their life help them do the same thing. God is so creative!

Drama Zone: Allow children to play house and act like mom or dad. Provide dishes for setting a table or "cooking," brooms, dress-up clothes, etc.

Puppet Zone: Let the children use puppets to talk about who is in their family and how they show love.

Felt Zone: Materials to re-enact story.

Craft Zone: Have children attach pre-cut red construction paper hearts to round, white paper doilies to take home to mom (or another special family member). Attach a pre-made label. The kids may choose from "Happy Mother's Day!" or "Thank you for loving me." Allow the kids to decorate or 'sign' their names as desired. Options: Using either a Polaroid camera or a digital camera and scanner, attach the child's picture to their gift. Attach the above snack for mom to the gift.

Play Zone: Cut large cardstock hearts into simple puzzles for the kids to put together at a table. Another option: Hold three-legged races.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of Timothy or families.

Music Zone: Your choice of music.

Coloring Zone: "Timothy's Mother Shares her Faith" coloring page



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba comes out with a finished craft that he's going to give to his mom. He loves his mom very much and is excited to give it to her.

The presenter is glad that Bubba loves his mom so much and wants to give her that cool craft. The presenter explains how lucky we all are to have people in our families that love us. No matter who it is: moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, etc., we all have someone who takes care of us. They do all kinds of things for us – especially share God and Jesus.

It is very important to tell moms and families “thank you” for all that they do for us. We should tell them, thanks for feeding us, thanks for taking us to Kids Church, thanks for praying with us, and thanks for loving us. Let's all praise and thank God for giving us moms and families that love us. Remember: ***THANK GOD FOR FAMILIES – Families share Jesus' love.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

“Children Pray” Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make a large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling the fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross your hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with the hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- Bible
- three gift wrapped boxes with removable lids – one large, one medium, one small (must fit inside one another)
- three labels: Lois, Eunice and Timothy for the boxes
- three paper hearts with crosses to fit inside the boxes

Action Zones:

Snack:

- Hershey's Hugs and Kisses candies
- *optional:* sugar cookies, frosting, and sandwich bags

Drama:

- tables
- dishes
- brooms and mops
- dress-up clothes

Craft:

- pre-cut red construction paper hearts (to fit on doilies)
- white paper doilies (any size)
- glue sticks
- pre-made label options: "Happy Mother's Day" or "Thank you for loving me"
- *optional:* Polaroid or digital camera and scanner
- markers or crayons

Play:

- large pre-cut card stock hearts, cut into simple puzzles
- sandwich bags or envelopes for puzzle pieces
- *optional:* masking tape and yarn for three-legged races

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books

Music:

- your choice of music

Puppet:

- various puppets

Felt:

- materials to reenact story

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet
- completed craft

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books