



Date: _____

Series: Special – Mother's Day
Spring Year 3 Lesson 51

Timothy's Mother and Grandmother

Take Home Point: *Thank you, God, for moms who link us to Jesus. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Acts 16:1-2; 2 Timothy 1:5

Key Verse: Psalm 145:4, "One generation will praise your deeds to the next. Each generation will talk about your mighty acts."

We will help kids know:

- The Bible event of Timothy's sincere faith resulting from the faith of his mother Eunice and grandmother Lois.
- God uses love connections between mothers (or parents) and their children to help them understand the love God has for his children.
- It is important to thank our moms not just for our material blessings but also for our spiritual blessings.




We will help kids feel:

- Encouraged that God loves them and that their mothers love them. *(For children not experiencing a strong family life or love in their family, we want them to be encouraged with the love they experience from their church family.)*
- Excited about making a Mother's Day gift.

We will help kids do:

- Play a paper clip game while discussing what they appreciate about their moms.
- Pray, thanking God for their moms and how their moms bless them.
- Make a gift for their moms.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids play a Love Links paper clip game as they describe ways that their moms show love.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paper clips (about 3 per child)
Large Group 	4 6 8 10	<p>Overview</p> <p>Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Links to God’s Love”—Gordy and The presenter discuss how Gordy changed the Warm-Up game from Love Links to Mean Links.</p> <p>Audience Participation Game: Teams race against each other to link paper clips without dropping any. The team to first finish making the Love Links chain with a cross on the end wins. Kids learn that moms link them to God’s love generation after generation and they are encouraged to do the same.</p> <p>Puppet Conclusion: “Gordy Links to God’s Love”—Gordy apologizes to the presenter for saying his mom was mean and decides that she shows him love by having him in church each week.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paper clip chain necklace • 24 bent paper clips • two cross-shaped paper clips (see pictures in lesson)
Small Group Application 	4	Kids make a paper clip art project to give their moms as a Mother’s Day gift.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appendix copied on cardstock and cut in half • (optional) markers, pencils, crayons, pictures, stickers, magazines • glue • two paper clips per child

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Supplies: Vinyl coated paper clips in assorted colors or regular clips

Directions: Ask each child to bend three paper clips in the middle so they are at right angles with the rounded edge at the end of each leg. (See picture.)

Today we will play a game called Love Links. The object of this game is to link paper clips together, making one long chain that does not fall apart while linking.

The challenge is that you can only hold the first paper clip in the link and “fish” with the other end to pick up the next paper clip forming a chain.



To get a turn to fish with the paper clip chain, you must describe one of the ways your mom shows she loves you. If you don't have a mom, think of another person in your life who shows you love. It's okay if we repeat the same answer that someone else has because each of you is describing the way your mom links you with her love.

Play game. Then say:

Your mom gives you many blessings. She not only takes care of you physically, like giving you food and helping make a nice home for you, but your mom may also bless you spiritually. Maybe some of you have moms who help connect you with Jesus' love. This happens when a mom talks to you at home about Jesus and helps make sure you learn about him here at church, too. Maybe your mom even prays with you.

We will talk about that today as we learn to say: **Thank you, God, for moms who link us to Jesus.*

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Links to God’s Love”—Gordy and the presenter discuss how Gordy changed the Warm-Up game from Love Links to Mean Links.

Audience Participation Game: Teams race against each other to link paper clips without dropping any. The team to finish making the Love Links chain with a cross on the end wins. Kids learn that moms link them to God’s love generation after generation. They are encouraged to do the same.

Puppet Conclusion: “Gordy Links to God’s Love”—Gordy apologizes to the presenter for saying his mom was mean and decides that she shows him love by having him in church each week.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Have kids refer to Acts 16:1-2 and 2 Timothy 1:5 in their Bibles.

According to 2 Timothy 1:5, where did Timothy learn about Jesus?
(His grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. Note: It is a special honor to have one's name recorded in the Bible.)

According to Acts 16:1, how was Timothy's mother's belief different from his father's? *(She was a Jewish believer, or follower of Jesus. Timothy's father was Greek, so probably did not believe in Jesus.)*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

How did his mother's faith make a difference in Timothy's life?
(Eunice passed her beliefs on to Timothy. Timothy was saved and told many others about Jesus.)

Today's key verse from Psalm 145:4 says, ***"One generation will praise your deeds to the next. Each generation will talk about your mighty acts."***

Just as Lois and Eunice told about Jesus' mighty acts to their next generation, Timothy, we should also tell the next generation about Jesus and his mighty deeds. We can be a link that passes on God's love to others.

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Do you think it is important for you to link God's love to your children and their children? Why?

How can you show your appreciation to your parents or a loved one who thinks it is important for you to know, love, and follow Jesus?

How do you think this appreciation will make them feel?

Application Activity:

Supplies: Appendix copied on cardstock and cut in half, markers, pencils, crayons, pictures, stickers, magazines, glue and two paper clips per child

Have the children decorate or draw pictures illustrating how their moms or other loved ones link them to Jesus. This may be reading Bible storybooks together, watching Christian videos, praying together, going to church, serving the needy and being Jesus to them, etc. The stickers, drawings, and cut-outs from magazines will all be resources to decorate the cards.

Then have kids make a paper clip cross like the one from large group (see picture). They can glue this also to the card.



Restate the take home point, ****Thank you, God, for moms who link us to Jesus.***

Closing Prayer:

Have kids thank God for mothers and Jesus' love that links us together.

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Large Group Presentation:

20 minutes

Gordy Links to God's Love

Mother's Day

Gordy enters wearing a paper clip chain necklace. These paper clips have not been bent at ninety degree angles.

Presenter: Kids, shall we call Gordy?

Kids call for Gordy. **Gordy... Gordy... Gordy...**

Presenter: Hi, Gordy! Whoa. You've got quite a necklace there.

Gordy: Like it?

Presenter: Yes! But where did you get it?

Gordy: In my shepherd's tub.

Presenter: Well, Gordy – you weren't supposed to get into those!

Gordy: Well, I wanted to make a special necklace before we came to large group.

Presenter: I thought you were making love links out of the bent paper clips to remind you of ways your mom loves you.

Gordy: Yeah, that's what *they* were doing.

Presenter: What were you doing?

Gordy: I was making "mean links."

Presenter: What?

Gordy: Yeah, this is a "mean link" necklace.

Presenter: A "mean link" necklace?

Gordy: Sure. These are all the ways my mom is mean to me.

Presenter: Gordy! Your mom is not mean to you.

Gordy: She sure is and this necklace is here to prove it.

Presenter: What do you mean?

Gordy: Well, ask me what each paper clip means.

Presenter: Okay. What does that paper clip there mean?

Points to a paper clip.

Gordy: That's the, "My mom is so mean she won't let me spend the night with Sammy Snoober," paper clip.

Presenter: Okay. What does this other paper clip mean?

Points to a different paper clip.

Gordy: That one means that my mom is so mean she won't let me spend the night with Sammy Snoober.

Presenter: Okay. Then what does THIS paper clip mean?

Points to a different paper clip, again.

Gordy: My mom is so mean she won't let me spend the night with Sammy Snoober.

Presenter: And THIS paper clip (pointing to another paper clip) means—let me guess—that she won't let you spend the night with Sammy Snoober.

Gordy: How did you know?

Presenter: Just lucky, I guess. Gordy, what happened?

Gordy: Well, last night I wanted to spend the night with Sammy Snoober and guess what?

Presenter: Your mom didn't let you.

Gordy: How did you know?

Presenter: Just lucky again.

Gordy: She didn't let me because today is Sunday and it is church day. My mom always makes sure that I'm here on Sundays.

Presenter: Gordy, your mom isn't mean by doing that. Your mom is loving you.

Gordy: By not letting me spend the night with Sammy Snoober?

Presenter: No, making sure that you're here on Sundays so you can come to know, love, and follow Jesus.

Gordy: Yeah, but I can't spend the night with Sammy Snoober then. My mom doesn't understand.

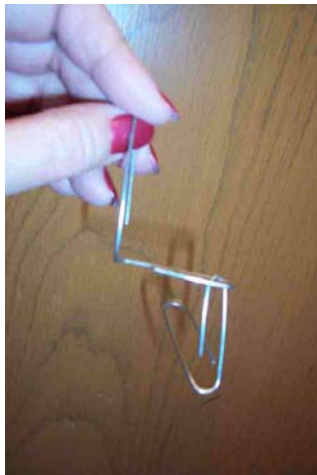
Presenter: Gordy, did your mom, as a little girl, go to church every week?

Gordy: Yeah, that was really important to my grandma. And when my mom was a little girl, she loved going to church.

Presenter: Well, Gordy, maybe your mom does understand. You see, it's a blessing when our moms or our dads know how important it is to be in church—so we can know, love, and follow Jesus. It is also a blessing when we talk about Jesus at home with them.

Gordy: But what about spending the night?

Presenter: Gordy, let's get to that later. First, I want to teach you about a young man named Timothy who had a mom and grandma who helped him grow up to have a strong and sincere faith. I'm going to teach a story. So, you go back and listen. I'll call you in a minute.



Audience Game: Link to the Cross

Pick twelve boys and twelve girls to form a boys' team and a girls' team. Have each team sit in a line facing the front demonstration table. The girls should sit on one side of the table where there are twelve bent paper clips. The boys should face the other side of the table with twelve bent paper clips.

Among the twelve paper clips on each side is a cross-shaped paper clip that has a hook in it and is ready to be picked up. Whichever team can first make an entire link of twelve paper clips, and pick up this cross paper clip on the end, is the winner.

Kids, we're going to play another Love Links game. But listen carefully to the rules. To begin with, I will start with one boy and one girl who will come up and link one paper clip to another, just like you did in small group Warm-Up. Then they will run back and pass it to the next member of their team who will come up and "fish" for another link. (S)he will pass the chain to the next team member who will try and link another clip and so on.



If any of the paper clips become unhooked in the process of passing or while running back and forth, then that person must reconnect them by holding one paper clip and hooking all the others back on.

After all the bent paper clips are linked, the last to be picked up is this paper clip cross. Hold up the cross.

Let kids play the game. Congratulate the teams afterwards.

Now, who can guess how this paper clip chain is like moms who link us to Jesus' love?

Have a child come up from the audience and offer a guess. If they can't guess the right answer, you might offer a hint word such as "grandma" or "great-grandma."

The faith we have is passed down from generation to generation. It's both moms and dads who pass it down, of course, but when they pass it down to their children and those children pass it to their children, it's an important blessing.

The paper clips that make up the chain we made might represent in your family your mom, your grandma, your great-grandma, and your great great grandma, if they passed down the faith. They linked you to God's love generation after generation. You need to decide right now, when you grow up to be a parent, if you will also link *your* children to God's love.

Today we are studying the book of Acts where Paul, as a special apostle, is traveling and sharing the good news of Jesus with good people who have never heard it. He needed to choose a very reliable partner to go with him. In Acts 16:1-2, we find him choosing a young man named Timothy.

Read Acts 16:1-2

"Paul arrived in the city of Derbe and then went to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived. Timothy's mother was a Jewish believer, but his father was Greek. The believers in Lystra and Iconium spoke well of Timothy."

Later on in the Bible, when Timothy was a pastor of his own church, Paul wrote a letter to encourage him. In it, he refers to Timothy's mother and grandmother who passed the faith down to him. The reason Timothy had strong faith is because his mother linked him to God's love. The reason she had strong faith is because her mother linked HER to God's love.

Read 2 Timothy 1:5

“I’m reminded of how sincere your faith is. That faith first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. I’m convinced that it also lives in you.”

NOTE: Jewish believer means that she was a Jewish person who believed Jesus was the Promised One and the Messiah.

Read Psalm 145:4

“One generation will praise your deeds to the next. Each generation will talk about your mighty acts.”

Gordy Links to God’s Love

Puppet Conclusion

Presenter: So, Gordy, did you see the game that we played?

Gordy: That was pretty cool.

Presenter: Those links remind us of love, meaning that our parents can pass on to their children the truth about Jesus... and then their children can pass it on again to the next generation. Now this is a little bit different than *your* paper clip chain.

Gordy: Oh, you mean the “My Mom is Mean” chain?

Presenter: Yes. Do you think you ought to change that?

Gordy: Yeah, you’re right. I think I’d better change it.

Presenter: Do you see why you couldn’t spend the night?

Gordy: Yep, because it IS important that I’m here. And it IS important that I know, love, and follow Jesus.

Presenter: Right, and your mom wants to help that happen. So when you grow up and you are a parent, you can link your children also to God’s love.

Gordy: Yeah, but what about Sammy Schnoover? I wanted to spend the night with him.

Presenter: Well, have you thought about inviting him to your house next Saturday night and then you can bring him to Kingdom Quest on Sunday morning?

Gordy: That's a great idea!

Presenter: Do you think he'd like to come?

Gordy: Sure. We always have a great time here and also he doesn't know anything about Jesus, so I think he would be kind of curious.

Presenter: Well, Gordy, you're just the friend that he needs. You cannot only invite him here, but you can tell him about Jesus.

Gordy: What do I say?

Presenter: Well, what's the most important thing about Jesus?

Gordy: That he gave his life for us. He died on the cross for our sins.

Presenter: What else?

Gordy: That he's still alive and he's alive right here in your heart when you trust him.

Presenter: That's right. If you really like a friend like Sammy, then you'll want him to meet your friend Jesus.

Gordy: Well, that's a great idea, (presenters name), and I'm sorry that I said that my mom is mean. She's really not.

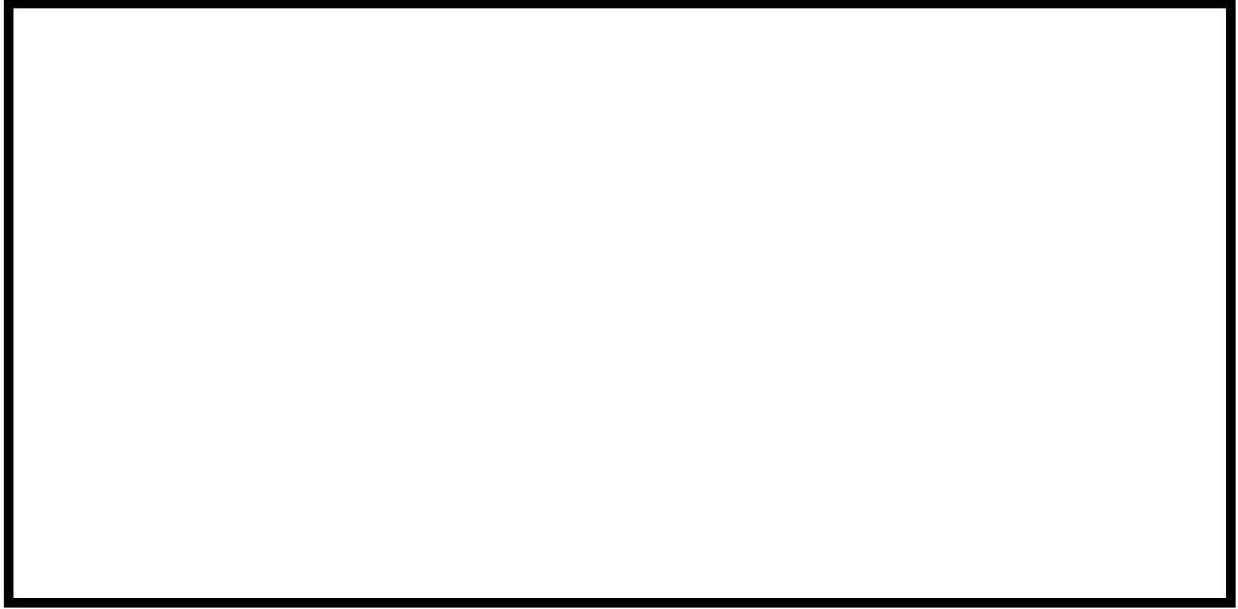
Presenter: I know, Gordy, and I'm glad you said you're sorry, too, because you shouldn't say things like that.

Gordy: Yeah. Sometimes I just have a Gordy moment.

Presenter: That's okay. Pray and be sure to thank God for your mom, will you, Gordy?

Gordy: Okay. Dear God, thanks for moms and thanks for helping them link us to your love. Help us when we grow up to link your love to our kids, too. It is important and I'm sorry for complaining about not spending the night at Sammy Snoober's. Help it work out this weekend so that Sammy gets to know you as his friend. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

THANK YOU, MOM, FOR LINKING ME TO gOD'S LOVE.



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