

Junior Teacher Guide – January 2019



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Desire God

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Discuss how obedience to God’s commands can keep children safe.

Begin the discussion by asking students to share things their parents tell them to keep them from getting hurt. Emphasize the fact there are many rules in life. God gives us boundaries to help us stay safe. It is not enough to only know what the bible says. We must also obey what we learn.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments. (2 John 6)

Tell students to number the key verse phrases in the correct order.

his commandments

4

that we walk

2

and this is love,

1

according to

3

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Holding Fast to God's Love aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Holding Fast to God's Love

Zaya – Do you remember when we went to prayer meeting with Nana?

Zion – Yes. She and the other members present at the prayer meeting used this phrase many times: *“I’ll pray for you and you pray for me.”*

Zion – I asked Nana what this meant. She said that this is referred to as *“intercessory prayer.”* That’s when people not only pray for themselves, but they also pray for each other and even for people they don’t even know!

Zaya – Every night, I pray for others, particularly all the children of the world.

Zion – Me, too! I pray for my Sunday school teacher, our pastor, our school teachers and members of our family.

Zaya – In today’s lesson, Paul emphasized intercessory prayer. As we read the various accounts of Paul as he traveled to spread the gospel, we find many instances when he experienced danger and hardship. He was imprisoned, shipwrecked and beaten. No wonder Paul asked the believers in Thessalonica to pray for his success in spreading the gospel. Paul asked them to pray that God’s Word would spread rapidly and that God would deliver him from wicked and evil men, because not everyone had faith. The one thing that Paul knew was that God was faithful and would strengthen and protect them from the evil one. Paul appealed to the Thessalonian believers to intercede on their behalf before the throne of God. God’s throne is always accessible.

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Share why you love God. (Answers will vary.)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Give each student a copy of the letter template in Appendix A. Tell students Zion and Zaya want to write a letter to express how much they love God. Help them by writing a letter they can use as an example. (You may need to use a writing prompt for students who have trouble with putting their thoughts together. Sample guiding statements include:

- Tell God your favorite bible verse
- Tell God why you love him
- Tell God about your church
- Tell God how you obey your parents

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make an “I Love You” scratch off card.

Materials needed: Silhouette printable scratch off sticker sheets (can be purchased from Michael’s); copies of scratch off card template in Appendix B (one per student), large blank index cards (one per student), glue, scissors, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut out the scratch off cards in the template. Also cut the scratch off stickers sheets into rectangular strips large enough to cover the message lines in the template.

During class ask students to write a reason they love their parents or guardians on the message lines. and the allow them to color the rest of the scratch off card template. Cut the template in half so the words and lines can be glued separately. Fold the index card in half to make a small greeting card. Glue the words to the cover of the greeting card. Glue the message lines on the inside of the greeting card. Cover the message lines with the scratch off sticker so the message is completely hidden. Tell students to give the card to their parents or guardians. The parents or guardians may use a coin to reveal the scratch off message.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for rules and boundaries that protect us. Help us to understand how your ways are better than our ways. And thank you for loving us even when we make mistakes. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Lesson 7 – January 13, 2019 | James 4: 1-10

Love and Obey

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Discuss the differences between wants and needs. Begin the discussion by asking students if they usually get what they want or need for their birthday. Then ask students if they usually get what they want or need their parents take them shopping at other times during the year. Limit student response to three minutes. Explain that needs are the things we must have to survive. Basic human needs are food, clothing, shelter and love. Wants are the things we desire to have but are not necessary for survival. An example of a want is a video gaming system or a bicycle.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments. (James 4: 8)

Tell students to draw lines from each key verse phrase in the left column to their possible meanings in the right column. *Hint: Each phrase has three matches.*

draw near to God

Love you more than anyone else

Build a strong relationship

Humble yourself before the Lord

God will lift you up

**and he will draw
near to you**

**Don't allow pleasures to keep you from
obeying God**

Be your best friend

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Loving and Obeying God aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Loving and Obeying God

Zaya – When we got sick, Mommy took us to the doctor because she wanted to find out what was wrong with us.

Zion – The doctor examined us to determine what was wrong. Then the doctor diagnosed our problem.

Zaya – The doctor gave Mommy a prescription for us so we could get well. Just as our sickness had to be diagnosed, James diagnosed the problems of some Christians and then gave a prescription for overcoming them.

Zion – James asked: *“What causes fights and quarrels among you”* (4:1a)? Then, he answered the question with a question: *“Do they come from your desires that battle within you (4:1b)?”* James connected people’s inner wars with the spirit of evil in the world. James commands us to submit to God. Then he gives an instruction and a promise. We must give ourselves wholly to the Lord. We cannot walk with one foot in God’s world and the other foot in the secular world. We must be humble and open to God who invites us to a loving relationship with God. How, then, can you *“submit yourself to God?”* Let God direct your path!

Zaya – After giving the command: *“Submit yourselves to God”* (4:7), James gives a powerful word of instruction, followed by a wonderful promise. We are instructed to resist the temptations of the devil. *“Resist”* means to aggressively oppose or turn from both evil and the evil one. In other words, we must *“stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Ephesians 6:11). Then comes the promise in James 4:7: *“If we resist the devil, he will flee from us!”*

Zion – In James 4:8, we find an invitation and a promise: *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”* One thing we can be sure of is if we take one step toward God, God can be counted on to meet us more than half way. We can take that step by reading and studying God’s Word, praying, praising and worshiping God.

Zaya – Have you ever seen this bumper sticker: *“Not feeling close to God? Guess who moved.”* God always opens *“everlasting arms”* to embrace us. God never moves away from us. In fact, God stands at the door of our hearts. God will not force His way in. The only way God will enter our hearts is if we invite God into our hearts. Revelation 3:20 says: *“Behold. I stand at the door and knock. If anyone opens the door, I will come in and fellowship with him and he with me.”*

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Why did James write this letter? To warn the people to not allow worldly pleasures to keep them from obeying God.

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to learn the ways God wants children to live. Help them by identifying the godly behavior in the bible verses from Proverbs that I read aloud.

- If you really want to gain knowledge, you must begin by having respect for the Lord. Foolish people hate wisdom and training. (Proverbs 1:7, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to have respect for the Lord.*
- Listen to your father's advice. Don't turn away from your mother's teaching. (Proverbs 1:8, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to listen to your parents and do what they teach you.*
- If sinners tempt you, don't give into them. [They might say,] "Come and join our gang. We'll share everything we have." Don't go along with them. Don't even set your feet on their paths. (Proverbs 1:10, 14-15, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to not follow the crowd that is doing wrong.*
- A gentle answer turns anger away. But mean words stir up anger. (Proverbs 15:1, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to use kind words.*
- Anyone who turns away from his training hates himself. But anyone who accepts being corrected gains understanding. (Proverbs 15:32, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to accept the consequences for bad choices and learn from them.*
- You should want a good name more than you want great riches. To be highly respected is better than having silver and gold. (Proverbs 22:1, Nlrv) *The godly behavior is to remember we are known by the way we act and treat others. Don't do or say things that ruin your reputation.*

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make "Quiet Time" sticks.

Materials needed: large craft sticks in various colors (five per student), 16 oz white paper cup (one per student), black fine point Sharpies, flip chart paper, black permanent marker (for flip chart use), crayons

Instructions: Ask the class for a list of activities they can do to spend quiet time with God. Ensure the list has at least five things. (Offer suggestions if necessary like read a devotional, pray, sing a song, read the bible or draw a picture about something learned in church.) Then give each student five craft sticks and ask them to write one thing on each of the crafts sticks. Allow students to decorate a white paper cup. The words "My Quiet Time with God" should be written somewhere on the cup. Place the sticks in the cup. Students should pick a stick every day and do the written activity.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, help us to understand why getting everything we want is not always best. We will trust you to provide everything we need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Share Joy

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Watch the “Prison Break video.”.

Show students a YouTube video of Paul in prison (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3h1pA5bGE9c>).

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way. (Philippians 1: 18)

Organize the class in pairs. Give each pair a blank sheet of paper to draw a tic-tac-toe board. Give each student a set of key verse pieces in Appendix C. One student should have X's and one student should have O's. Tell students to play Key Verse Tick-Tac-Toe with their partner. The student who forms the key verse first wins the game.

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Telling Others of Christ aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Telling Others of Christ

Zion – In Romans 1:16, Paul wrote: *“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”* Paul certainly lived his words, even when he was in chains. Although Paul was in prison, God used Paul's suffering to spread the Gospel. There were both good and bad reasons the Gospel spread. Some questioned the mix of salvation and suffering. They did not understand that it was the content of the Gospel, not the life and work of the preacher, which provided salvation. Paul shared that because of his imprisonment, *“Most of the brothers and sisters having been made confident in the Lord dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear”* (1:14). Paul's imprisonment and pain became the inspiration for his co-laborers to speak God's revelation to people throughout the region Paul had visited.

Zaya – Paul did not stand in judgment over the motives of those who preached. Rather, he was grateful for and rejoiced that people were hearing the Gospel. Some preached Christ out of love, while others preached Christ out of *“false motives.”* It did not matter to Paul because Paul said that, *“Whether out of false motives or true...in that I rejoice”* (1:18).

Zion – Though in chains, Paul did not hope for freedom. Rather, Paul hoped that he would have sufficient courage to boldly proclaim Christ. He asked the Philippian believers to pray for his courage. He also expected their prayers to result in his freedom from prison. Paul was confident that through their prayers, the Holy Spirit would help him to accomplish God's plan. Paul emphasized that Christ would always be exalted in his body, whether in life or in death. One of the most profound statements Paul wrote was: *“Living is Christ and dying is gain”* (1:21). This is a philosophy for Christian living. *“Living in Christ”* is fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ. It is living in spiritual union with Christ. But to die as Christians is to gain even more. It is our ultimate goal to be with Christ where He is. Death is our entrance into eternal fellowship with Christ in heaven.

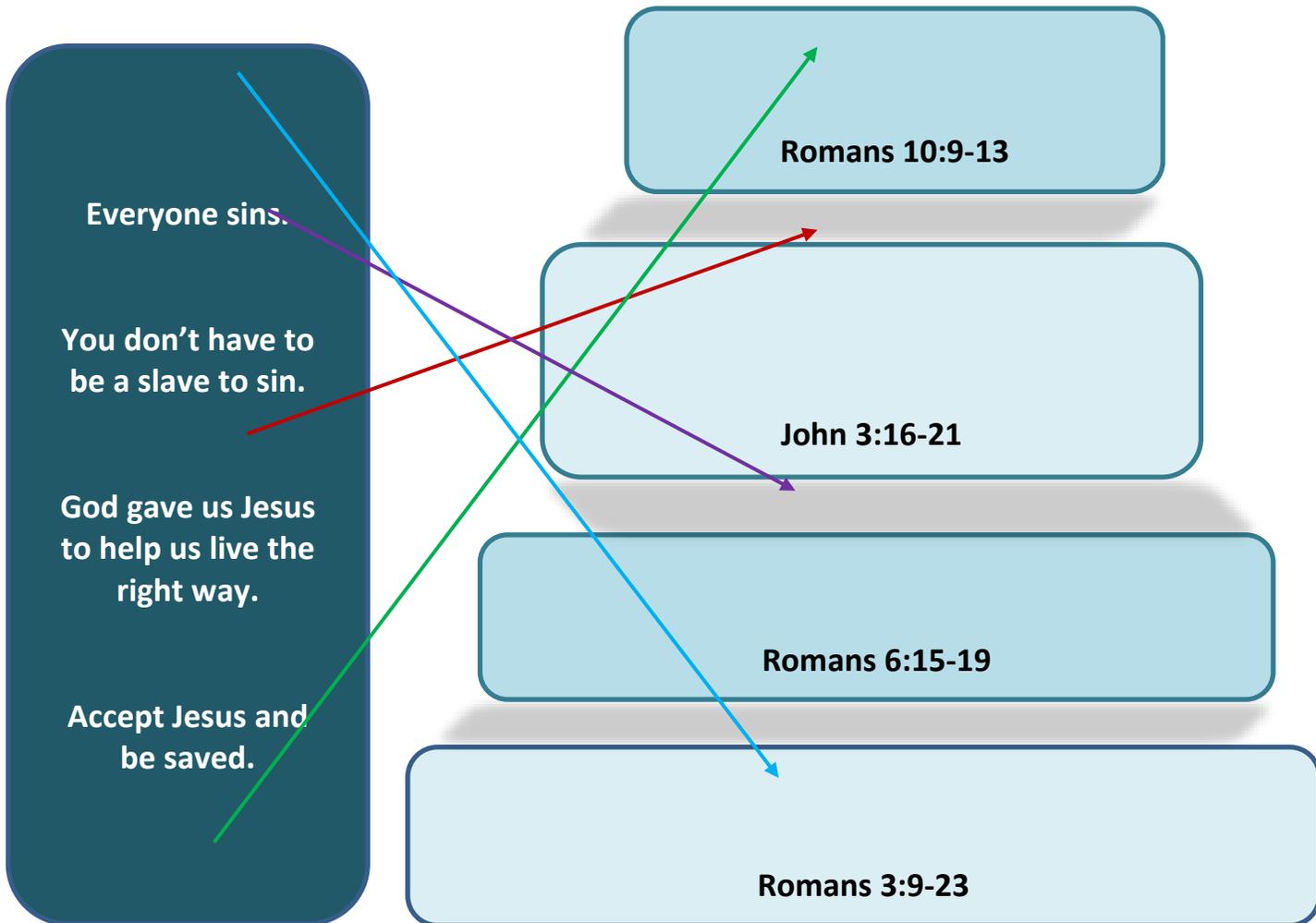
Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Why do you think being in prison did not stop Paul from sharing Christ with others? (Answers will vary but emphasize how Paul was not ashamed of being a Christian.)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to tell others about Jesus. Help them looking up the scripture to fill in the messages for the building blocks to salvation.



Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a 3D snow globe.

Materials needed: copies of snow globe pattern in Appendix D (one page per student), scissors, glue or tape, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut out the snow globe patterns. Each student will need all four patterns. Allow students to color and decorate the globes. Fold each globe in half so that the words are on the inside of the fold. Glue or tape the left side of a one globe to the right side of another globe. The crease should be in the center (or pointed away from your body. Repeat until all four globes are sealed together (see picture).



Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for showing us how bad things can turn into good things. Help us to be bold about sharing the Good News of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Serving with Joy

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “share-ades.”

Act out a scenario where you are sharing. See if the class can guess how you are sharing with others. You can act out other scenarios if time permits. Limit the activity time to five minutes.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. (Philippians 2: 3)

Tell students to trace the path to the verse to remember. (Path A is the correct path. The hint is to work backwards from the image with the key verse.)

Read and Learn!

Read Zion and Zaya Talk about Serving Christ with Joy aloud.

Zion and Zaya Talk about Serving Christ with Joy

Zion – What does it mean to be humble or show humility?

Zaya – A humble person is one who does not boast about who he/she is or what he/she has accomplished. Jesus is the Christian’s model of humility: *“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus”* (2:5). From this simple statement on how Jesus Christ through His life of humility has encouraged us, Paul composed one of the greatest hymns ever written about the person and ministry of Jesus Christ. Paul opened this grand hymn in verse 6:

*“Who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited.”*

This tells us that Jesus has God’s nature; that is, Jesus has God’s attributes. Then we hear praise of Jesus’ servanthood:

*“but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born of human likeness.
And being found in human form”* (2:7).

Zion – Jesus chose to become completely human and took on the nature of a servant to live a life of service. In this verse, we see both the humanity and the divinity in Jesus Christ. *Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross”* (2:8). In verse 9, Paul showed that humiliation was not defeat but victory – victory over both death and sin: *“God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name.”* God raised the crucified Christ above all creation that all should confess Christ as Lord: *“At the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord”* (2:10-11). This means that the time would come when everyone will come to know and understand that Jesus Christ is Lord *“to the glory of God the Father!”* What a wonderful portrayal of Jesus the Christ!

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

How often do you have a Christ-like attitude? (Answers will vary.)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to encourage their peers. Help them by coming up with a list of compliments.

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a “Good Citizen” dog tag necklace.

Materials needed: Empty soda cans, copies of the dog tag necklace pattern in Appendix E (one dog tag per student), copies of the good citizen stickers in Appendix F (one sticker per student), cording (enough to make a necklace for each student; can be purchased from any craft store), hole punch, scissors, utility knife, glue, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut the empty soda cans into strips. View a demonstration on how to cut the can at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srnkE1QSdw8>. Press the cut piece firmly to make it flat. Use the dog tag pattern to cut dog tags from the flat soda can sheet. One soda can should make four dog tags. Punch a hole at the top of each dog tag. Cut the cording into to 24” pieces. Print the good citizen stickers.

Give each student a piece of cording, an aluminum dog tag and a good citizen sticker. Allow students to color and decorate the good citizen sticker. Glue the sticker to the aluminum dog tag. Put the cording through the hole in the dog tag. Tie both ends together to make a necklace.

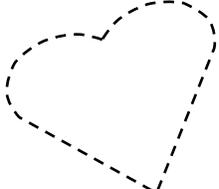
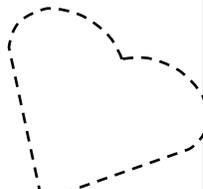
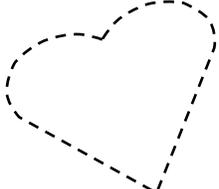
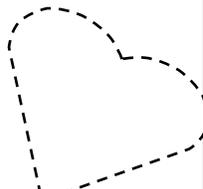
Close the lesson with prayer.

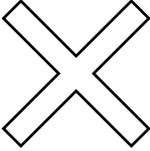
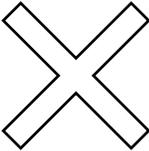
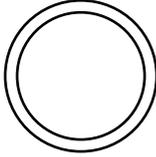
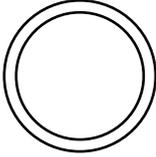
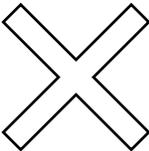
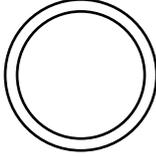
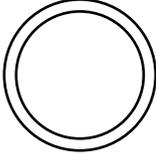
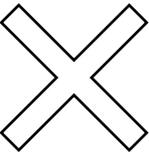
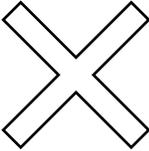
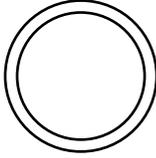
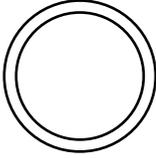
Lord, we want to be Christlike in everything we day and do. Help us to be good citizens. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

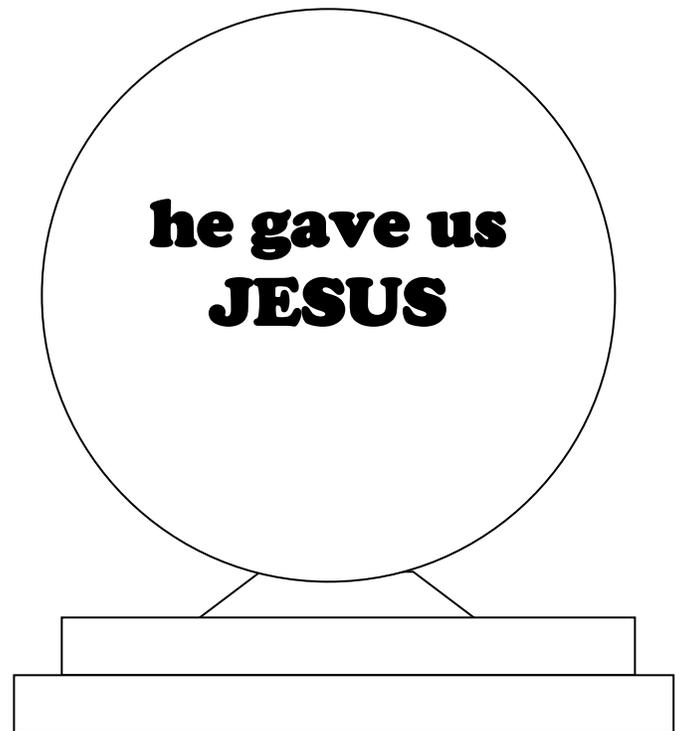
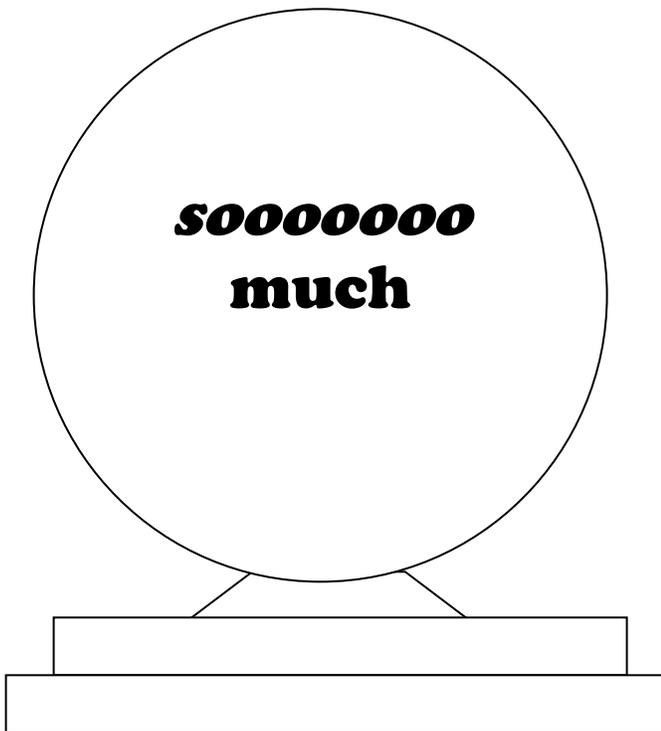
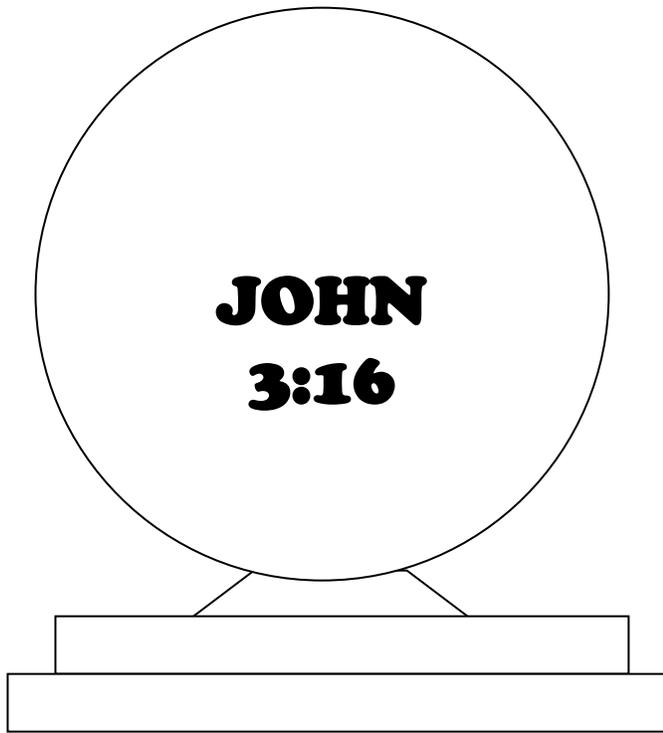
Dear God,



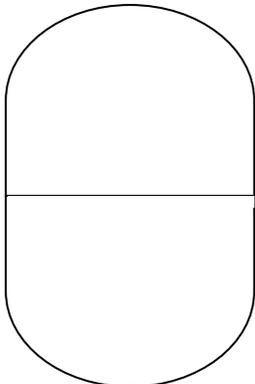
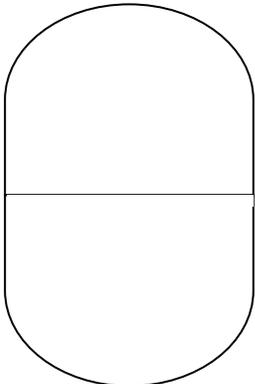
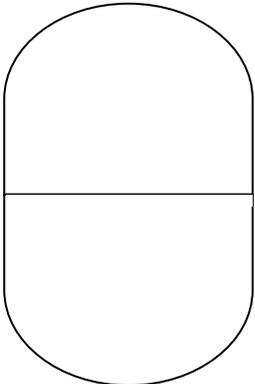
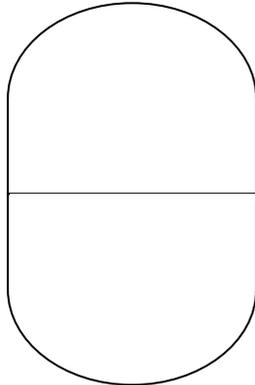
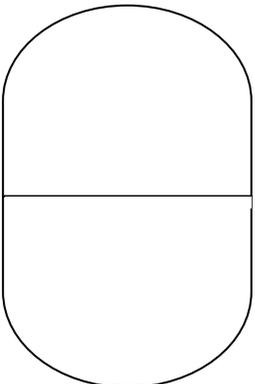
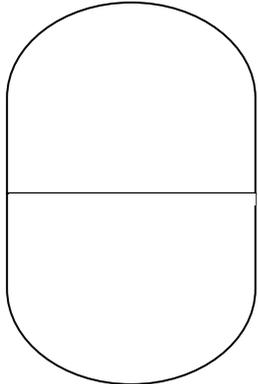
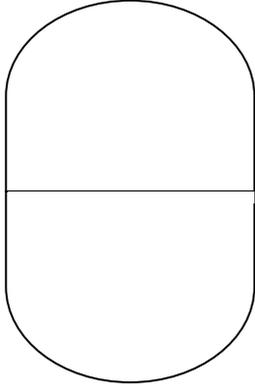
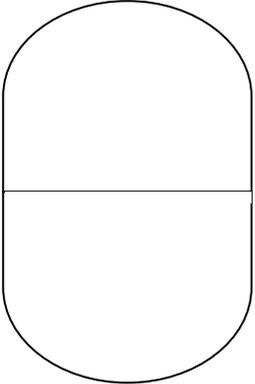
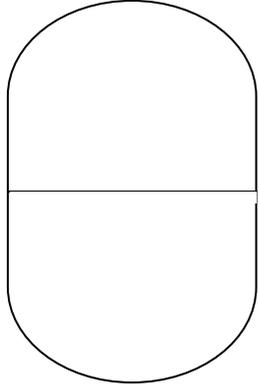
Love,

 <p>I LOVE YOU  because</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
 <p>I LOVE YOU  because</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 
<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 
<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 



Appendix E | Good Citizen Dog Tag Pattern



Appendix F | Good Citizen Stickers

