

LESSON 37

Jesus the Obedient Son





(biblical theology for children)

Jesus the Obedient Son

Only through Jesus's perfect life
can I be counted as righteous!

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides
in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit,
for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

LESSON 37 - JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON

Lesson at a Glance

Waffle Creek (5 minutes)

Group Lesson (20 minutes)

Group Prayer (5 minutes)

Class Activities (10 minutes)

Waffle Creek Connection

The Waffle Creek Warblers could not contain their excitement. They won the big game, and they had one special player to thank for it! Similar to today's story in Waffle Creek, today's Bible lesson is all about one special person who is able to do something perfect. Jesus's obedience is the perfect substitute for all people's disobedience of a loving and just God.

Scripture Passage

Philippian 2:8, Luke 2:41-51 (*older students*), Luke 4:1-13 (*older students*), Matthew 26:36-39 (*older students*)

Memory Verse

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. *John 15:5*

Main Idea

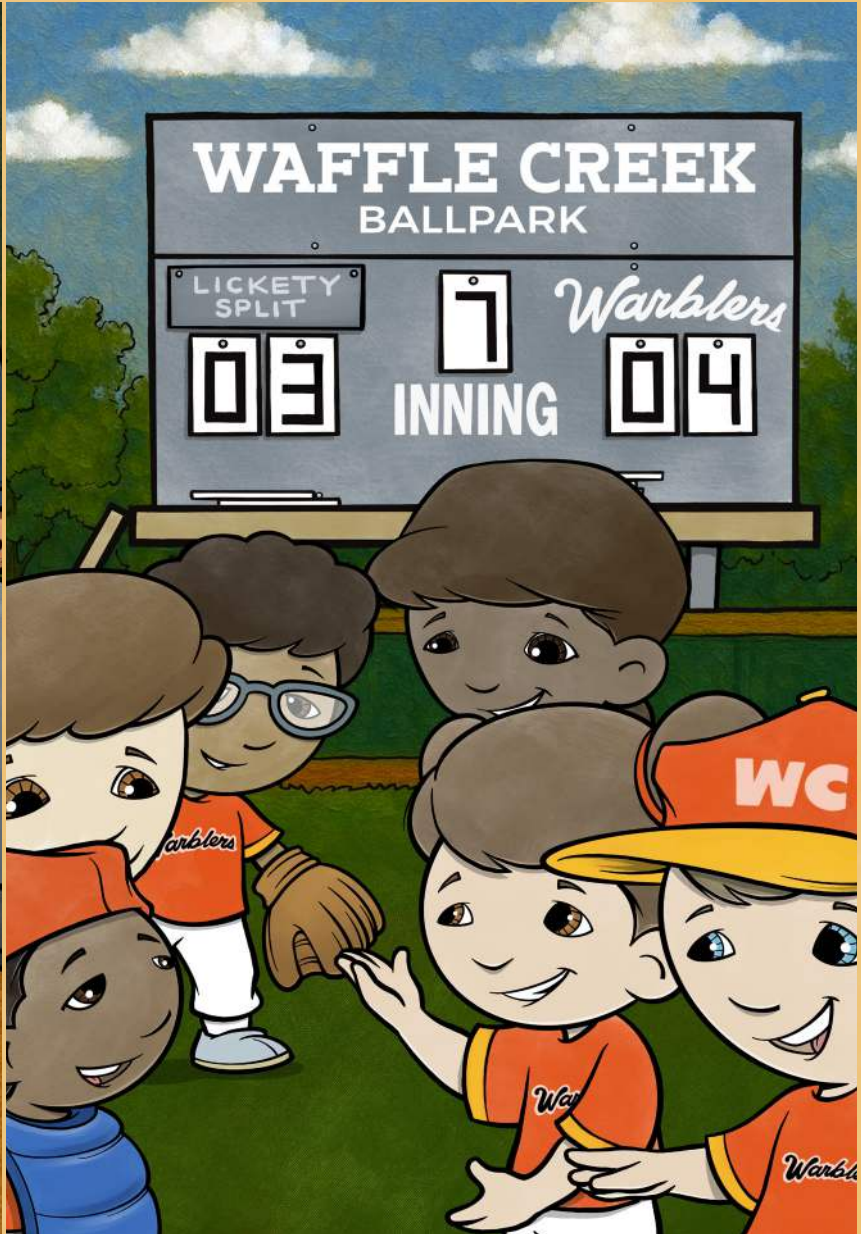
Only through Jesus's perfect life can I be counted as righteous.

Gospel Connection

Just as a shepherd would risk his own life to save the sheep of his flock, Christ's suffering and death on the cross was not all that was needed for the salvation of God's people. Christ's life of obedience was also required. If Christ did not live a perfect life, people could not be saved. This makes Jesus Christ's perfect obedience essential for the salvation of all who are in God's family.

Background Information (for the instructor)

- The Gospels focus a great deal of attention on the death of Jesus. This is important, for Christ's death is essential to salvation. If this event did not happen, people could not be saved. Christ's death was necessary in order for people to receive forgiveness of sins and salvation. His death was the "payment" required to satisfy God's wrath so that he might give eternal life to his people (*see Romans 3:23*). As the author of Hebrews said, "without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins" (*Hebrews 9:22*). However, Christ's suffering and death was not all that is needed for the salvation of God's people. Christ's life of obedience was also required. If Christ did not live a perfect life, people could not be saved.
- Scholars sometimes refer to Christ's suffering and death as his passive obedience. They refer to Christ's life of obedience as his active obedience. In Christ's active obedience, God's demands of perfect law-keeping by his people are met. In Christ's passive obedience, the payment for sin is met. Both "aspects" of Christ's obedience are essential to salvation.
- Reading the Gospels should give joy and confidence to the people of God. When we read about Christ's joyful obedience, we are reading about our covenant representative perfectly obeying! He has made it possible for God's people to walk in joyful fellowship with him (*see Matthew 5:17 and Galatians 2:20*).



WAFFLE CREEK

Jacob's Perfect Day

“SchhwwwiiiiSSSSh!” the bat cleanly sliced through the air.

“smaaackkkk!” the ball slammed into Jacob's catcher's mitt.

“Steeeeeerike two!” the umpire yelled.

The Waffle Creek Warblers were, incredibly, stupendously, marvelously, just one pitch away from winning.

They had never played a worse baseball game. The Lickety Split Lions had never played better. The Lions deserved to win. Yet Waffle Creek was one pitch away from victory!

“C'mon Noah!” Esther called from right field. “One more pitch!”

“You've got this, Noah!” Rebekah shouted from third base. “Let's end this game!”

Noah put everything he had into this last pitch.

“SchhwwwiiiiSSSSh!” The bat missed the ball.

“smaaackkkk!” the ball slammed into Jacob's mitt.

“Steeeeeerike three!” The umpire's call officially ended the game.

The Warblers ran to home plate and surrounded Jacob.

It had been a perfectly terrible, incredibly awful game. Awful for every Waffle Creek player, that is, except for one.

“What a strange game!” Mary laughed. “We had eight players who couldn't hit ...”

“... and one player who couldn't miss!” Jude added.

Everyone stared at Jacob. He shook his head in embarrassment.

“C'mon, you guys,” he started. “You remember last week. I couldn't hit anything!”

“That was last week,” Micah jumped in. “But today you were perfect!”

Micah was right. Jacob had never played like this before. Everything he did, at least on this one day, worked perfectly.

“Jacob,” Noah cheered, “you won this game!”

Jacob shook his head. “Nope. We won this game. Look at the scoreboard.”

Eighteen eyes turned and stared at the scoreboard.

Rebekah laughed, “It should say Jacob 4 and Lickety Split 3.”

“But it doesn't say that,” Jacob insisted. “It says Waffle Creek 4 and Lickety Split 3. My hits were your hits. And my good day was your good day.”

“You know what this means, don't you?” Mary asked.

The other eight players shook their heads “no.”

“Since we played such a great game,” Mary continued. “I think we deserve some ice cream!”

She paused for a moment.

“But even though we played such a great game, we still should probably buy Jacob his cone!”



About the Illustration (for the instructor)

The illustration on page five is a depiction of young Jesus at the temple. Jesus's presence at the temple at a young age is very significant. Jesus knew that he was the son of God, and that he belonged in his father's house!

Canon Connection

Today's Bible story comes from the fourth section of Scripture (*The Gospels and Acts*).

What does the fourth gear do?
The fourth gear works perfectly.

GROUP ACTIVITY (all students)

WHO IS JESUS?

Directions on page 9.

Group Lesson

Together we have learned many important parts of who Jesus is. Each one is further proof that Jesus is the rescuer that God's people had been waiting for! Today we will learn about another very important part of who Jesus is – Jesus is God's obedient son.

What does it mean to be obedient? Being obedient means that you have chosen to listen to someone else's rules and authority. For example: Your parent or caregiver might ask you to clean up the toys in your room. To be obedient would mean that you went to your room right away and cleaned up the toys. Are we always obedient to God or our parents and caregivers? Sadly, no. All people are born with the natural desire to rebel against God. This is called sin. Sin came into the world a long time ago when the first man, Adam, sinned against God.

Adam, as God's son, failed. He rebelled against God's law, and chose, instead, to obey Satan's words (*see Genesis 3:1-7*). And because we are all a part of Adam's family, we are all born with the same problem – we are all born with the same sin nature and disobedience in our hearts.

Thankfully, this is not the end of the story. God brought another son into the world. His name is Jesus! Would this son obey God? Or would Jesus be disobedient like Adam? Jesus did obey! Jesus never sinned. He perfectly obeyed God the father in every way! Because of Jesus, the people in God's family are delivered from their sin. Because of Jesus, all who are in God's family are counted as perfect and obedient!

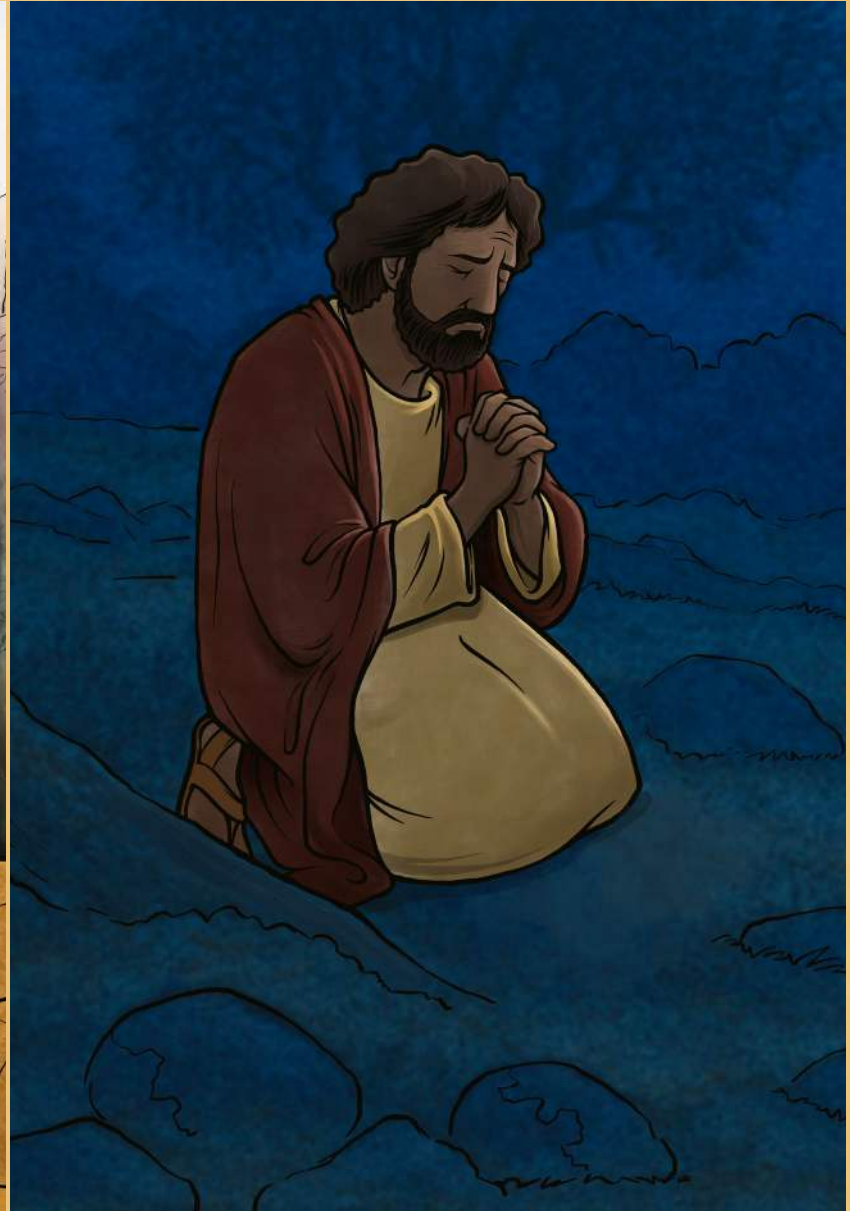
Read Philippians 2:8 (all students)

Jesus's perfect obedience can be read about in God's word. Today we will read three short stories about Jesus's life. Each story is further proof that Jesus is God's perfect and obedient son!

STORY #1: JESUS WAS OBEDIENT AS A BOY.

There is only one story found in the Bible of Jesus as a young boy. It is the story of Jesus in the temple (*the place where God's people went to worship God*) when he was 12 years old. This story shows Jesus's obedience to God even as a child. Even as a boy, Jesus desired to learn about God and to be in God's house (*the temple*). Jesus knew God was his Father. Even at this young age, he was trying to please God!

Read Luke 2:41-51 (older students)



About the Illustration (for the instructor)

There are two illustrations on page seven. The first illustration (*on the left*) is a depiction of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness. The black shadow to the side of Jesus represents Satan. The dark coloring of the shadow represents the evil and wickedness of Satan. It is in this evil that Satan attempted to tempt Jesus into disobeying God. The illustration on the right is a depiction of Jesus praying the night of his arrest. It is important to point out his sorrowful face. Jesus knew his painful death was near. Jesus was obedient even in the midst of great sorrow and pain!

Group Lesson

STORY #2: JESUS WAS OBEDIENT IN HIS MINISTRY.

Jesus's perfect obedience did not end when he was a boy. He continued to be obedient to God in all he said and did! Jesus again showed his perfect obedience to God when he was tempted by Satan. For forty days in the wilderness and with no food, Satan tried to tempt Jesus. Satan tried everything! But Jesus, as the perfect Son of God, did not follow Satan or sin against God. Instead, by his use of God's word, Jesus resisted Satan's temptations and remained obedient and faithful to God!

Read Luke 4:1-13 (older students)

STORY #3: JESUS WAS OBEDIENT IN DEATH.

Jesus knew that the time of his death had come. It would not be easy! The Bible tells us that Jesus was very sorrowful about what was to come. Even though Jesus was sorrowful for his coming death, Jesus was obedient and faithful to God and his good plans. Jesus knew, in his perfect obedience, that his death was the only way that God's people could forever be counted as righteous before a holy God!

Read Matthew 26:36-39 (older students)

Classroom Discussion (all students)

1. What does it mean to be obedient? Share about a time when you were obedient.
Being obedient means that you have chosen to listen to someone else's rules and authority.
2. Why is it important that Jesus was perfectly obedient?
Only a sinless and blameless person could be the sacrifice for the sins of others. Jesus's perfect obedience made it possible for him to be the sacrifice for all who are in God's family!
3. Briefly review the three stories we read about from Jesus's life. How did Jesus display perfect obedience throughout his life?
Answers will vary. It is important to emphasize Jesus's perfect obedience and faithfulness even in the midst of difficult situations.
4. How does Jesus's perfect obedience affect the rescue of every person in God's family?
Only a perfect and blameless sacrifice could be the sacrifice for the sins of others. It was only through Jesus's perfect and blameless life that he could be the sacrifice for all who are in God's family!

GROUP ACTIVITY (all students)

OBEY THE LEADER

Directions on page 10.

GROUP ACTIVITY (all students)

WHO IS JESUS?

Materials

- Two pieces of plain paper
- Tape
- Black marker
- Review questions

Directions

Prior to Instruction:

1. Write the word “True” on one piece of paper, and “False” on the other piece of paper. Tape the two pieces of paper on opposite sides of your learning space.
2. Read the review question. Students must stand by the poster that says “True” if they agree with the statement, and stand by the poster that says “False” if they disagree with the statement.

Review Questions

1. Jesus Christ is God’s son. He is the rescuer that God’s people had been waiting for!
True
2. Jesus had fourteen special helpers called the disciples. They are known as the fourteen disciples.
False. Jesus had twelve special helpers in his time of ministry. These twelve helpers are called the twelve disciples.
3. Jesus is the great teacher. I need to obey most of the things he has said.
False. God’s people must obey everything that Jesus the great teacher has said.
4. Jesus is the great miracle worker. Miracles are special signs that proclaim that Jesus is God!
True
5. Jesus is the good shepherd. This means that he is the best at caring for the sheep in a pasture.
False. Jesus is the good shepherd. He takes great care of his sheep! All who are in God’s family are the sheep, and Jesus is their shepherd!



GROUP ACTIVITY (all students)

OBEY THE LEADER

This game is a simple and engaging way to practice the skill of obedience!

The object of the game: The detective wins if they discover the identity of the leader. The rest of the group will win if the leader remains undetected.



Directions

1. Sit in a circle. Choose one person to be the detective. Once chosen, this person must leave the circle and step out of the learning space for a brief moment.
2. Next, choose the leader. This leader is responsible for deciding the simple movements for the rest of the people in the circle to follow. The simple movements could be snapping your fingers, sitting in a certain position, waving your hand in a particular direction, blinking one eye, etc.
3. Once you have chosen the leader, allow the detective to rejoin your learning space and begin the game.
4. Without giving their identity away, the leader must silently lead the rest of the group in simple movements. The rest of the group must obey the movements that the leader is directing. Encourage the leader to change motions multiple times while the detective is not looking.
5. Give the detective a certain number of guesses (the number of guesses will depend on age and ability). The detective must attempt to discover the leader within the permitted number of guesses. The detective will win if they discover the leader. The rest of the group will win if the leader remains unnoticed!
6. Repeat steps two through five with different detectives and leaders if time allows.

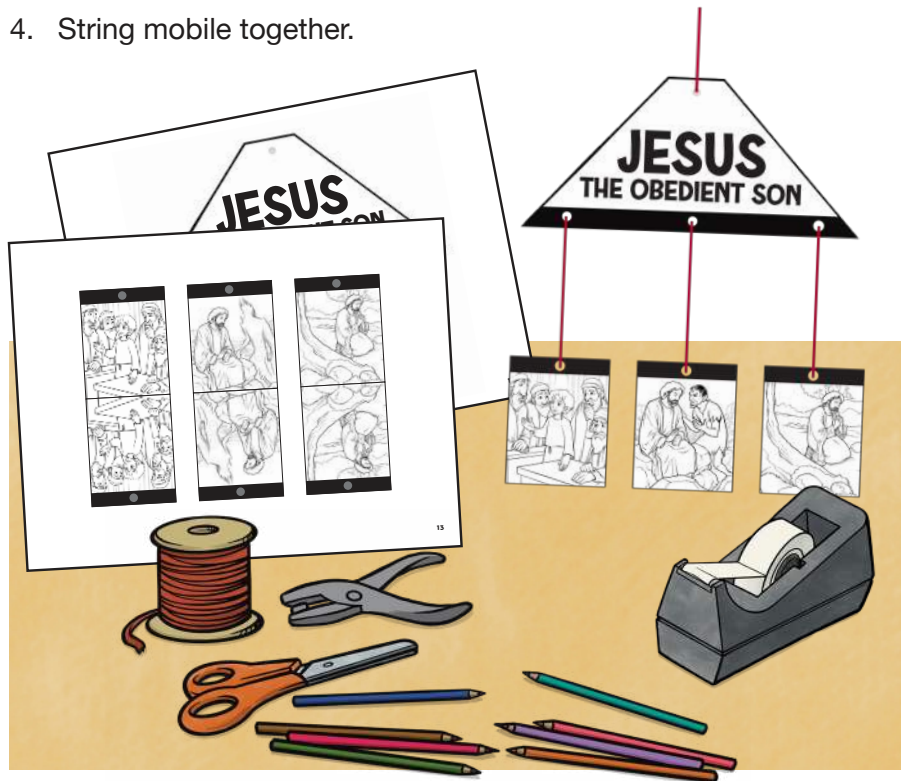
GROUP ACTIVITY (younger students) JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON – MOBILE

Materials

- Mobile template (pages 12 + 13)
- String
- Hole punch
- Kid scissors
- Coloring utensils
- Tape

Directions

1. Color the mobile templates.
2. Cut out the 4 pieces - fold them over and tape closed
- 3.. Using the hole punch, punch holes in the hole punch circles on each element of the mobile.
4. String mobile together.



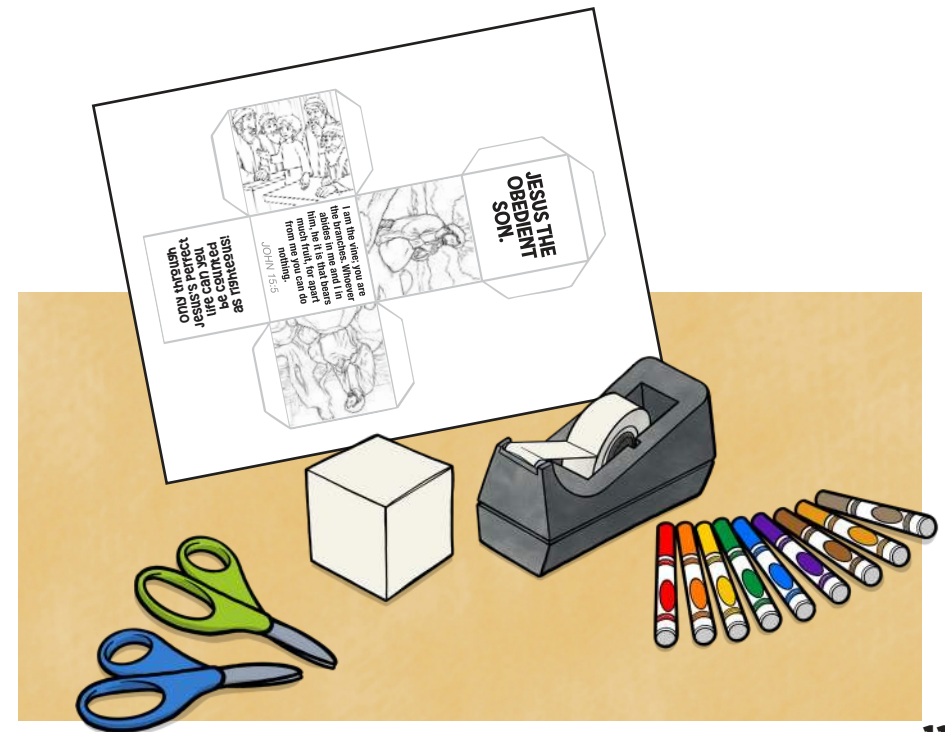
GROUP ACTIVITY (older students) JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON – REVIEW CUBE

Materials

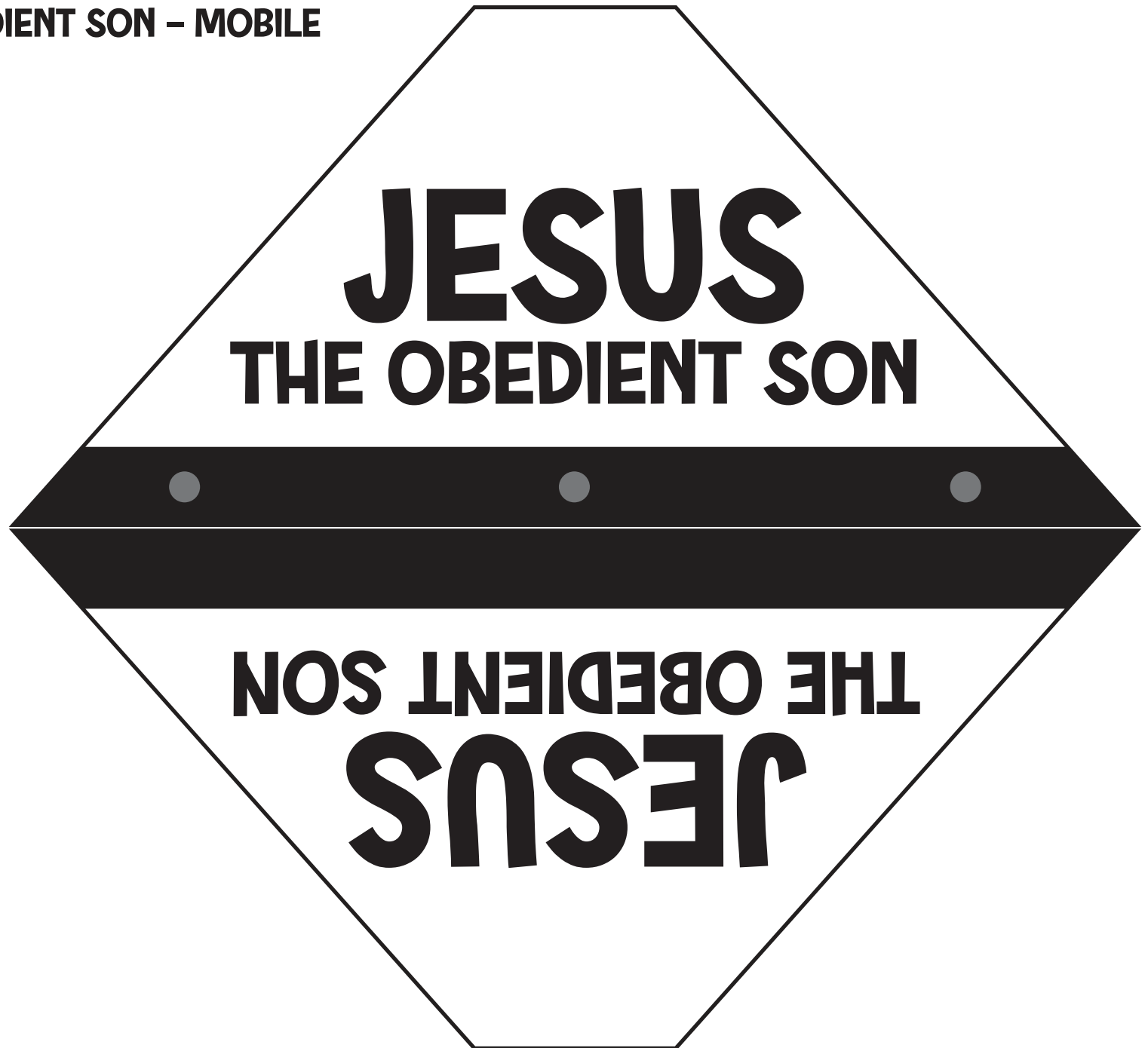
- Jesus the Obedient Son - Review Cube (page 14)
- Coloring utensils
- Tape or glue stick
- Kid scissors

Directions

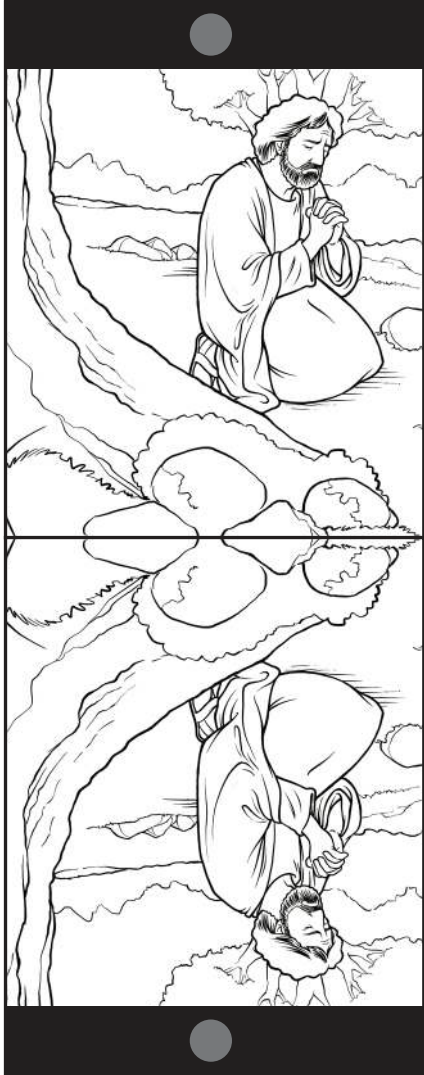
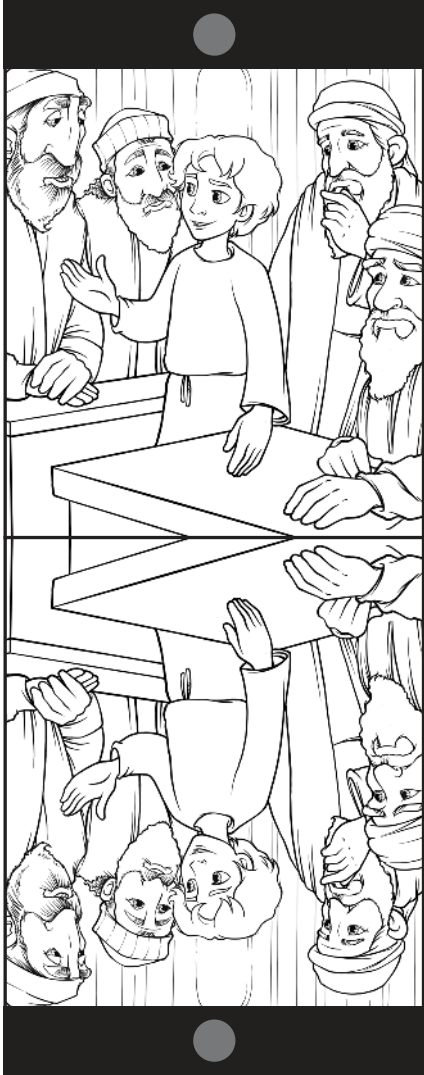
1. Color the cube.
2. Cut out the cube on the dotted line.
3. Assemble the cube using tape or a glue stick.



JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON – MOBILE



JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON – MOBILE



JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON – REVIEW CUBE



**Only through
Jesus's perfect
life can you
be counted
as righteous.**

**I am the vine; you are
the branches. Whoever
abides in me and I in
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nothing.**
JOHN 15:5



**JESUS THE
OBEDIENT
SON.**



OBEDIENT OR DISOBEIDENT?

CUT AND PASTE EACH STATEMENT IN THE CORRECT COLUMN.

OBEDIENT

DISOBEIDENT

| | |
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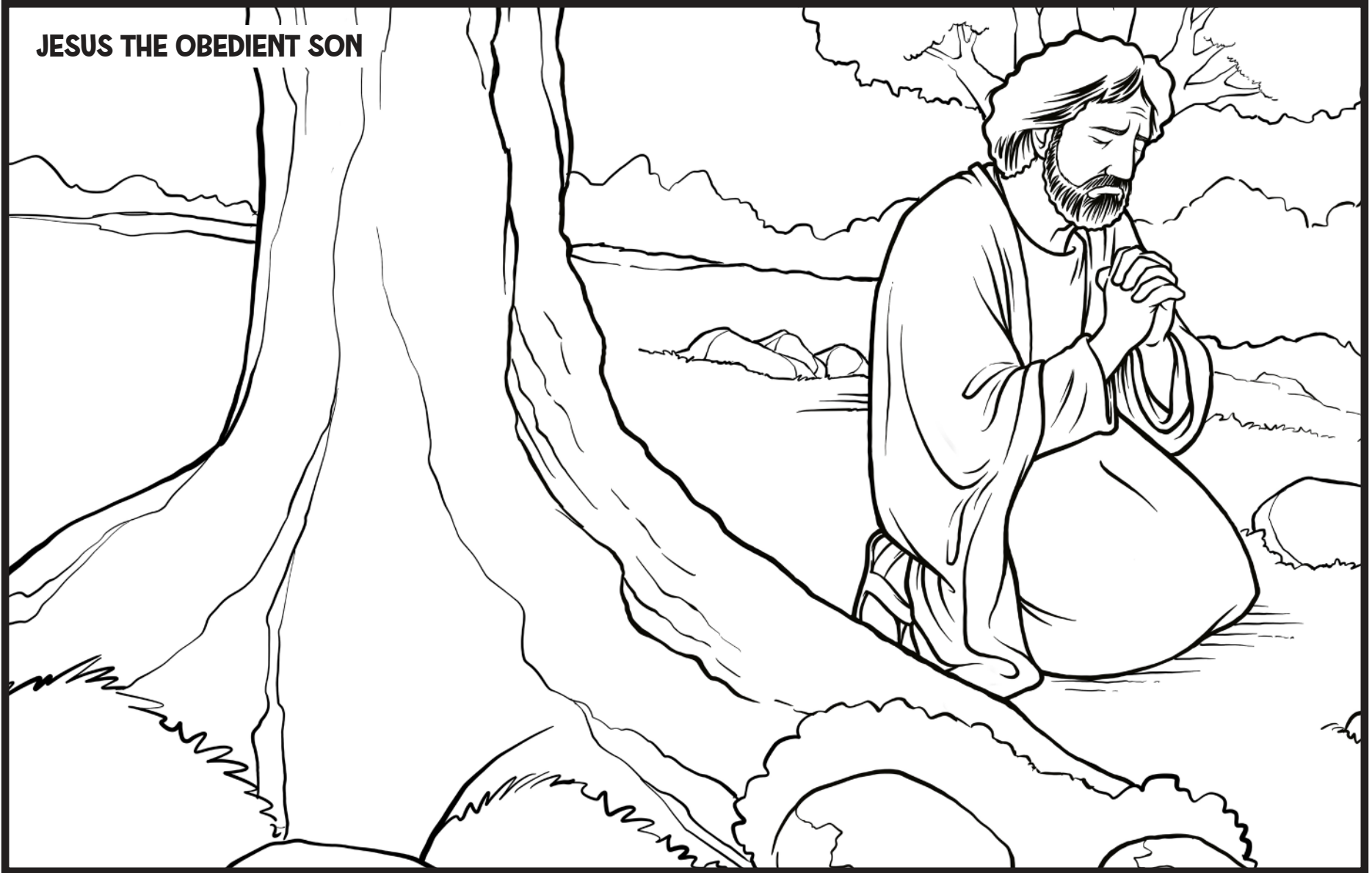
Two of your friends are going to the ice cream shop after school. You would like to go with them, but your parents have asked you to come straight home. Feeling disappointed, you listen to your parents instructions and go straight home.

Your teacher has asked you to clean up your workspace, but instead of doing it right away, you decided to leave the mess for later. What's harm if it will be cleaned at a different time?

The sign in the lunch room says that each student can have one dessert. Cookies are your favorite, and there are more than enough for everyone! Making sure that no one is watching, you carefully place a second cookie in your bag for later.

Your parents asked you to complete your chores before going out to play with your friends. You choose to listen to your parents and complete the chores right away!

JESUS THE OBEDIENT SON



I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him,
he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5



LESSON 37

Jesus the Good Shepherd

LESSON REVIEW

All people are born with the natural desire to rebel against God. This is called sin. Sin came into the world a long time ago when the first man, Adam, sinned against God. And because we are all a part of Adam's family, we are all born with the same problem – we are all born with the same sin nature and disobedience in our hearts.

Thankfully, this is not the end of the story. God brought another son into the world. His name is Jesus! Would this son obey God? Or would Jesus be disobedient like Adam? Jesus did obey. Jesus never sinned. He perfectly obeyed God the father in every way! Because of Jesus, the people in God's family are delivered from their sin. Because of Jesus, all who are in God's family are counted as perfect and obedient!

MAIN IDEA

Only through Jesus's perfect life can I be counted as righteous!

MEMORY VERSE

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be obedient? Share about a time when you were obedient.
2. Why is it important that Jesus was perfectly obedient?
3. How does Jesus's perfect obedience affect the rescue of every person in God's family?



HANDS to the PLOW
MINISTRIES

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CONCLUSION

Set 4 Map: Lesson 37

Directions

Make a color copy of this page and cut out the image below. Attach this to the appropriate place on the 24 x 30 BG4LE SET 3 MAP POSTER.

