**Lesson Plan**

October 12th, 2025

**This Month’s Truth:** I Am Forgiven

**Bible Story:** Jeremiah told of a new promise (Jeremiah 11:1-10; 17:1-10; 31–33)

**Theme Verse:** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

**Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive:** Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day! Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus!

**Share:** Our Bible story today is about Jeremiah, the prophet. God gave Jeremiah a special message to give to the people: obey Him and be blessed. But the people did not obey God. They kept making wrong choices because their hearts were deceitful. (Read Jeremiah 17:9-10.) God promised that He would give us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Today, we get to show kids that when we trust in Jesus, our new heart helps us know Him, love Him, follow Him, and live the way we were created to be.

**Pray:** Lead the group in prayer, thanking God for the team and inviting Him to work in big ways in the hearts of kids today

**Pre Service**

**Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.**

**Service**

**What To Do:**

* **Teacher** Start 5-minute countdown **5 minutes prior to service start time.** The Countdown Video is meant to be played as a signal to transition to Large Group. The video is fun and interactive with opportunities for the kids to respond and cheer. Help kids engage and interact with the video by calling out what's happening, asking for their guesses, and cheering with them.

**Teacher Opener:** Hi, everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_. I am so happy you are here today! Everyone, turn to a friend next to you and give him a high five! Today, we are going to talk about being totally new. Everyone, say, “Totally new!” (Totally new!)

**Something Old, Something New**

**Game Rules:**

1. Play each video and decide if the object is old or new by moving to that side of the room.
2. Reveal the answer, then return to the middle to play again.

**What You Say:** We have all seen new things, and we have all seen old things. Maybe you have tried to watch your favorite show on an old TV with a bad picture, tried to ride an old bike with the chain falling off, or gotten a chance to ride a brand-new bike that rides smoothly down the street! Today, we will get a chance to act like we are using some old objects and some new objects.

Watch the screen and try to decide if the hidden object is old or new. You will walk to the left if you think the object is old and to the right if you think the object is new. There’s one catch though! You will also pretend to use that object as you go! Let’s see how many you can get right. If you are ready for our game, stand up and say, “I’m ready!” (I’m ready!)

The first object is a car! Pretend to drive to the left if you think it is old and drive to the right if you think it is new. (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is old! Do you think it would be fun to drive an old car? Let’s go back to the middle and see the next one.

It’s a bike! Pretend to ride your bike to the left if you think it is an old bike and ride your bike to the right if you think it is new. (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is new! That bike looks awesome! Come back to the middle and let’s check out the next one.

It’s a soccer ball! Pretend to kick your soccer ball to the left if you think it is old and kick it to the right if you think it is new. Be sure not to kick your friend on the way! (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is an old soccer ball! It has probably seen a lot of feet. Head back to the middle. We have three more puzzles to do. Show the next one!

It’s a pot! Pretend like you are stirring your favorite food. Go to the left if you think it is an old pot and to the right if you think it is new. Do not forget to stir as you go! (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is a new pot! I bet that would make some great food. Come back to the middle, and let’s see what we have next.

It’s a jump rope! Go left jumping rope if you think it is an old jump rope and jump rope to the right if you think it is new. (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is an old jump rope! Hurry back to the middle because we have one more. Let’s see it!

A basketball! Pretend to dribble and shoot toward the left if you think it is an old basketball and dribble and shoot to the right if you think it is new. (Allow time until the answer is revealed.) It is a new basketball! Great job, everyone! Go ahead and head back to your seats.

There are some big differences between old things and new things! Sometimes, old things need to be replaced with something new. You did a great job pretending to use those objects! Some of you really had me thinking you were on a basketball court! Today, we are going to talk about how God makes us totally new when we trust in Jesus. Everyone, say, “Totally new!” (Totally new!)

**Transition Script to go into the Intro Video:** Now we get to enjoy something amazing! Something incredible! Something action-packed and totally fun! It is time for the “Totally New Challenge!” Let’s get our video started by calling, “Action!” in 3-2-1! (Action!)

**Play Intro Video**

**What You Say:** It looks like Jet Viper and Doctor Proton learned that what is inside a car is just as important as what is on the outside of the car. And a brand-new inside made for brand-new action! Let me hear you say, “Brand-new action!” (Brand-new action!) When we trust in God, He gives us a new heart so we can follow Him. He transforms what is on the inside of us. He helps our thoughts, emotions, and motivation change so what is on the inside of us loves and follows Jesus. Say, “God gives me a new heart!” (God gives me a new heart!) God’s forgiveness changes us from the inside out!

**Worship**

**What You Say:** I am so excited for worship this morning! Let’s all come up front and praise God together!

**What To Do:**

* Turn lights off
* 2-3 songs of worship
* **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
* Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

**Bible Story Video**

**Transition script Teachers please use this to set-up the Bible Story and to encourage the use of Bibles in the classroom with the Kids:** (Open the Bible to Jeremiah 11:1-10; 17:1-10; 31–33.) Our story today comes from the book of Jeremiah. That is in the Old Testament, the first part of the Bible. Even though the Bible is 1 big book, there are actually 66 smaller books inside it! Jeremiah was a prophet, a person who shared special messages from God. Today, we will look at some of the words from God that Jeremiah spoke to the people of Judah. We will see how Jeremiah gave the people a message about making them totally new. Everyone, say, “Totally new!” (Totally new!)

**What To Do:**

* Play the Bible Story
* When it’s over, turn lights back on and ask what the Bible story was about (as well as the questions below), have kids respond, take some answers from the **small group leaders** and share some yours as well, use the script below to help make the connection for the kids.

**Questions to consider asking after the video:**

* What is something that you learned about God from the video?
* What is something that you learned about people?
* What can you take away from the video?
	+ How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

**Making The Connection Script:** God made a covenant, or a special promise, with the people of Judah. God promised He would bless them if they obeyed Him. But the people of Judah did not obey Him—they chose to sin. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than follow what God says is best. For example, God says kindness is best, but sometimes, we choose to say mean things to our siblings or friends.

Sin caused a big problem for the people of Judah. They lost their land, their money, and their freedom. Jeremiah warned the people of Judah about the bad things to come because of their sins, but his message also gave hope. He talked about a day when God would change people’s hearts and write His name on their hearts. Now, did Jeremiah mean our physical hearts inside our bodies? (No!) Instead, Jeremiah used “hearts” to mean the things we think, feel, and want.

The day Jeremiah talked about came when Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the whole world and rose again. Everyone, say, “God gives me a new heart!” (God gives me a new heart!)

**Offering**

**What To Do:**

* Play video explaining offering to kids
* Play offering time video while kids pass the bucket
* Ask a student(s) to come up and pray over the offering

**Theme Verse Review:**

Choose between the Video-Led Theme Verse option or the Host-Led Theme Verse option.

**Theme Verse Motions:** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, (Point to the sky.)

he is a new creation; (Cross open palms in front of your body, moving upward.)

the old has passed away, (Start with your hands out, right hand facing up and left hand facing down. Flip your hands so that the right hand is facing down and the left hand is facing up.)

and see, the new has come! (Spread your hands in front of body with palms facing up.)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (Hold your hands out like a book.)

**Option #1:** Put the memory verse slide on the screen.

**What You Say:** We are going to take some time to say a verse to remember that Jesus makes us totally new. One way God makes us new is by giving us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Everyone, say, “God gives me a new heart!” (God gives me a new heart!)

Repeat after me: (Use the motions above.)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, (Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,)

he is a new creation; (he is a new creation;)

the old has passed away, (the old has passed away,)

and see, the new has come! (and see, the new has come!)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Great job, everyone! Let’s say it again. This time let’s act like we are riding horses and say the Theme verse in “cowboy” voices.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, (Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,)

he is a new creation; (he is a new creation;)

the old has passed away, (the old has passed away,)

and see, the new has come! (and see, the new has come!)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (2 Corinthians 5:17)

When we trust in Jesus, we become new creations because God gives us new hearts. He makes us totally new by forgiving our sins and giving us new hearts to love Him, serve Him, and glorify Him.

**Option #2:** Play Memory verse video

**What You Say:** We are going to take some time to say the Theme verse to remember Jesus makes us totally new. One way God makes us new is by giving us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Everyone, say, “God gives me a new heart!” (God gives me a new heart!)

**Play Memory Verse Video**

**What You Say:** When we trust in Jesus, we become new creations because God gives us new hearts. He makes us totally new by forgiving our sins and giving us new hearts to love Him, serve Him, and glorify Him.

**Large Group Closing:**

**What You Say:** The words God gave to Jeremiah many years ago came true when Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, died for our sins, and rose again. Now, God gives a new heart to everyone who trusts in Jesus. He gives us a new heart to love Him, serve Him, and worship Him. He also forgives our sins. Everyone, say, “I am forgiven” (I am forgiven!) Before we move on, let’s thank God for the gift of a new heart He gives to all people who trust in Jesus.

**Closing Prayer:** God, thank You for being faithful to Your promise and giving us new hearts when we trust in You. Thank You for forgiving all our sins completely and forever when we trust in Jesus. Help us to remember You make anyone who trusts in Jesus totally new. Amen.

**Transition to Small Group Time:** Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

**Small Group Time:**

**Option #1:** Connection Questions

**What To Do:** Let’s take some time to talk about how God makes us totally new when we trust in Jesus.

1. What is the best totally new thing you have ever gotten? What did you like about it? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
2. The Bible tells us we are forgiven for our sins and given a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Let’s open our Bibles to Jeremiah 17:9-10 and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) This passage says there is no cure for the sin in our hearts—at least one we can find on our own. We learned that only Jesus can cure our sinful hearts. What happens when we trust in Jesus and He gives us new hearts? (Allow kids to answer. Point out that God writes His teachings on our new hearts and helps us obey Him.)
3. When we trust in Jesus, God gives us a new heart, and He forgives all our sins. What changes when our sins are forgiven? (Allow kids to answer. Remind kids that when we believe in Jesus, He forgives every sin we have ever done or will ever do, no matter how many or what kind of sins they are.)
4. The Bible tells us Jeremiah told people about a new promise from God to give us new hearts. God kept that promise when Jesus would die for us so we can be forgiven. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)

**Option #2:** A New Heart

**Leader Prep:** Cut multicolored tissue paper into small pieces. Set out supplies.

1. Trace the words on the paper with markers.
2. Glue pieces of tissue paper on the outline of the heart.
3. Color inside the heart.

**What To Do:** We spent time today talking about how God gives a new heart to those who trust in Him. What does God give us? (A new heart!) Now we will take some time decorating hearts to remind us God gives us new hearts when we trust in Him.

First, use a marker to trace the letters on your paper. Then, glue pieces of tissue paper around the outline of your heart with whatever colors you want to use. Last, color the inside of the heart with your favorite colors.

**Keep It Going:** Allow kids the option to use crayons to draw things or people they love in their hearts instead of coloring inside the entire heart.

**Loud And Clear:** God’s message that Jeremiah told the people of Judah a long time ago is a message for all of us too. God gives a new heart to anyone who trusts in Jesus. He wants all of us to trust in Jesus so we will be forgiven for our sins and made totally new.

**Option #3:** Activity Page

**What To Do:** This activity page helps us remember some big things we have learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

**Leader Tip:** Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story, or remind them God gives us new hearts when we trust and follow Jesus. He makes us totally new because He forgives all our sins.

**Loud And Clear:** The people of Judah could not stop disobeying God because their hearts were not changed. They were stuck in their sins. Jesus died and rose again to forgive all our sins and give us new hearts. He makes those who trust in Him totally new!

**Close out in prayer:**

**What To Do:**

* Ask for any specific prayer requests
* Pray with the group
* Lead the group in the prayer below.

**What You Say:** Thank You, God, for Your promise to give us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Thank You that the words given to Jeremiah are just as true now as they were when Jeremiah said them. Jesus, help us remember that it is only by trusting in You that we are forgiven and given a new heart. We praise You for making us totally new when we trust in You. Amen.

**Dismissal:**

**Leader Tip:** Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.