

Andrea was playing with legos in the living room. “Go to bed!!” her mother suggested. Andrea picked up her stuff and headed upstairs. The problem was that the light for the stairs was all the way at the top. To get there Andrea would have to walk all the way up those dark stairs to turn on the light and Andrea was afraid of the dark. She took a couple of steps, ran downstairs and her mother had to go up and turn the light on for her. This happened every night. Finally her mother told her that she was old enough to go upstairs by herself and that she wasn’t going to go up and turn the light on for her any more. The next night Andrea’s mom suggested that she “Go to bed!!!” Andrea started up the stairs by herself. It was really dark up there. She was just about ready to run back down and tell her mom that she couldn’t do it when she remembered something...”I will never leave you or forsake you.” Who said that? Andrea remembered and believed what Jesus said. She walked to the top of the stairs knowing that she wasn’t alone. When she got to the top she didn’t even turn the light on for a moment. She just stood there at the top and smiled.



Jeff’s mom had just finished making a gigantic chocolate cake when Jeff came home from school. Chocolate cake was Jeff’s favorite, especially the chocolate frosting. He was just about to stick his finger in the frosting and take a big lick when his mother hit his hand with the big spoon she was holding. “Don’t touch that! It’s for a party tomorrow!” Later Jeff’s parents had to go somewhere , leaving Jeff at home by himself. Jeff walked into he kitchen and saw the chocolate cake sitting on the counter. He stood over it and took a good sniff of the delicious chocolate. He was just about to stick his finger in the frosting when he remembered two things. “Don’t touch the cake!” and “Children obey your parents because this pleases the Lord.” Jeff remembered what the his mom said and what the Bible said. He left the cake and went back to doing his homework. When his parents got home they were so happy that Jeff had obeyed. They had a good night that night. What kind of night would they have had if Jeff hadn’t obeyed? Jeff was glad he remembered what Jesus said. Our prayer should be “Lord help me to remember.”



**John 3: 1-10**

**Topic:** a) We have to be born twice?

a) One day a baby caterpillar was born. It was very tiny. Soon it began to grow and crawl around on the trees looking for food to eat. It had to be very careful because at any time a bird might swoop down and grab it! Then one day the caterpillar's mother told her that she had to make something.



The thing she had to make was called a cocoon.

God had given the caterpillar everything she needed to make the cocoon. Once made, the caterpillar slipped into the cocoon and went to sleep. Soon the caterpillar woke up and broke out of her cocoon. Only when she came out, she was totally different. She wasn't a caterpillar any more...she was a beautiful butterfly. The butterfly came out, spread her wings and flew high above the trees.



- Caterpillars need to become butterflies.
- People need to become children of God

There are five life forms God has created...

plants,  
animals (including bugs and fish),  
people,  
angels  
and children of God.



- Which of these life forms is the lowest?
- Which is the highest? (children of God)
- You are a person. You can't become a plant, animal or angel but you can become a child of God.
- By believing in His Name.

**Topic:** b) How do we do this?

Did the caterpillar turn herself into a butterfly?

- Who did?
- We cannot turn ourselves into God's children. God does it for all who believe.

Once there was a lump of clay sitting on a shelf in a potters shop. This lump of clay wanted very badly to become a beautiful pitcher that people would use and display. The lump of clay tried and tried but no matter what he did he couldn't make himself into a beautiful pitcher. He could only be a lump of clay. Then one day



the potter came in and took the lump of clay off the shelf. He put the clay on his wheel and slowly and gently began to mold and shape the clay. When he was done he put the clay back on the shelf and all the people who came into the shop said, “My what a beautiful pitcher!”

- Could the clay turn itself into a pitcher? Who did it?
- It is God who changes people into something wonderful.
- Our prayer...”Lord, make me your child.”



### **John 3: 11-21**

**Topic:** a) Why did Jesus die?

Numbers 21: 4-9....Sin being judged on a cross. Whoever looked at the serpent lived. Whoever looks to Jesus, lives.

- a) There are four roads, A, B, C and D. A goes to Florida. B goes to New York City. C goes to Buffalo. D goes to Alaska
- You want to go to New York City. Which road do you take? Why not the other roads?
  - This is why Jesus died on the cross. There was no other way for us to go to heaven except for someone perfect to take all our sins and die.

**Topic:** b) Did someone make Jesus do it?

b) Jerome was a skateboarder. Every spare minute he had he would be outside practicing tricks. When he wasn't in school or practicing his skateboarding, Jerome was working. He wanted to earn enough money to buy a new skateboard. Finally the day came when Jerome had enough to go to the skateboard shop and buy the new board. As soon as he got home he went outside to try it out. It skated really nice. There was also a little boy who lived down the street named Kenny. Whenever Kenny saw Jerome out skateboarding he would run outside and watch him. Kenny wanted to be a skateboarder too.

Kenny was watching Jerome on his new board when suddenly Jerome ran inside. He came out with his old skateboard in his hand. “Here” he said to Kenny, “You can have this.” Kenny was so excited to have a real skateboard! He thanked Jerome and started practicing all the tricks he had seen Jerome do.



- Did someone make Jerome give Kenny his old skateboard?
- Why did he do it? (He wanted to.)
- Why did he want to?
- No one made Jesus go to the cross.
- Why did He do it?
- Don't ever doubt God's love for you.

**Topic:** c) What is eternal life?

c) Once there was a kid who bought a piece of gum. The gum costs fifty cents just for one piece! This was because it was the best tasting gum in the world! The boy put the gum in his mouth and began to chew. It really was the best gum he had ever had. He chewed and chewed and chewed and chewed. This gum was really good but will it last forever?



c) Andrea was invited to a birthday party. She couldn't wait because she knew it was going to be fun. All her friends would be there. They were going to play games and go swimming and eat cake and candy. She bought a present for her friend and went to the party. It really was a good one! They even had a horse there that the kids could ride! The party was great and she had the best time but will it last forever?



c) It was a hot summer day. Max and his sister stayed inside. It was too hot to even go outside and play. It was boring inside but at least it wasn't as hot. Soon their father came in from mowing the lawn. "It's too hot to do anything today."



We're going to the beach! The kids were really happy. That day they swam, they had a picnic, they built sandcastles and on the way home they stopped at a restaurant to eat. It was a really fun day and the kids were thankful but did it last forever?

c) Is there anything on earth that lasts forever?

- Those who believe in Jesus live forever
- Nothing you can see with your eyes will last forever.
- Only the things you can't see now are forever.

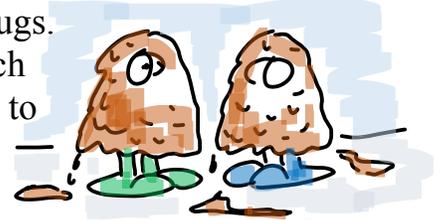
What do you think your life will be like ten billion trillion years from now?

- You will be there to see it.

**Topic:** d) Do you want to be clean or stay dirty?

There was once a town named “Mudville.” The people in Mudville liked to cover themselves with mud. They thought it looked good and to make themselves look really pretty they would also cover themselves with dead bugs.

One day a man came into town. This man had a hose which he hooked up to a fire hydrant and asked if anyone wanted to become clean. Some did. The man sprayed them with his hose and all the mud and dead bugs came off. Once clean the people felt better than they had ever felt. They were so happy! But some of the people didn’t want to be clean. So they just kept covering themselves with mud and dead bugs.



- We can keep our sins or ask Jesus to make us clean.

### **John 3: 22-30**

**Topic:** a) We can receive nothing unless it’s been given to us from above.

a) Once upon a time there were some leaves lying on the ground. They were bored. All they did all day was just lie on the ground. The wind came by, saw the leaves and thought he would brighten their day so he blew a big gust and the leaves went sailing high up into the air and gently landed back down on the ground. On the ground one of the leaves turned to his friend and said, “Wow...! did you see me make myself fly?!” Is this a true statement?



- We cannot even take our next breath unless God allows it.
- It is God who created us, saved us and keeps us alive.

a) Once there was an ice cube who lived in a freezer. He lived there with the rest of his family and his friends. All the ice cubes were happy in the freezer. It was nice and cold in there, the way ice cubes like it. However this ice cube thought it would be better to leave the freezer and live on the kitchen floor. So he waited until one of the people opened the freezer door. When they did, he jumped out and landed on the floor. “I made it!” he thought. A few minutes later though, the ice cube wasn’t there anymore. He had disappeared.



- Why did he disappear? (couldn’t live outside the freezer)
- We cannot live outside of God

- He is the only source of life.

**Topic:** b) He must increase and I must decrease.

b) What does it mean to increase? What does it mean to decrease?

b) Once there was a boy whom people called, “Brat boy.” They called him brat boy because he was a boy and he was a brat. One day someone gave brat boy a Bible. He started reading it. He began to learn about Jesus. He saw how good God is. He started praying to God. Little by little he started to change. He got nicer and nicer to his parents and friends. One day his mother picked him up, gave him a great big hug and said with a big smile on her face, “What happened to you?”



- What happened to him?  
(he decreased, Jesus increased)



b) There were some people lost in the woods on a cold dark night. There was one boy who had a tiny flashlight. The people looked to him for light and warmth (even though there wasn't too much of either coming from the flashlight.) Someone said, “The sun will be up soon!” The boy with the flashlight said, “We don't need the sun, my flashlight will give us all the light and heat we need.” Pretty soon the sun came up. It got warmer and warmer and soon there was total sunlight. The boy turned off his flashlight. “Gee” he said, “I guess this is better.”



- The sun increased and he decreased, which was a good thing.
- John...”He must increase and I must decrease.” Was this a good thing? Is it a good thing for us too?

**John 3: 31-36**

**Topic:** a) Jesus is above all.

a) There was a man who had to move a box. His boss told him to put the box in room A. His boss's boss told him to put the box in room B. His boss's boss's boss told him to put the box in room C. Where is he going to put the box....Why?



- Jesus is the boss of the whole universe. What He says goes

- . a) Joshua 10: 6-14...The sun stood still. Isn't this impossible? Why not?
- a) Exodus 17: 3-6...Water from the rock. Isn't this impossible? Why not?
- a) Exodus 14: 1-31...Parting of the Red Sea...Isn't this impossible? Why not?
- a) Genesis 1: 3...Creating by speaking....Impossible...Why not?
- a) John 11: 1-45...Raising the dead by speaking...Impossible...Why not?

**Topic:** b) He who receives His word has everlasting life.

b) It was a hot day. Freddy came in and was dying from the heat. His mother told him to go to the refrigerator, open it up, look in the freezer and he would find some delicious fudge cicles. Freddy heard what his mother said, believed what she said and did what she said....What did he get? Why did he get it?



b) One time some kids were walking in the woods when an old pirate came up to them. He handed them an piece of paper that looked really old. He told them that it was a treasure map and if they followed it they would find a treasure chest full of gold. He then showed them some gold pieces to prove that he was telling the truth. The kids believed what the pirate said; they followed the treasure map to the spot and started digging. What do you think they will get? Why did they get it?



b) "Whoever believes in Me will never die."

- Do you hear what Jesus said?
- Do you believe what He says?
- What will you get? (eternal life)

**Topic:** c) What is eternal life?

c) Once there was a boy who got a free piece of gum. It was the best tasting gum he had ever had. Every time he chewed it, instead of the flavor wearing out...the flavor got better and better and that piece of gum lasted forever.



- The real story is that salvation is a free gift.
- We don't start living until we ask Jesus into our heart. Then it gets better and better because we get to know God

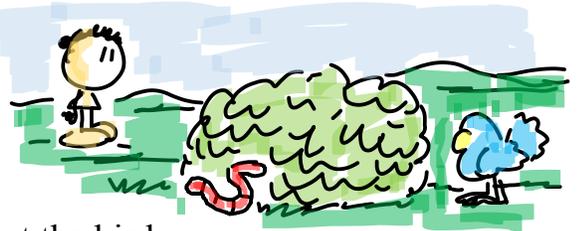
- And we live forever because of what Jesus has done for us.

### John 4: 1-30

**Topic:** a) He was wearied. Jesus is God in a person. Why would He want to come down like that?

- a) Jesus is God. The creator of the universe.
- What do you think God looks like?
  - Does God ever get sick, tired, scared?
  - Jesus became a person... Why?

a) Once there was a boy walking through the woods. He looked down on the ground and saw a worm crawling along. The worm was headed in the wrong direction because there was a bird hiding in the bushes with its mouth open. The boy was way too big to talk to the worm. There was only way to save the worm. The boy would have to become a worm, crawl over to him and warn him about the bird.



- Would you do it?
- Oh yeah...if you become a worm to save the worm, you will have to be a worm for the rest of your life.
- Do you still want to do it?
- What would be the only reason the boy would become a worm forever to save the worm? (love for the worm.)
- Jesus gave up being in the form of God to become a person and save us.

**Topic:** b) Do you know the gift of God? How do we receive it?

b) It was Devons birthday. His dad bought him a bike. This bike had high handlebars and foot pegs so you could do tricks. It had a headlight and tail lights for riding at night. It had a siren on it. It had a cd player on it so you could listen to music while you rode. It had a dvd player so you could watch movies on it when you weren't riding. It had a engine on it so when you got tired of peddling you could push a button and the bike would go by itself. It also had wings.



When you pushed the button the wings would come out and you could fly high over the trees and houses. Oh, also when you bought the bike you got a coupon for free pizza for a year. Question: Do you know how cool this bike is?! But it's pretend.