

CREATING A LESSON PLAN

An effective lesson plan helps you name the intended outcome, organize your presentation, and assess results. Although it takes time, creating a lesson plan and relying on it as your guiding tool are critical to your success. This process will help you organize your efforts and maximize your participant's learning, fun, and growth in faith.

DATE

TEXTBOOK LESSON/CHAPTER

OBJECTIVE

This is what you want participants to know, demonstrate, and/or better understand at the end of the lesson. Objectives usually are measurable in some way. It should be only one or two items and these are sometimes included in the manual at the very beginning.

GREETING/WELCOME

This is what is done as the participants are arriving. It would include greeting, calling them by name, asking how they are. A good idea is to have something for the early arrivals to do while waiting for everyone to arrive, such as a question on the board to think about or write about in their notebooks. It can be serious or humorous, such as a picture or cartoon shown on the screen and a question, both being connected in some way to the lesson theme or the theme from the previous lesson. It can also have something in the front or middle that depicts in some way the theme of the session. After everyone has arrived, you can get a pulse from the participants regarding the kind of day they having by simply asking each of them to rate their day with 1 being the lowest to 10 being the highest. They can give the rating with or without explaining why. If they choose to not give an explanation, they can say "pass" after giving their rating.

INTRODUCTION

Introduce the Objective with drama, music, storytelling, prayer, or any activity that captures your students' attention the very first minutes of class. Make sure what you do is connected to the content and is engaging and relevant.

CONTENT

In your planning, read through all the suggestions from the manual and decide which ones seem more suited for the participants. Carefully consider the use of examples, open-ended questions, Scripture references, and other relevant details that will help you present the new material. NOTE: Before presenting new information you may want to include a very quick review of previously presented material.

ACTIVITY

This is a game, worksheet, skit, arts and crafts project, discussion, or any experience that reviews and reinforces the new information.

FEEDBACK

This can be a simple exercise that helps you determine how well the participants grasped the new information you presented. It can be a summary statement of the lesson.

SENDING FORTH

This prayer, blessing, song, or celebrative moment sends participants forth with a joy and smile and hopefully ready to live what they learned and experienced in class.

LESSON PLAN

DATE:

TEXTBOOK LESSON/CHAPTER:

OBJECTIVE:

(Initial times are based on 1 hour; adjustments will need to be made for shorter or longer classes. The important thing to remember is to maintain some kind of balance and to include the various components.)

GREETING/WELCOME (5 minutes)	
INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)	
CONTENT (20 minutes)	
ACTIVITY (15 minutes)	
FEEDBACK (5 minutes)	
SENDING FORTH (5 minutes)	

LESSON PLAN (Sample)

DATE:

TEXTBOOK LESSON/CHAPTER: Grade 3, Chapter 14 (*Call to Faith* by HRP)

OBJECTIVE: Importance of light; being a light to others; virtues of faith, hope, love.

(Following times are based on 1 hour; adjustments will need to be made for longer classes. The important thing to remember is to maintain some kind of balance and to include the various components.))

GREETING/WELCOME (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlit large candle, electric candle, or lighthouse in the front or center of room. • Attendance • Day rating • Picture of Jesus with the question: How did Jesus summarize the TC and the Beatitudes? (review of last week's goal) • Topic for the night?
INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn off the lights. After turning the lights back on, ask them how they felt in the dark. • Turn off the lights again. Light a flashlight or turn on the electric candle or lighthouse. • Read prayer and poem on page 153.
CONTENT (20 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read or tell Abbie's story (page 154) about the importance of light. • Share background about Abbie Burgess. • Read or tell the Scripture passage and put the flashlight or electric light under a wicker basket. • Read again and put on a lampstand. • What was the difference? What is Jesus telling us? • Virtues/habits of faith, hope, love—how did Abbie or her father show these virtues? Virtues are habits or lights that Jesus gives us to share.
ACTIVITY (15 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bookmark with a candle on it and the words: Faith, Hope, Love.
FEEDBACK (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask them to repeat altogether after you: Faith, hope, love. Faith helps me believe; hope helps me trust; love helps me to care and be kind. • Do this 2 or 3 times.
SENDING FORTH (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer and song from page 158 in book. • As you dismiss them, tell each person: "Share your light."