

Teacher's Guide

Introduction:

The Zap Pack curriculum is a six-week, teacher-driven, media-rich curriculum for grades K-5. It is ideal to use anytime during the year as it teaches the basics of how the Christian faith can be lived out by children today. It includes lessons on prayer, Bible study, obeying parents, choosing good friends, healthy self-esteem, and knowing their purpose in life. The content is written for a 5th grade audience; however it is presented in ways that are appropriate even for Kindergartners.

Unlike most video-based curriculums, these lessons are not “plug and play”. Instead, the Teacher is the focal point. They set up and interact with the children between each media segment, helping them to fully engage. The creative teaching provided on the video supports what the Teacher is communicating.

Fully Customizable Lessons:

We understand that each church is unique and that you are the person that understands your children the best. For that reason, we include a DVD-ROM that contains all the curriculum and video files. You are free to modify any of the Word® or Publisher® documents. You are also able to import the individual video files and slides into presentation software like MediaShout® which allows you to change the entire order of the lesson.

However, you may not use customized lessons for resale in any form, digital or hardcopy.

Deceptively Easy To Use:

We know that your time is extremely valuable because, like you, we prepare and teach lessons every weekend. At first, the curriculum documents may look intimidating. Trust us, you will find the lessons extremely easy to prepare for and teach. Over the years, we have found that it takes a Teacher about 45 minutes to be completely ready to teach and a Small Group Leader only needs about 15 minutes.

All the supplies needed are clearly printed on the top of the Large Group and Small Group Lessons. These supplies will either be easy and inexpensive to obtain or provided for you to simply print out. If you are happy with the order of the service, you simply need to pop the DVD into your DVD Player and press “Start Lesson”.

What's Provided:

- 6 Zap Pack interactive Large Group programs on Media DVDs
- 6 Zap Pack lessons for Large Group and Small Group in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Activities and visuals for Large Group and Small Group lessons in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Take-home sheets to connect with parents each week in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Customizable Word® and Publisher® documents for adapting lessons to meet your specific ministry needs on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Teaching Videos and Slides for importing into presentation software like MediaShout® on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Worship Videos along with Worship Hand-motion Videos and Documents on Curriculum DVD-ROM

What You Need:

- A DVD projector and projection screen or a large television and DVD player
- A teaching area with floor space big enough to accommodate all your kids and adult leaders in grades K-5
- Basic supplies listed at the beginning of each Large Group and Small Group lessons
- A Large Group Teacher and one adult Small Group Leader for every age-appropriate Small Group
- *Optional:* A volunteer to operate the DVD (if desired, the Large Group Teacher can operate with remote)
- *Optional:* An administrator to coordinate set-up, gathering supplies, and copying materials; however set up for this curriculum is simple enough for the Large Group Teacher to coordinate if desired

Decorating the Room:

No specific stage set is required for this series. However, you may choose to decorate your room as a Kid's Room including a Bed, Desk, and place to hang a Back Pack. I would recommend a clean and simple stage.

Large Group/Small Group Format:

The Small Group Lesson is broken up into three components: Small Group Connection, Small Group Discussion, and Small Group Activity. These components are then embedded into the Large Group Lesson at strategic locations.

- The **Small Group Connection** is placed in the beginning to relationally connect with each child and to get them thinking about what they will be learning
- The **Small Group Discussion** is placed right after the children view the Bible Story on the video. They have an opportunity to open their Bibles and discuss the story in their small group
- The **Small Group Activity** is placed at the end of the lesson and is intended to be an extended time for children to experience a hands-on activity that helps them apply the lesson

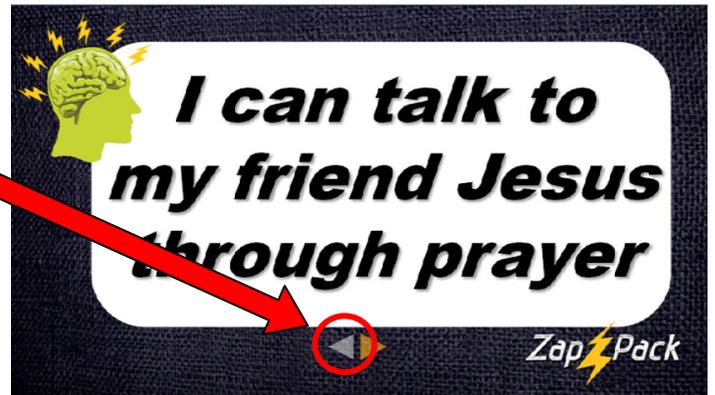
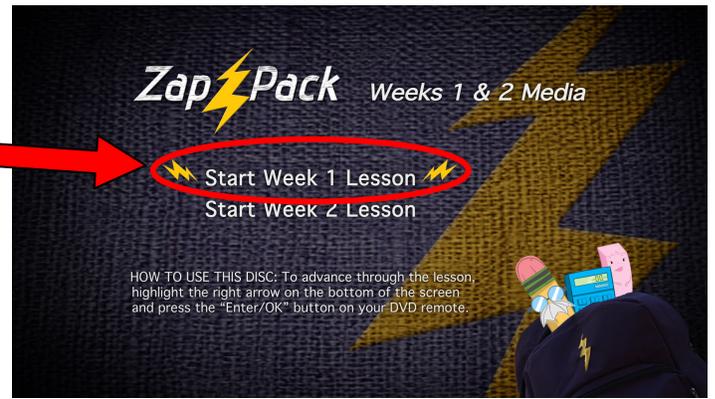
How To Use the DVD:

Simply pop the DVD into your DVD Player and press "Start Lesson".

The video and multimedia is created to serve YOU. Take as much time as needed when you teach the children; the DVD will automatically wait for you! It won't jump ahead before you're prepared and you don't even need to worry about pressing the "Pause" button.

When you're ready to move to the next segment, be sure the forward arrow on the bottom of the screen is highlighted (this will always be the default) and press the "Enter/OK" button on your DVD remote.

If you ever need to return to a previous segment, simply highlight the back arrow on the bottom of the screen and press the "Enter/OK" button to go back.



Scope and Sequence:

| Week | Bible Truth | Bible Story | Bible Verse |
|------|--|---|--|
| 1 | I can talk to my friend Jesus through prayer | 1 Samuel 3:1-10 <i>(Young Samuel talks with God during the night)</i> | Romans 5:11 (NLT) <i>"Jesus Christ has made us friends of God."</i> |
| 2 | I can learn about my friend Jesus by reading the Bible | 2 Timothy 1:2-5 & 3:14-17 <i>(Young Timothy learns scripture from his Mother & Grandmother)</i> | Matthew 22:29 (NLT) <i>"Your mistake is that you don't know the Scriptures, and you don't know the power of God."</i> |
| 3 | Obeying my parents will keep me safe and happy | Luke 15:11-24 <i>(Prodigal Son leaves his Father and learns a lesson the hard way)</i> | Ephesians 6:1 (NLT) <i>"Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do."</i> |
| 4 | I should make good friends who'll help me follow Jesus | Daniel 1:1-20 <i>(Young Daniel and friends do not follow crowd by eating wrong food)</i> | Proverbs 13:20 (NLT) <i>"Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble."</i> |
| 5 | I am special because God made me in His own image | Mark 10:13-16 <i>(Children are welcomed by Jesus as He made time to bless them)</i> | Psalms 139:14 (NLT) <i>"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous – how well I know it."</i> |
| 6 | God has a special plan for me to make a difference | Acts 23:12-32 <i>(Young nephew of Paul saves his life by revealing evil plan to kill him)</i> | Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) <i>"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."</i> |

Lesson Segments and Flow:

This curriculum has been designed with grade school children in mind. We understand that each child is unique and they have their own learning style. For that reason we have programmed the lesson to include many learning styles (visual, auditory, and tactile/kinesthetic). Each week we teach one Bible Truth, however we teach it in multiple ways. Even the order of the lesson is intentional so that children will not be sitting for long periods of time. Over the years, we found that even the youngest children enjoy, and are engaged, for the full 60 minutes. Below are the individual segments and their purpose:

1. Countdown Video

Used to call attention to the children and play music while they all gather into the teaching area. We recommend that children sit next to their Small Group Leader.

2. Welcome & Opening Prayer

Warmly welcome children to your children's ministry. This is also a great time to make any specific announcements or acknowledge birthdays. It is also recommended that you open in prayer asking for God's blessing on your time together.

3. Small Group Connection

We want to make sure that we connect with every child God brought our way. This is the time for children to turn to their Small Group Leader who will ask them a few simple get-to-know-you-better questions. The countdown video will signal when it's time for them to refocus on you, the upfront teacher.

4. Worship Song #1

We like to get kids up on their feet and moving to upbeat worship songs. Not only do we get a chance to sing praises to God, but we also give kids a chance to work off any pent-up energy! Hand-motion documents and videos for all songs are located on the Curriculum DVD-ROM.

All songs are provided by Rob Biagi, a popular Christian singer/songwriter for kids and families. More information on his three albums is available at www.ThatRobGuy.com. You will find that Rob's great music and Biblical message stick in your kid's heads for a very long time!

5. Opening Icebreaker

We like to have a visual element that will help the children understand the lesson. This short illustration is really just to get the kids minds engaged with the day's topic.

6. Bible Truth – Question/Answer

This is the main teaching point for today's lesson. Everything revolves around communicating this Biblical truth to children in ways that they understand and enjoy.

7. Zap Pack Video – Part 1

This is the first part of the teaching video. Zack's world turns upside down when his family moves to a new town, then turns bizarre when he get zapped into his school backpack. There he learns life-lessons from a wise stubby pencil that draws Bible stories.

8. Bible Verse

This is the Bible verse that clearly communicates what we are teaching today. It is a good idea to actually take out your Bible and read from it. If you have extra time (longer than 70 minute service) you can see which of your students can find the verse the fastest and give them a reward. Another option (to fill extra time) is to have children help you come up with hand-motions for the verse and then practice it a few times. You can then reward children who memorize it. I simply recommend reading it and then explaining it in your own words so that the children understand it.

9. Object Lesson

This is a way to help kids visualize and remember the lesson. We believe that children learn best from a loving and engaging teacher. The video and multimedia are there only to support you. The goal of this segment is for a light bulb to go off in each child's head. You want them to truly understand and remember the Biblical truth. This is also an excellent time to help them make the connection between this truth and their life. How can what they are learning change how they live their life? You may choose to keep all the object lessons in a backpack and pull them out during this time.

10. Worship Song #2

Once again, we like to get kids up on their feet and moving to an upbeat Rob Biagi worship song.

11. Zap Pack Video – Part 2

This is the conclusion of the teaching video. This is where Zack sees a Bible Story drawn for him and then is given the opportunity to live out the lesson. As the weeks progress, we see God changing Zack into a young man who is truly Livin' for Jesus!

12. Small Group Discussion

This is a chance for your children to open up their Bibles and read a story about a young person who lived for God. This will be the same Bible Story they saw Woody, the pencil character, draw for Zack in the second part of the Zap Pack video. They will also have a chance to discuss this story with their Small Group Leader. For younger children, read the Bible story while they follow along in their Bibles. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on you, the upfront teacher.

13. Pack-n-Play Game

This is a fun chance to energize the children with a fun upfront game. Typically this works best if played boys vs. girls. We also try to reinforce the Bible Story and/or the Bible Truth. Have fun and, if you'd like, reward both teams with a small prize! These games all involve a Back Pack, hence the name Pack-n-Play!

14. Worship Song #3

One last time, we get kids up on their feet and moving to an upbeat Rob Biagi worship song.

15. Rapid Rewind Review

This is a time to reinforce the content of the lesson. There are 6 simple questions to ask. If you want you can provide a small candy prize for each correct answer. No need to bring children upfront, just have them raise their hand if they know the answer.

16. OPTIONAL: Personal Application Story

If you have the time in your service, then you can end the lesson with a personal application story. This is where you share a short story about how this Bible Truth was lived out (or not lived out) in your life. Please try to keep your stories short and age-appropriate. If you can't think of any examples, you could present a hypothetical case. This is completely optional, but also a powerful way to have your children connect with you as their teacher. Many times, this will be the main thing they remember and share with others.

17. Closing Prayer

Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse.

18. Small Group Activity

This is a chance for your children to gather with their Small Group Leaders one last time and do a short activity that will help them apply today's Bible truth. We will not display a Countdown since this should take the rest of the service time.

Curriculum Icons:

This curriculum contains the following icons that point out key actions for you to take during the lesson.



Tells you when you need to push the "Enter/OK" button on the DVD remote to advance the presentation.



Tells you when there is text in the notes that you should say to the children.



Tells you when there are discussion questions that a Small Group Leader should ask the children.

Memorization and Cheat Sheet:

The best lessons are those that you make your own. The teaching notes contain every word to say, however it is not necessary to memorize each word. It is definitely not recommended that you read to the children from the teaching notes! We believe that if you invest 45 minutes reading through each lesson and making it your own, you will be able to teach the lesson with minimal referral to the lesson notes.

To help, we provide what we call a "Cheat Sheet" which contains the basic components and order of the lesson. Simply place this sheet on the floor where you can quickly glance at it to know what's coming next. You can also refer to your teaching notes during one of the two videos to remind you of what you'll be saying/doing next.

The key to keeping the children engaged is to actively engage them when you are teaching. Look at them in the eye, walk around the classroom, and speak in ways that are natural to you. If you look unprepared, that opens the door for lots of classroom discipline issues. Since this may be a new format for you, spend as much time as you need during preparation time to feel comfortable in front of the kids. Most important, pray before the lesson, and maybe silently during the lesson, that God would use you to communicate His truth powerfully and effectively.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to e-mail me at dhuffman@chapel.org.