A Gift for Jesus

(for Lesson 1)

To: Jesus

From: _____

Today, take me as totally Yours. I give You all my plans. Use me to serve others. Stay with me and show me how to do everything in Your power.

To: Jesus

From:

Today, take me as totally Yours. I give You all my plans. Use me to serve others. Stay with me and show me how to do everything in Your power.

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Excerpts from "As a Child"

The Desire of Ages, pp. 68-74 (For "Experiencing the Story," Lesson 2)

Reading 1: The childhood and youth of Jesus were spent in a little mountain village. There was no place on earth that would not have been honored by His presence.... But He passed by the homes of wealth, the courts of royalty, and the renowned seats of learning, to make His home in obscure and despised Nazareth.

Reading 2: As a child, Jesus manifested a peculiar loveliness of disposition. His willing hands were ever ready to serve others. He manifested a patience that nothing could disturb, and a truthfulness that would never sacrifice integrity. In principle firm as a rock, His life revealed the grace of unselfish courtesy.

Reading 3: From His earliest years He was possessed of one purpose; He lived to bless others. For this He found resources in nature; new ideas of ways and means flashed into His mind as He studied plant life and animal life.

Reading 4: Jesus lived in a peasant's home, and faithfully and cheerfully acted His part in bearing the burdens of the household. He had been the Commander of heaven, and angels had delighted to fulfill His word; now He was a willing servant, a loving, obedient son.

Reading 5: All should find something to do that will be beneficial to themselves and helpful to others. God appointed work as a blessing, and only the diligent worker finds the true glory and joy of life. The approval of God rests with loving assurance upon children and youth who cheerfully take their part in the duties of the household, sharing the burdens of father and mother. Such children will go out from the home to be useful members of society.

Reading 6: Jesus carried into His labor cheerfulness and tact. It requires much patience and spirituality to bring Bible religion into the home life and into the workshop, to bear the strain of worldly business, and yet keep the eye single to the glory of God. This is where Christ was a helper.... Often He expressed the gladness of His heart by singing psalms and heavenly songs. Often the dwellers in Nazareth heard His voice raised in praise and thanksgiving to God.... As His companions complained of weariness from labor, they were cheered by the sweet melody from His lips. His praise seemed to banish the evil angels, and, like incense, fill the place with fragrance. The minds of His hearers were carried away from their earthly exile, to the heavenly home.

Reading 7: Jesus was the fountain of healing mercy for the world; and through all those secluded years at Nazareth, His life flowed out in currents of sympathy and tenderness. The aged, the sorrowing, and the sin-burdened, the

LESSON 2

children at play in their innocent joy, the little creatures of the groves, the patient beasts of burden,—all were happier for His presence. He whose word of power upheld the worlds would stoop to relieve a wounded bird. There was nothing beneath His notice, nothing to which He disdained to minister.

Reading 8: It is in His home life that He is the pattern for all children and youth. The Saviour condescended to poverty, that He might teach how closely we in a humble lot may walk with God.... He was doing God's service just as much when laboring at the carpenter's bench as when working miracles for the multitude. And every youth who follows Christ's example of faithfulness and obedience in His lowly home may claim those words spoken of Him by the Father through the Holy Spirit, "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; Mine Elect, in whom My soul delighteth." Isaiah 42:1.

"No Glory" (for "Applying the Lesson," Lesson 2)

Scene:	Tanya and Gloria are cleaning up after helping their junior class paint the house of an elderly church member.	(Gloria gets a towel and begins to clean Tanya's feet, using the water from the bucket.)		
Props:	You'll need a chair, a bucket of water, and towels. Also, both characters must wear shoes and	Gloria:	Yeah. I feel grubbier now than I felt after the Pathfinder camping trip.	
	socks for this skit.	Tanya (pointing to her feet): And look at these feet! There's enough dirt		
Characters: Tanya Gloria		here to plant a garden		
Script		(Pause.)		
	(Tanya and Gloria enter, looking exhausted.)	Gloria:	Do you think Mrs. Jordan appreci- ated our work today?	
Tanya:	I'm really beat	Tanya:	Who knows? She doesn't think all that clearly these days, you know. And she doesn't hear too well,	
Gloria:	Yeah, that hot sun really takes a lot out of you.		either. (Gloria finishes drying Tanya's feet, and then the two switch posi- tions. Tanya removes Gloria's shoes	
Tanya (<i>plopping down into a chair</i>): This ser- vant stuff is really tough.			and socks and then begins to clean her feet.)	
Gloria:	You're telling me. (<i>She removes</i> <i>Tanya's shoes.)</i> It's all work and no play.	Gloria:	I'm not sure I want to come back tomorrow.	
Tanya:	Too much dirt and sweat, if you ask me.	Tanya:	I was thinking the same thing. I'm not cut out for this servant stuff. I really thought I'd feel good helping someone out. But it's not much fun	
Gloria (helping Tanya remove her socks): I thought it would make me feel good to help out.			if no one notices all the work we're doing	
Tanya:	Me too. I mean, I'm glad we're helping, but I just feel so tired and dirty.	Gloria:	There's just no glory in serving. (Characters freeze.)	
		(Adapted from First impressions: Unforgettable Upenings for Youth Meetings (Loveland,		

(Adapted from First Impressions: Unforgettable Openings for Youth Meetings [Loveland, Colo.: Group Publishing, 1998], pp. 49, 50. Used by permission.)

It's About Grace

words and music by *J. M. Herrington*

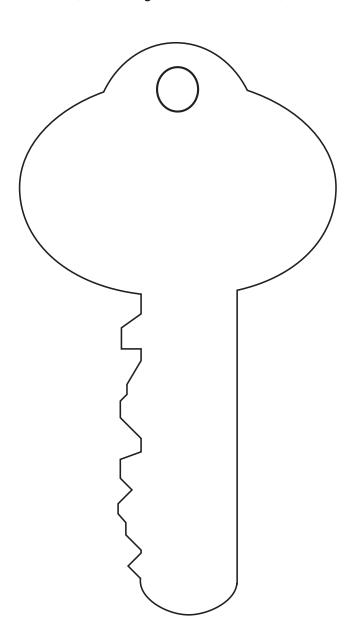


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NET KIDS SCRIPT (for "Introducing the Bible Story," Lesson 8)

Tendai:	Do poor people in your country beg on the streets?	lvan:	Your father sounds like a very kind man.
Ana:	Sometimes we see people with a sign asking for money for food.	Ana:	But that's not the end of the story.
lvan:	We never used to, but we do more now.	Tendai:	You love to make us wait for the juicy parts!
Ana:	I've never given anyone money. Sometimes I wonder how really needy they are.	Ana:	That afternoon as my dad was walking home, he saw this same man steal a woman's purse.
Tendai:	My dad once offered someone food, but he refused to take it!	lvan:	How ungrateful! What did your dad do?
lvan:	Sounds like he just wanted the money.	Ana:	He called the police on his cell phone. They arrested the man.
Ana:	My dad once loaned a man who came into his office \$50 of his own money.	Tendai:	You'd think since he'd been forgiven the debt to your father, he wouldn't go right out and steal.
Tendai:	Wow! That's a lot! Did he ever get it back?	lvan:	I hope that arrest cured him.
Ana:	No He saw the man in the street one day, looking as poor as ever. Dad felt so sorry for him that he told him he didn't have to pay it back.	Ana:	Apparently he owed some people a lot of money and had been stealing it from others. He went straight to jail.

LESSON 8



Key Pattern (for "Sharing the Lesson," Lesson 8)

NET KIDS SCRIPT (For "Introducing the Bible Story," Lesson 1)

Ana:	Hi, friends!	Ana:	What's that?
Darren:	G'day, just came back from a mate's house.	Darren:	It meant that each person looked out for others around them.
Ulla:	Tee-hee. We all call our friends different things, don't we?	Ulla:	They had to! Australia is so far away from the rest the world!
Ana:	Australians are known around the world for their "G'day, mate."	Darren:	But it still continues today. Australians are very friendly toward others.
Darren:	And Americans for their "Hi" and "buddy."	Ana:	l want to visit your country. I love friendly people.
Ana:	Or something like that.	Darren:	And the people "down under," would love you, Ana, as we say in Australia.
Ulla:	Darren, do people really say "mate"?		
Darren:	Sure. This country was founded		

on what we call "mateship."