

Serge

Grace at the Fray

WHAT'S UP?

Elementary

Learning
about Jesus
and Yourself

Deborah Harrell



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Teacher Introduction

Welcome to *What's Up? Elementary: Learning about Jesus and Yourself*. This course introduces the gospel to 7- to 10-year-old children (2nd through 4th graders) and helps those who believe it to live out the good news of Jesus.

The gospel says believers are joined to Jesus. He is their identity. Elementary students who know this good news are secure and confident in him.

As a *What's Up? Elementary* teacher, you have the opportunity to be part of that process. Your job is to help your students see Jesus. You'll encourage them to learn about the salvation he offers and his call to believe the gospel at the heart level.

Scope and Sequence: How the course is organized

Lesson	Title	Scripture	Theme
Part 1: Jesus IS the Good News			
1	Jesus Our Loving King	Genesis 1:1-2:3	God is our mighty and loving King who created all things by the power of his Word. As Jesus, he has provided salvation from sin by becoming the King who died for his people.
2	Jesus Solves Our Big Problem	Genesis 2-3	Each of us is a sinner. Like Adam and Eve, we have selfishly disobeyed God and failed to trust him. We deserve to be banished from him forever. The only way we can be with him is by the one sinless human, Jesus, saving us from sin.
3	Jesus Wins	Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and rescue us from sin. He is both the Son of God and the only sinless human, so he is able to take the punishment we deserve and defeat sin and death. The devil loses; Jesus and all who belong to him win!
4	Jesus Is the Best	Luke 5:1-11	When we belong to Jesus, he calls us to follow him. We obey him and do good things for him. Following Jesus this way is joyful, because Jesus is the best.

Lesson	Title	Scripture	Theme
Part 2: Jesus and Your Heart			
5	Jesus Cares	Luke 5:12-16	Jesus cares and welcomes people, even people we might reject. The fact that we have such a compassionate Savior draws us to him. It encourages us to go to him with all our needs, including our need to be cleansed of our sin.
6	Our Greatest Treasure	Luke 12:13-34	As those who belong to Jesus, God is our Father who gives us care and treasures that last forever. When we realize this and believe it, we will choose things that matter to God rather than living for worldly treasures.
7	Believers Repent and Have Faith	Luke 18:9-14	Repentance and faith are key elements in the process of becoming a Christian, and also lifelong practices for believers. When we know Jesus as our Savior, we joyfully turn our lives over to him and trust him.
8	The Greatest King Ever	Luke 1:26-33; 3:15-17; 22:24-27; John 13:1-15	Jesus our king rules all things forever, with perfect power and care. He did not come to be served but to serve his people in love. We learn true greatness from him, our servant King.
Part Three: Jesus and Our Changed Lives			
9	Our Savior's Perfect Love	Mark 14:26-16:8; Luke 22:31-24:43	Jesus is <i>my</i> Savior if I believe in him. Each of us has sinned against Jesus in terrible ways, but he loves us so completely that he died for our sin.
10	Our Living Savior	Luke 8:1-3; 23:50-24:43	Jesus is not just someone who helped other people long ago. He is our Savior who is alive today, giving us an everlasting victory over every effect of sin.
11	Lord of the Nations	Luke 24:36-53; Acts 2:1-41	The coming of Jesus was not just the end to many years of waiting for the Savior. It's also the beginning of God's work to bring faith and repentance to all nations.
12	Jesus Is with You Every Day	Acts 9:20-31; 20:17-23:11	As we wait for Jesus to return, we are never alone. In our struggles against sin and our work for his kingdom, Jesus has promised to be with us always. He helps and comforts us.

what the lessons are like:

Lesson Overview: The Lesson Overview gives a snapshot of the overall lesson. Time estimates are listed next to each lesson component.

Welcome: Includes an activity that reviews the memory verse challenge from the previous lesson or gives students a chance to discuss concepts from the *What's Up? Elementary* curriculum.

Teaching Helps:

Before you teach: Pray for your teaching and read the passage in the Bible until you know it well.

While you teach: Think of the lesson as a series of key discussion questions joined by pieces of the Bible story. Move from one question to the next as you tell the story. Listen well to your students. Affirm good answers and gently correct answers that may take the lesson off track. Take an interest in what the children think and how they respond to the lesson.

Bible Lesson: Lesson time will usually begin with a short review of the previous lesson. *What's Up? Elementary* consists of direct instruction with discussion questions and concepts to ponder. As you prepare to teach, notice the questions you'll be asking at points during the lesson. Consider how your students might answer, and be ready to discuss those answers with them.

Learn the lesson content. It's written in child-friendly language you could read aloud to your students, but the lesson will be most effective if you learn it and tell it in your own words.

Print out the lesson's visual aids, on cardstock if possible. Some items may require cutting or folding.

Application: The application activity works through the concepts presented in the lesson. The activities vary from lesson to lesson and include games, discussion questions, and hands-on projects. The mix of reading, writing, listening, discussing, and doing—using both words and pictures—accommodates a variety of learning styles.

Craft: Each lesson has a fun craft that will connect students to the lesson. Supplies are generally easy to obtain. Many of the crafts can be partially prepared ahead to save class time.

Make It Stick what's Up? Questions

Questions at the end of each lesson help students connect with what they have learned about God/Jesus and themselves. Teachers are encouraged to create a Make It Stick poster (poster board or chart paper can be used) and display in the room each week. Keeping track of the Make It Stick questions and student responses is a great way to review each lesson and build on what the students are learning. Students will have their own 3-prong pocket folders in which to keep lesson papers, Make It Stick charts, and Memory Verse booklets. These folders will be purchased by the teacher and kept in the classroom throughout the 12-week *What's Up? Elementary* curriculum.

Make It Stick Memory Verses

A memory verse booklet and regular in-class review will help students study and memorize the Bible verses linked to the lessons.

Closing Prayer

Make prayer central to the class sessions. Each lesson incorporates time to pray. Bring a small notebook to class in which to record student prayer requests each week. Also, feel free to pray as needed. If you detect frustration in the class, stop and ask God for help. Likewise, if someone tells a success story, stop and thank God. Model faith in and gratitude toward God.

Most importantly, *What's Up Elementary* is committed to the “supplies” the Holy Spirit provides:

1. The Holy Spirit speaks through the Bible. These lessons will use the Bible to teach and will get students reading the Bible.
2. The Holy Spirit helps believers pray. The lessons and assignments in *What's Up? Elementary* include lots of prayer.
3. The good news of Jesus—the gospel—is the central message of God's Word, and the Holy Spirit loves to tell about Jesus. These lessons will keep calling students to believe in Jesus and all the blessings that come through him.
4. The Holy Spirit makes believers part of God's family. These lessons get students sharing with a group, talking about their faith with others, and learning from you, their teacher.

These supplies of the Holy Spirit may be less tangible than the lesson pages and pencils, but they form the guiding principles behind all the lessons.

LESSON 1

JESUS OUR LOVING KING

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2:3

Lesson Theme: God is our mighty and loving King who created all things by the power of his word. As Jesus, he has provided salvation from sin by becoming the King who died for his people.

Memory Verse: "It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens." Jeremiah 10:12

★ Lesson Overview ★

Total approximate time (65-90 minutes)

1. Welcome Activity (5-10 minutes)

One copy for each child: What's Up? folder cover label (p. 17) and What's Up? Contents page (p. 18) (3-hole punched); colored pencils, markers, or crayons; tape and glue stick and/or glue dots

2. Bible Lesson: Genesis 1:1-2:3 (15-20 minutes)

"Days of Creation" (p. 19) (one copy 3-hole punched for each child); Creation Day 3 visual (p. 20); king's crown and/or scepter (find in a toy or party supply store); whiteboard and dry-erase markers; Bibles for the class; pencils or pens

3. Application Activity (15-20 minutes)

Small, soft ball or stuffed toy that is easy to toss and catch; list of categories and questions (p. 13)

4. Craft Activity (15-20 minutes)

Make It Stick memory verse booklet cover (pp. 21-23) and pages (3 pages per child); copy of the verse for Lesson 1 (Jeremiah 10:12); Three-prong pocket folders (purchased—one for each child); glue stick or tape; stapler; colored pencils, crayons and/or markers

5. Make it Stick: What's Up? Questions

Chart (5 minutes) What's Up? Part 1: Jesus Is the Good News questions chart (p. 24) (one 3-hole punched copy for each child); poster board or chart paper; marker; pencils or pens

6. Make it Stick: Memory Verse

(10-15 minutes) Make It Stick memory verse booklets assembled during craft time with the copy of Jeremiah 10:12

7. Closing prayer (5 minutes)

Small notebook (purchased)

Before you teach:

- ★ Pray for your students and your teaching.
- ★ Read the passage in the Bible until you know it well.
- ★ Read through the lesson. Note the questions to be asked at points during the lesson. Consider how students might answer, and be ready to discuss those answers with them.
- ★ Learn the lesson content. It's written in child-friendly language that you could read aloud to your students, but the lesson will be most effective if you learn it and tell it in your own words.
- ★ Print out or be prepared to show visual aids on a laptop or tablet.
- ★ Collect all materials for activities and crafts.

While you teach:

- ★ Think of the lesson as a series of key discussion questions joined by segments of the Bible story. Move from one question to the next as you tell the story.
- ★ Listen well to the students. Affirm good answers and gently correct answers that may take the lesson off track. Take an interest in what the children think and how they react to the lesson.



1. WELCOME

SUPPLIES: One copy for each child: What's Up? folder cover label (p. 17) and What's Up? Contents page (p. 18) (3-hole punched); colored pencils, markers, or crayons; tape and glue stick and/or glue dots



Welcome the children warmly as they enter the class. Have students color the What's Up? pocket folder cover label and contents page as you read through the items listed there with them.

Write, "God is . . ." on the whiteboard. As you write, ask: **If you could pick one word to describe God, what would it be?** As each child calls out a word, write it on the board.

TEACHING TIP If your students do not know one another well, take time to have them share their favorite color, food, game to play, least favorite food, chore to do at home, and so on.

2. BIBLE LESSON: Genesis 1:1-2:3

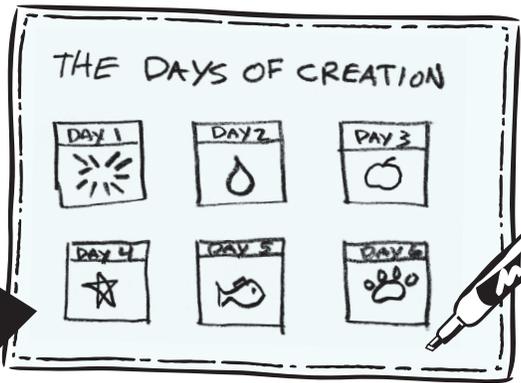
SUPPLIES: "Days of Creation" (p. 19) (one copy 3-hole punched for each child); Creation Day 3 visual (p. 20); king's crown and/or scepter (find in a toy or party supply store); whiteboard and dry-erase markers; Bibles for the class; pencils or pens



Teacher Note: The Bible's chief interest in creation is not so much the length of time God took to create the world or the order of things made. Rather, it is that God made all things, and ordered and placed them as he wanted, by the power of his Word: "By the Word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host" (Psalm 33:6). This lesson introduces the remarkable truth that such a powerful King also loves and cares for his people. Most amazing of all, the Creator has come to us as Jesus, the King who died for his people's sin. Make that marvel the highlight of your teaching.

Part of this lesson will be taking your students through the six days of creation. As

you teach about each day, let students fill in their Days of Creation page with very simple drawings that represent each day (see the example): rays of light for day one, a water drop for day two, a fruit for day three, a star for day four, a fish for day five, and a paw print for day six. Keep the drawings simple; don't let them slow down the lesson. Help the students by drawing the pictures yourself on the whiteboard.



Distribute Bibles and copies of the Days of Creation page. Have the class open their Bibles to Genesis 1 and look at the first sentence.

A good way to start learning what God is like is to read the very start of the Bible. The first sentence says, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). This means God made everything in the universe! It all started with God.

Refer to the Days of Creation papers each student has. As you tell about each day of creation, pause to give students a chance to briefly draw on their “Days of Creation” page a simple symbol that will remind them of that day.

God did his work of creation in six days. On day one, God said, “Light!” And there was light. God saw that the light was good and he separated the light from the darkness. And there was evening and morning—day one.

Pause to give students a chance to draw on their “Days of Creation” page some rays of light to show what God did on day one.

Did you notice how God created the light just by speaking? Soon you’ll see that on the next days he created other things just by speaking, too. What can we tell about God if he makes things just by speaking? Let’s write down some things that must be true of him. Point to the “God is . . .” list on the whiteboard. **Can you add to what we said earlier?**

Give students time to answer. Add answers to the “God is . . .” list on the whiteboard. Students may tell you God is powerful, creative, someone who speaks, one who does good, or one who loves the light. You may need to ask this follow-up question to get one particularly important answer.

Do you know anyone else who can get work done just by speaking? What people can give orders and what they say gets done? Answers might include moms and dads, teachers, bosses, or the president or prime minister—anyone in authority.

The way God created all things shows that he gives orders. God is a King. And God is the most powerful King of all because he can do anything. He created everything, and he still keeps the whole universe together, just by his powerful Word. He gives the order, and whatever he wants, happens!

If it isn't already there, add the word "KING" in large letters to the list on the board, or circle the word if it's already there.

The next day, God said, "Separate!" He made the sky, and he separated the water that's under the sky from water that's up above the sky. And there was evening and morning—day two. Draw a drop of water on your paper to show what God did on day two.

Then God said, "Gather together!" He told the water under the sky to make oceans and lakes. This left dry land everywhere else. God also said, "Let all kinds of plants grow on the land."

Show the Day three visual of the water and dry land, with the fruit tree and other plants with seeds to eat.



This time God told more about what he was making. He especially said how he was making fruit trees and plants with seeds that are good to eat. He said those plants were for people, so people would have good food to eat. God saw that it was all good, and there was evening and morning—day three.

Draw a fruit on your paper to show what God did on day three.

Now what more can we tell about God because he made all those plants to be good food for us? Again, accept and write down reasonable answers. If necessary, guide students to see that God is not just a powerful King, but also a LOVING and CARING one. He gives his people all they need.

Say, Now God was ready to fill the earth. He said, "Lights!" He put the sun and the moon in the sky, and made stars too. He saw that it was good, and there was evening and morning—day four.

Draw a star on your paper to show what God did on day four.

Then God said, "Creatures for the water and sky!" And in the water he made every kind of creature that lives there. In the sky he made every kind of creature that lives there. He saw that it was good, and there was evening and morning—day five.

Draw a fish on your paper to show what God did on day five.

Then God said, "Creatures for the land!" And he made every kind of land animal,

both wild animals and tame ones that live with people.

Draw a paw print on your paper to show what God did on day six.

God saw that everything was good, and on the seventh day he rested. But let's learn about one more part to God's creation on day six. To understand it, you have to know about kings.

Show the toy crown and or scepter. Pass it around.

When kings have a big land to rule, they might show they're in charge by putting pictures of themselves all over the land, or by building statues of themselves. These are called "images" of the king. To be a good image, the image should show what the king is like.

When God the King made people, he said, "Let's create them in our image." This means people are God's children made to show what God is like. We should care for others, like God did when he made the fruits and seeds for us. We should do good, like God did in everything he made. And we should obey our loving Father.

But do we always obey God like we should? What might a King do if his people disobey him?

Let students discuss. They should understand that disobedient people like us deserve for the king to punish them.

Sometimes a king says bad people deserve to die.

Did you know that sometimes even good people will die for a king? Maybe they fight a war for the king. Or maybe someone tries to kill the king and a good person steps in front and gets killed instead. That's how it works with most kings. People die for their king.

But can you imagine a king who loves his people so much that he would die for them instead—even when they were bad people?

Pause briefly to see if a student might be able to think of such a king, but if the answer doesn't come right away, move on and reveal it.

The best thing about God is that he is that King! We deserve to die for disobeying him. But he's a King who cares so much! He doesn't just give us fruit trees. He came to us as the man Jesus and let himself be killed on the cross—in place of us. That's how caring and loving he is. He is the King who died for his people.

Write "King who died for his people" on the board with the other descriptions of God.

3. APPLICATION: Creation Catch And Call

SUPPLIES: *small, soft ball or stuffed toy that is easy to toss and catch; list of categories and questions (see below)*

Kids will toss a soft ball to one another while reviewing the days of creation and asking and answering questions about the lesson.

Have the students sit in a circle (on the floor or in chairs). Explain that they will review the lesson and some of the things God created. As an example, tell the children to think of something yellow, but not to say what they are thinking until the ball is tossed to them. If they can't think of anything yellow when the ball is tossed to them, give them some clues or hints of an answer. To start the game you will name something that is yellow (e.g., the sun), then toss the ball to a child. They in turn name something yellow, then toss the ball to another child. Make sure to remind the kids to toss the ball to someone who has not yet had a turn. Once everyone has had a turn (or you name everything you can think of in that category), move onto a new category.

LIST OF CATEGORIES FOR THE GAME:

Questions from the lesson:

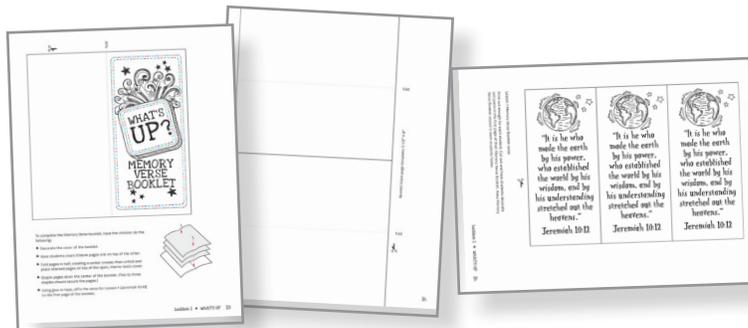
- * God is. . . (Words from the lesson, and new ones they can think of.)
- * What is good about God's creation?
- * How does God provide for his people in creation?
- * What do you like best about God's creation? (Name specific things like kittens, oranges, etc.)

To review some of the days of creation:

- * Day 3: Names of plants
 - * Names of fruits
 - * Names of vegetables
- * Day 5: Names of animals that live in the water
 - * Names of animals that fly
 - * Names of creatures of the land (but not humans), or animals with fur, animals that walk on four legs.

4. CRAFT: Make It Stick Memory Verse Booklet

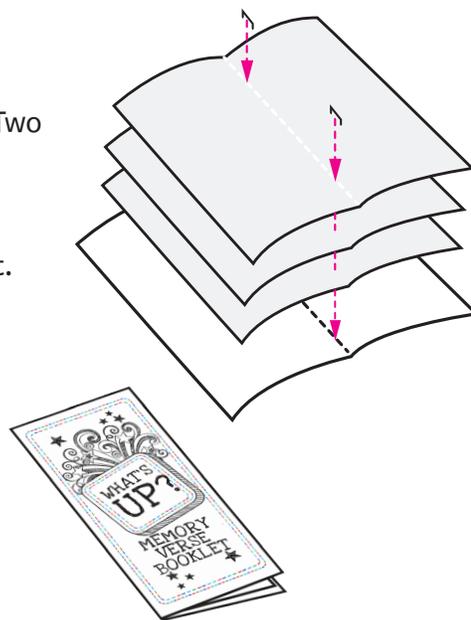
SUPPLIES: *Make It Stick* memory verse booklet cover (p. 21–23) and pages (3 pages per child); copy of the verse for Lesson 1 (Jeremiah 10:12); three-prong pocket folders (purchased—one for each child); glue stick or tape; stapler; colored pencils, crayons and/or markers



During craft time, students will finish coloring the What's Up? folder cover label and contents page they started during Welcome time. They will also assemble the Make It Stick memory verse booklet. (This booklet will be used for the entire What's Up? curriculum.) Finally, they will affix the label to the front of their pocket folder and insert today's three-hole punched pages into their pocket folders.

To complete the Memory Verse booklet, have the children do the following:

- ★ Decorate the cover of the booklet.
- ★ Stack 3 blank pages one on top of the other.
- ★ Fold pages in half, creating a center crease; then unfold and place stacked pages on top of the open, interior book cover.
- ★ Staple pages down the center of the booklet. (Two to three staples should secure the pages.)
- ★ Using glue or tape, affix the verse for Lesson 1 (Jeremiah 10:12) to the first page of the booklet.



5. MAKE IT STICK: What's Up? Questions Chart

SUPPLIES: *What's Up? Part 1: Jesus Is the Good News questions chart (p. 24) (one 3-hole punched copy for each child); poster board or chart paper; marker; pencils or pens*



The object of the Make It Stick What's Up? questions chart is to keep track of what students learn about God/Jesus and themselves. Make a chart on poster board or chart paper for the whole class to see. Also, give each child a copy of the chart to keep in their folder.

Go through the chart for today's lesson. Record responses on the chart and help the class record the responses on their own charts. Explain that each week they will learn new truths about God/Jesus and themselves.

What have we learned about God/Jesus today? Just by speaking, God created the world and all that is in it. Jesus is a loving King willing to die for his people. God is our all-powerful King and God is a good King—caring, giving, and loving.

What have you learned about yourself? We are God's children. Even though we disobey, Jesus our loving King rescued us.

6. MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Jeremiah 10:12

SUPPLIES: *Make It Stick memory verse booklets assembled during craft time with the copy of Jeremiah 10:12*

This week's verse is Jeremiah 10:12: "It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens" (Jeremiah 10:12).

Review Jeremiah 10:12. Have the students say it aloud as a group. Have them practice with a partner. Ask if anyone can say the verse without looking at it. Have the students circle the words, Power, Wisdom and Understanding.

Ask: **Think about today's lesson. How do these words describe God?**

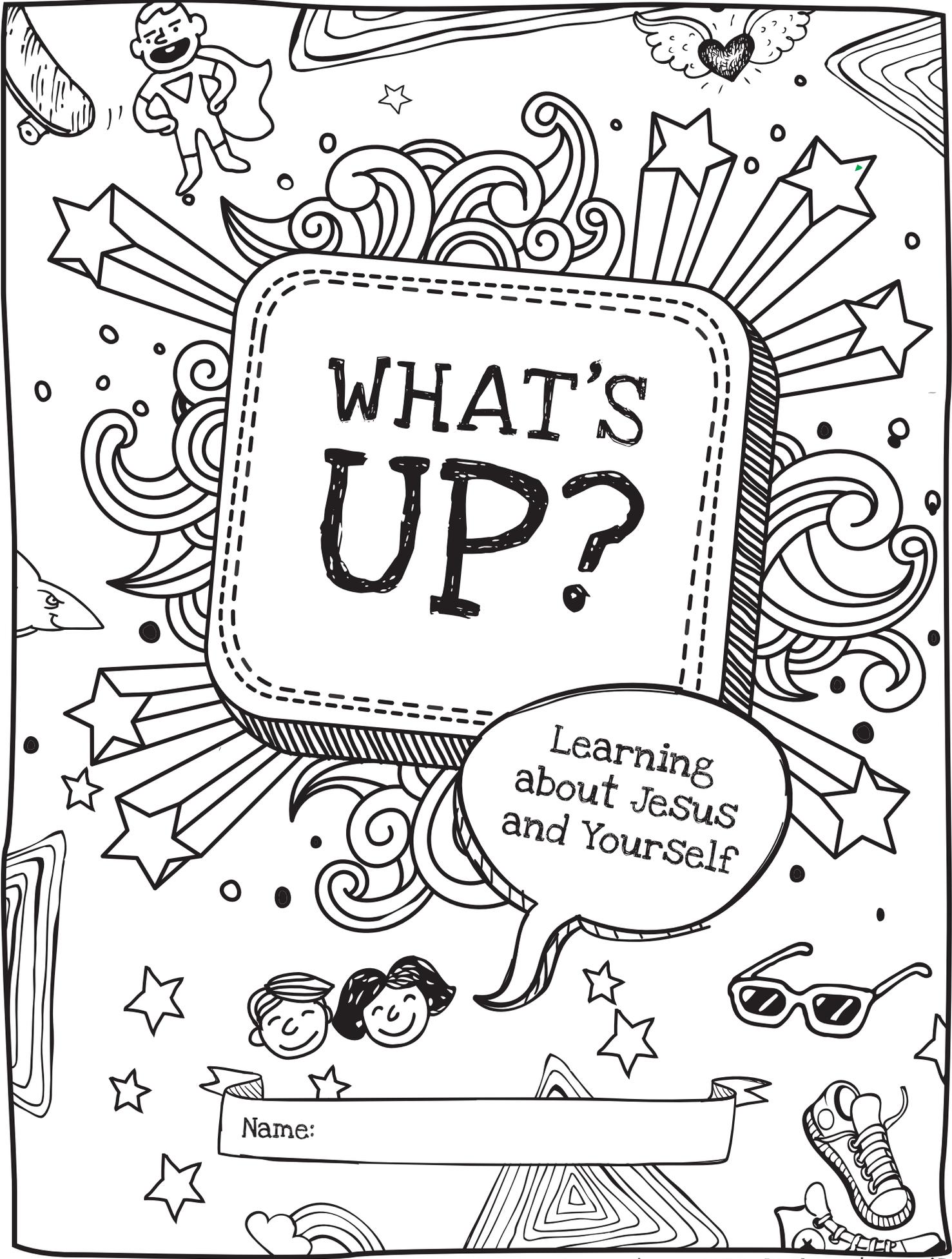
What does this verse tell you about who God is?

Have students store their memory verse booklet in the front pocket of their folder. Then collect the folders.

7. Closing Prayer

SUPPLIES: *Small notebook*

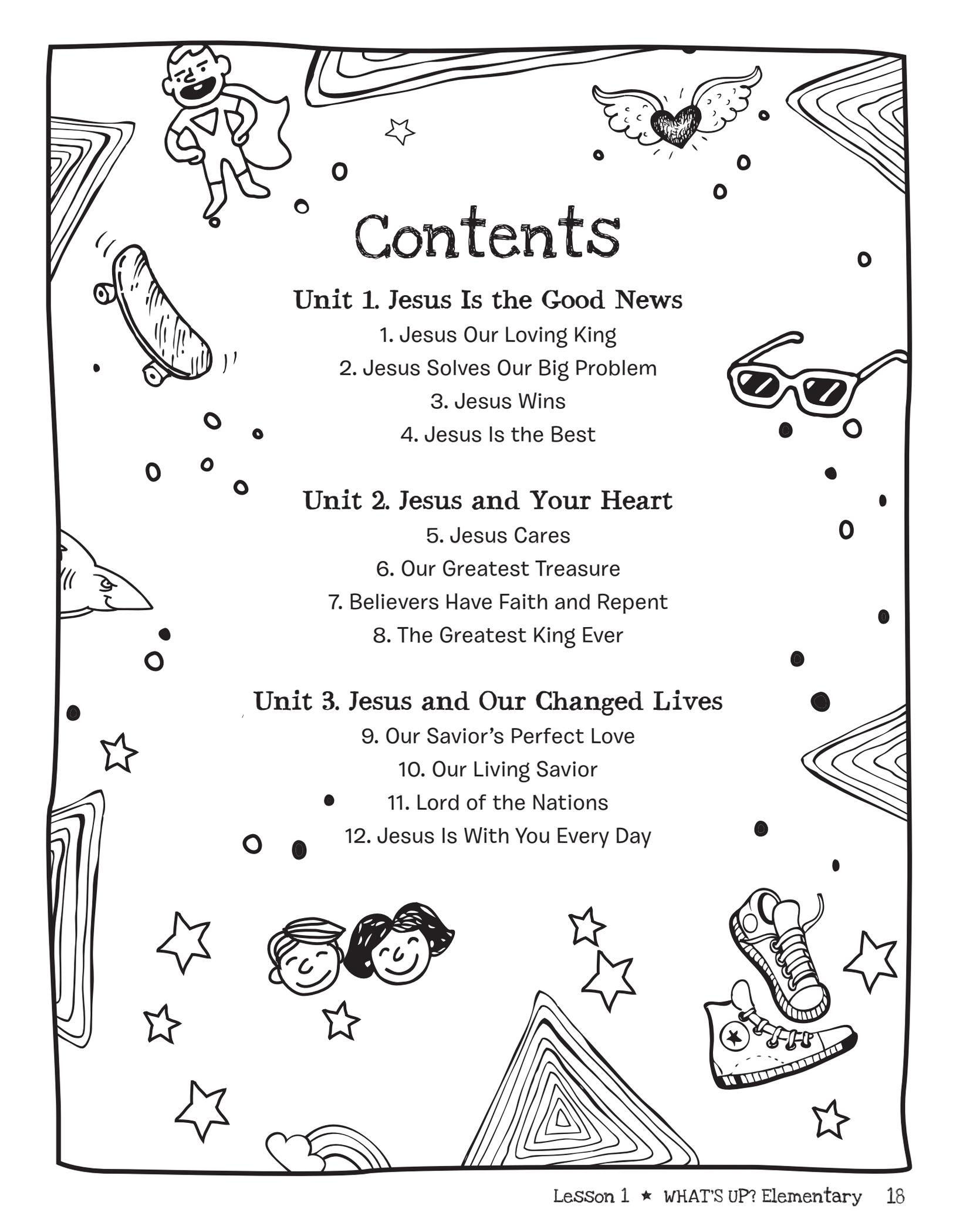
Allow time for students to share prayer requests. To keep track of the requests from week to week, record them in a small notebook. Thank God for what you learned about him today. Ask God to help you all understand how wonderful Jesus is.



WHAT'S UP?

Learning
about Jesus
and Yourself

Name: _____



Contents

Unit 1. Jesus Is the Good News

1. Jesus Our Loving King
2. Jesus Solves Our Big Problem
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8. The Greatest King Ever

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12. Jesus Is With You Every Day

THE DAYS OF CREATION

DAY 1



DAY 2



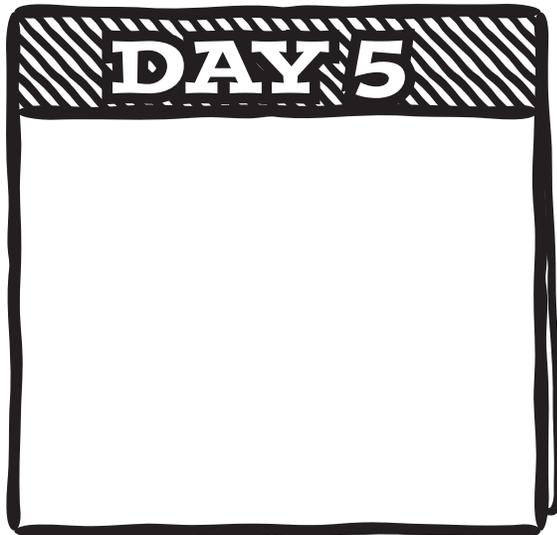
DAY 3



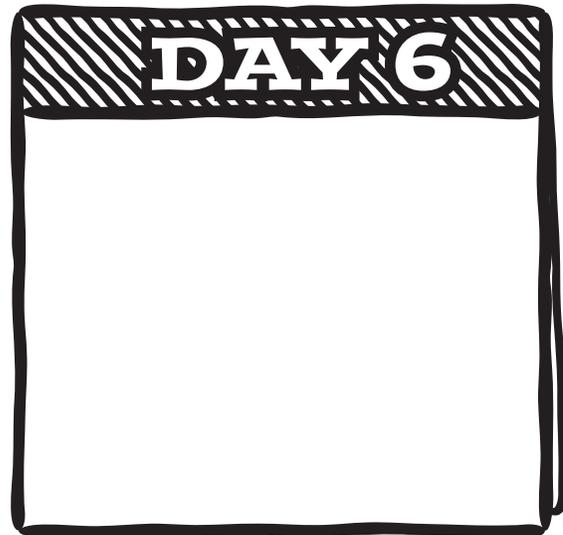
DAY 4



DAY 5



DAY 6

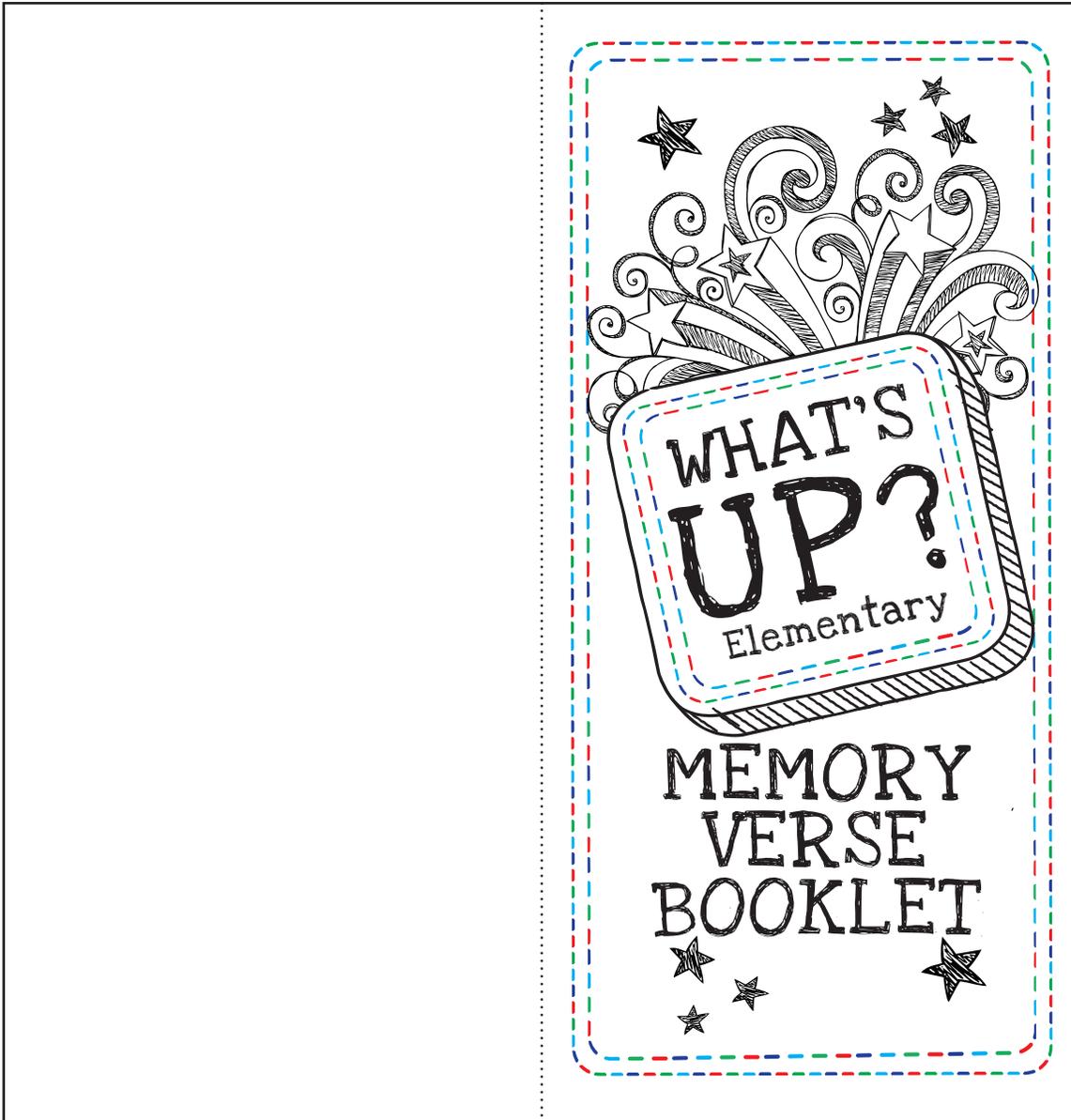




IDEAS

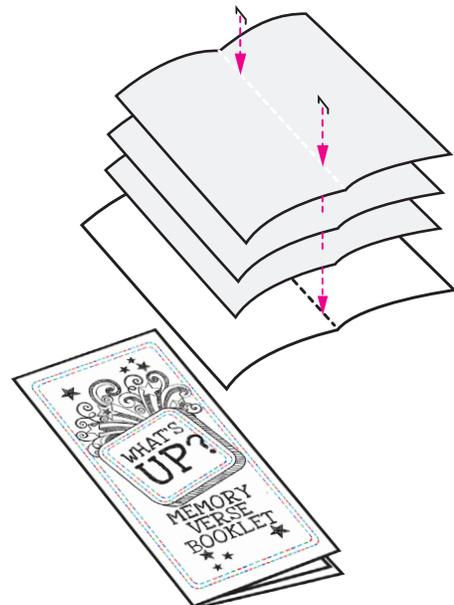


fold



To complete the Memory Verse booklet, have the children do the following:

- ★ Decorate the cover of the booklet.
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fold

Booklet blank page template: 5 1/2" X 6"

fold





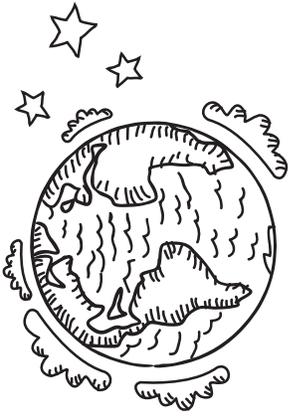
“It is he who
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Jeremiah 10:12



“It is he who
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Jeremiah 10:12



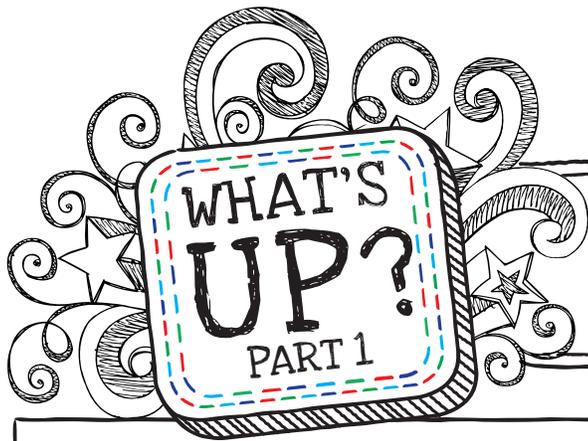
“It is he who
made the earth
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wisdom, and by
his understanding
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Jeremiah 10:12



Lesson 1 Memory Verse Booklet verse

Print out enough for each student. Cut out and have students decorate and paste on the first page of their Memory Verse Booklet. Keep Memory Verse Booklet stored in each student's folder.



JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS



GOD/JESUS	Yourself