

A Vacation Bible School Curriculum for the Church of the Nazarene, Inc.

## Lesson Two



the  
**great**  
investigation

the case of the  
hanging red cord



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## WEEK AT A GLANCE

	<div>LESSON ONE</div> <div>The Case of the Towering Stones</div>	<div>LESSON TWO</div> <div>The Case of the Hanging Red Cord</div>	<div>LESSON THREE</div> <div>The Case of the Broken Jar</div>	<div>LESSON FOUR</div> <div>The Case of the Missing Grain Bag</div>
MAIN POINT	God loves us and prepares a way for us before we know we need Him	God offers salvation to everyone through His Son, Jesus	When we give our lives to God, He will guide us and teach us	God is always faithful, so we can trust Him
MEMORY VERSE	Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9	I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. Acts 10:34-35	Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD. Psalm 27:14	For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5
BIBLE STORY	Joshua and the Israelites cross Jordan River Joshua 1, 3-4	Rahab believes in God Joshua 2:1-24; 6:1-25	Gideon is led by God Judges 6:36-40; 7:1-25	Ruth finds a new home Ruth 1-4
CLUE OF THE DAY	God seeks us.	God saves us.	God leads us.	We can trust God.
THEOLOGICAL FOCUS	Prevenient Grace	Salvation	Sanctification/ Covenant	Ongoing Discipleship
LESSON ICON	 <div>Tower of Stones</div>	 <div>Red Cord</div>	 <div>Broken Jar</div>	 <div>Bag of Grain</div>

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

	<div>LESSON ONE</div> <div>The Case of the Towering Stones</div>	<div>LESSON TWO</div> <div>The Case of the Hanging Red Cord</div>	<div>LESSON THREE</div> <div>The Case of the Broken Jar</div>	<div>LESSON FOUR</div> <div>The Case of the Missing Grain Bag</div>
 <b>EVIDENCE VAULT</b>	Joshua and the Israelites cross the Jordan River	Rahab believes in God	Gideon is led by God	Ruth finds a new home
 <b>INVESTIGATION LAB</b>	Types of Fingerprints, Lifting Fingerprints	Unknown Powder, Evidence Left Behind, Match the Fibers	Unknown Liquids	Investigating Footprints
 <b>DISCOVERY SHOP</b>	Detective Case Solving Kit, Handprint	Salvation Bracelet	Gideon's Trumpet	Grain and Seed Mosaic
 <b>CONFIDENTIAL CAFÉ</b>	Crossing Jordan Crackers	Jericho's Wall Rice Krispy Square	Gideon's Torch Snack	Boaz's Field Brownie
 <b>FIELD ADVENTURES</b>	Hide and Seek Tag, Fingertip Relay	Weaving A Web, Strings Attached	Blindfolded Obstacle Course, Make a Motion	Shoe Shuffle, Hopscotch
 <b>DETECTIVE CASE SOLVING KIT</b>	Small empty container, Clear tape, Small paintbrush, Cocoa powder, Index cards	Magnifying glass, Tweezers	No additions	Black crayon, White paper



## INTRODUCTION

- 🐾 **Main Point:** God offers salvation to everyone through His Son, Jesus
- 🐾 **Memory Verse:** “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.” Acts 10:34-35
- 🐾 **Bible Story:** Rahab Believes in God; Joshua 2:1-24; 6:1-25
- 🐾 **Clue of the Day:** God saves us.
- 🐾 **Theological Focus:** Salvation

God has been seeking each one of us, desiring that all of us would be saved. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for everyone. We are given the gift of salvation when we believe and trust in Jesus.

Rahab was not an Israelite. However, she chose to believe in God and to act on that belief. She hid the men whom Joshua had sent to check out Jericho. In return, her life and her family's lives were saved due to this act of faith.

# OPENING



## SUPPLIES

Lesson Two PowerPoint (opening slides and Clue of the Day motions)

Worship music lyrics or slides

Skit props and supplies

# WELCOME

**Director:** Welcome back to *The Great Investigation*. You did a great job yesterday uncovering the clues and helping solve the Case of the Towering Stones. Do you remember our clue yesterday? Let's say it together with our motions.

**God**

*(Point to sky)*

**seeks**

*(Hand on forehead as if to salute,  
then move head back and forth)*

**us.**

*(Point both thumbs to self)*

Great job! Get ready to find more clues today as we track down God's plan.

# WORSHIP MUSIC

If possible, provide the lyrics through PowerPoint or posted where everyone can see them.

# SKIT



## SUPPLIES

File folder

Printout of "The Case of the Hanging Red Cord" (Lesson 2, Resource 1)

Printout of "God Saves Us" (Lesson 2, Resource 2)

Large dog bowl

Large dog bone

Bloodhound barking sound effect (PowerPoint slide)



Piece of string (approximately 6" or 15.25 cm)

Plastic gloves

Small plastic bag

Tape or glue

Trench coat

Detective style hat

## PREPARATION

1. Glue or tape Resource 1 printout on the file folder or write “The Case of the Hanging Red Cord” on the front of the file folder.
2. Print out Resource 2 or write “God saves us” on a piece of paper. Fold the paper and place it under the dog bowl. Make sure it is hidden completely.
3. Place the string on the floor by the dog bowl with one end touching the bowl.

## CHARACTERS

Chief Investigator Emery King, Detective Snoop Tracy, Sherlock (unseen bloodhound)

Emery is wearing a hat and a trench coat over slacks and a shirt. Snoop is wearing a similar coat and a bright shirt (Hawaiian type) and jeans (or shorts).

## DIALOGUE

*(Snoop and Emery enter the office. Emery takes off his trench coat and hat, hanging them on the coat rack. Snoop takes off his coat and throws it over a chair.)*

**Emery:** *(Looks Snoop up and down.)* Still wearing a bright colored shirt!

**Snoop:** Perhaps this will be my signature! You know every detective needs their thing.

**Emery:** Their thing?

**Snoop:** Yes. The thing that makes them stick out and seem unique.

**Emery:** You want to stick out? *(Looks at Snoop incredulously.)* Not sure if that is wise for a detective.

**Snoop:** *(Ignores him.)* What a great case yesterday! We solved it! Those towering stones were super cool.

**Emery:** Those towering stones were a reminder that God was seeking out His people. And He still seeks us today.

**Snoop:** *(Nods.)* So, what’s up today? Any new cases to solve? Perhaps with adventure involved? Or maybe danger? But I hope it’ll be fun.

**Emery:** *(Sighs and shakes his head. He pulls out the file folder.)* The Case of the Hanging Red Cord.

**Snoop:** The hanging red cord? Hm. Why red? Why not blue? Or purple? Or orange? And hanging? In mid-air?

**Emery:** Well, if you could perhaps be quiet for a moment, we can find out. The question to solve is who hung this red cord? And why did they hang it?

**Emery:** *(Opens the file. Nothing is inside. He shakes it as if to find something.)* Unbelievable! Another tampered case! This felon needs to be apprehended.

**Snoop:** Maybe it's hidden in the room? Or in the building? Or they might have taken it? *(Dramatically)* I will track it down. They don't call me Snoop Tracy for nothing.

*(Emery picks up the phone and dials. While he is on the phone, Snoop is looking around the room.)*

**Emery:** Hello. This is Emery King. We will be a little bit late to our meeting with you. It appears that our case file has been tampered with. We are getting to the bottom of it now. I assure you that we will find the felon.

*(Emery hangs up the phone and sits in thought.)*

**Snoop:** What's this string hanging out from under Sherlock's dog bowl?

**Emery:** I have no idea. It wasn't there yesterday. Careful. It might be evidence.

**Snoop:** This time I'll put on gloves.

*(Snoop pulls on gloves and picks up the string. Then he lifts up the dog bowl. A folded piece of paper is under the dish. He picks it up and carefully opens it.)*

**Snoop:** No way! A hidden piece of paper under the dog bowl! How did it get here? I wonder if there is a hidden message inside!

**Emery:** We will never know if you don't unfold it.

**Snoop:** *(Laughs as he unfolds the paper)* Oh yeah. That would help. It says, "God saves us."

**Emery:** That is the missing paper from the file! Interesting.

**Snoop:** How did it get from the file to under the dog bowl? *(Points from the desk to the bowl.)* And what about the string? Who put the string there? Or did the string just randomly appear? Did it drop off of someone's clothing? Maybe it's a coincidence. *(Dramatically)* Or maybe it was planted so we would find the clue!?

**Emery:** All possibilities. We will need to get the string to the lab to analyze.

**Snoop:** Uh, boss. Take the paper, too! There is hair all over this. *(Makes a face as he holds the paper by the corner.)*

**Emery:** Hair? Hm. They can analyze the hair, too. Perhaps we will be able to find the felon using the hair sample. At least we will be able to find out the hair color and whether it is straight or curly. All clues that could lead us to apprehend the person tampering with our files.

**Snoop:** Right. Now about this evidence. God saves us. From what? How does He save us? Like throwing us a life preserver when we've fallen in the lake? Or like pushing us out of the way of a speeding car? Or like giving us the answers to a test so we don't fail it?

**Emery:** I'm not sure.

**Snoop:** Or like giving us money when we don't have enough at the grocery store? Or like. . .

**Emery: (Interrupts)** Enough, Snoop. We will have to solve the case to find out.

**Snoop:** The Case of the Hanging Red Cord. *(He dramatically emphasizes each word and gestures with his hands.)*

**Emery: (Sighs)** Yes, that. Bag the evidence and take it down to the lab. You know what to do. I need to get to the meeting. I'm very late, now.

*(Snoop places the evidence in plastic bags and leaves. Emery puts on his coat and hat. He pauses and picks up the dog bowl and twirls it around while thinking.)*

**Emery:** Hm. Something seems wrong. I'm just not sure what.

*(Emery leaves. As he leaves, the sound of a dog barking [cue bloodhound barking] is heard by the audience.)*

## CLUE OF THE DAY

**Director:** Every day as we are tracking down God's plan, we will uncover a Clue of the Day. This Clue helps us to understand and remember God's plan for our lives.

Yesterday we learned that because God loves us and wants us to have a relationship with Him, *(pause and encourage kids to say it with you)* God seeks us.

Today our Clue of the Day is "God saves us." Please say that with me. *(Pause and repeat it.)* Make sure you listen closely today and when someone asks what the Clue of the Day is, you are going to say... *(Pause for kids to shout the clue.)* God saves us! Detectives Snoop and Emery are trying to figure out what it means that God saves us. We will be tracking down God's plan for us using this clue today and learn what it means.

The Bible says in Acts 10:34-35, "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right." God wants everyone to follow Him. He accepts anyone who fears Him—anyone who believes in Him and trusts Him.

Let's learn some motions to help us remember today's clue. Remember, God wants everyone to have a relationship with Him and accepts anyone who is willing. (Do the motions while saying the Clue of the Day) God saves us.

<b>God</b>	<b>saves</b>	<b>us.</b>
<i>(Point to sky)</i>	<i>(Put fists together as if in handcuffs, then pull fists away as if breaking free from the handcuffs)</i>	<i>(Point both thumbs to self)</i>

## OFFERING

*(Tell the children how you will receive the offering and discuss the offering project. See the information provided for the Kids Reaching Kids offering project.)*

Okay all you detectives, let's get searching for more clues as we track down God's plan. *(Dismiss the children by groups to their scheduled activity rotation. Make sure each group knows where they will be going.)*



## ACTIVITY ROTATION

# EVIDENCE VAULT

**Bible Story:** Joshua 2:1-24; 6:1-25  
Rahab believes in God



### SUPPLIES

The following items can be reused from Lesson 1:

12 stones made from lunch bags
Footprints
Evidence tent numbers
A small notebook and pencil for each child
Yellow police tape (or rope)
Rectangular treasure chest or box
A Bible
Flax stalks (Find these at floral shops or online.)*



### SUPPLIES

For Lesson 2 only:

Small pieces of paper/pebbles to simulate debris
Rope — any length over a yard/meter will work
Red cord or yarn — 1 yard or meter
Ram's horn shofars (may be purchased online or make one by rolling up paper into a cone and taping the end to secure it from unraveling)
PowerPoint slides (for Clue of the Day motions)

\*Alternate: use wheat stalks or other tall, dried grass.

## PREPARATION

- Read all the instructions before the children arrive.
- Designate an area for the evidence scene. This area should be large enough for the children to gather around the edges to examine the scene. A different area than the one for Lesson 1 might be used. Each day's evidence scene can remain for children to remember the stories.
- Prepare the notebooks for the children who are new today. Each child will have a notebook and a pencil to draw the evidence scene or write down clues. The design (Lesson 1, Resource 4) can be cut out and glued on the notebooks (optional).
- Set up the evidence scene in the designated area. Surround the area with police tape or rope.

## EVIDENCE SET UP

### Footprints (Evidence 3)

- Place footprints on the ground in a large circle. Place evidence sign #3 next to it.

### Crumpled stones (Evidence 6)

- Using the stones from Day 1 (or make new ones), mash them a little bit so they look like they are broken and crumbling. Build a broken-down wall inside the footprint circle. Sprinkle the small pieces of paper/pebbles around the wall to simulate dust and debris. Place evidence sign #6 next to it.

### Flax stalks (Evidence 1)

- Spread out flax stalks on the ground in the middle of the footprint circle. Place evidence #1 sign next to it.

### Rope (Evidence 2)

- Near the flax, place the rope on the ground inside the circle. Coil up one end of the rope. Place evidence #2 sign by it.

### Treasure Chest/Box (Evidence 4)

- Place the treasure box on the ground along the edge of the footprint circle as if someone was walking and put the box down. Evidence #4 sign goes beside the box.

### Ram's horn shofar (Evidence 5)

- Place the ram's horn shofar on the ground beside a footprint. Evidence #5 sign will be next to it.

### Red cord (Evidence 7)

- Place the red cord between two stones on the broken wall. Make sure it is hanging down a little bit so that it is easily seen. Evidence sign #7 goes beside the cord on the wall, if possible.

## STORY

You may use the following script to tell the story.

Say, **Welcome back to the Evidence Vault.** Today we are going to solve the Case of the Hanging Red Cord.

Get out your notebooks and pencils from your detective kit *(or hand them out if they do not have the kits. If any child is new, make sure they have a notebook and pencil from Day 1).*

I'm going to give you a few moments to look at the evidence. Make sure you don't touch anything. Stay behind the tape/rope. As you look at the evidence, you might be curious about what happened. Feel free to draw or write what you think might have happened in your notepad.

*(Let the children move around the room looking at the evidence. Give them enough time to see each item.)*

Let's all take a seat while I go through the evidence and we discover what happened. As we look at the evidence, we'll also look for clues in the Bible. The book of Joshua chapters 2 and 6 may give us some clues. *(Show the children where the book of Joshua is in the Bible.)*

Let's start with evidence 1. These stalks of grain are flax stalks. After they were harvested, they were spread out to dry. Often, they were spread on the roof to dry in the hot sun. There was a house in Jericho that was built into the thick wall that surrounded Jericho. On the rooftop, there were flax stalks like this.

Yesterday, we talked about how God was seeking out the Israelites to be His people. He brought them to the promised land, and they were preparing to go into it. Joshua had sent two spies to check out the land. While the spies were in Jericho, they needed a place to hide because the king of Jericho had found out about them.

Rahab, who lived in this house, let them come into her home. When men knocked on the door looking for the spies, Rahab hid the spies up on the roof under the flax stalks.

The people of Jericho did not follow God. But Rahab had heard about God and the wonderful things He had done. For instance, she had heard that He had led the Israelites out of slavery and parted the Red Sea so they could cross it. She said to the men, "For the LORD your God, He is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath." She made a decision to believe in God, and then her actions showed this, which leads us to evidence #2.

Evidence #2 is a rope. Do you think someone was tied up? What do you think happened with the rope? *(Allow the children to give some guesses.)*

Rahab asked the spies to save her and her family when the Israelites took control of the city. They promised to do so if she would not tell anyone about them. After making the promises to one another, Rahab helped the two men get out of the city by using a rope. She lowered them down through a window in her home; remember her home was built in a thick wall around the city. The men were able to escape and finally make it back to Joshua to report on the city.

What do you think is going on with evidence #3? It looks like there is a big circle that people have been walking around. I wonder why they were walking in a circle.

After the people had crossed over the Jordan River, God told them how they were going to capture the city. Each day, they would march around the city. He gave them specific instructions about how they were to march and how many times they would march.

Evidence #4 looks like a treasure box. It represents the Ark of the Covenant. The priests were to carry the Ark of the Covenant. Then, the people would follow behind it. They would walk around the city once every day.

Let's look at evidence #5. What is this? A ram's horn shofar. God had instructed them to blow the horn as they walked around the city. I wonder what the people who lived in Jericho thought about this? What would you think if people were walking around your town blowing a horn?

Evidence #6 looks like a wall that has been broken down. Why do you think it has been broken down? *(Allow the children to think about it and give possible answers.)*

After six days of walking around the walls once, God had different instructions for the seventh day. This time, they were to walk around the city seven times. That must have taken a lot of energy and a lot of time. After the seventh time around the city, the people gave a loud shout. Then, the walls of Jericho fell down. Can you imagine that?

Look closely at the stones in the broken-down wall. There is another piece of evidence here, evidence #7. It looks like a red cord hanging out of it. Remember when Rahab had hidden the spies? They told her to hang a red cord in her window and her family would be safe when Jericho was conquered. That's what she did. Do you think the promise was kept? Yes, it was.

Rahab, along with her family, were saved physically from the Israelites. She also was saved spiritually. She had turned to and believed in God. She put her trust in Him. She started a relationship with Him. Her actions, including hiding the spies, showed that she had faith in Him.

Did you know that God wants a relationship with each one of us? Do you remember the Clue of the Day? Say it with me.

<b>God</b>	<b>saves</b>	<b>us.</b>
<i>(Point to sky)</i>	<i>(Put fists together as if in handcuffs, then pull fists away as if breaking free from the handcuffs)</i>	<i>(Point both thumbs to self)</i>

God saves us by sending Jesus to earth to die on the cross for our sins. Sin means doing something we know God doesn't want us to do. When we believe in and trust God and ask Him to forgive us from our sins, He does that. God saves us.

When we pray today, think about if you would like to follow Jesus. Would you like to ask God to forgive you your sins and put your trust in Him? If so, you can repeat the prayer with me. Or you can pray in your own words.

## PRAYER

Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me. I want to follow You. Help me put my trust in You and to live each day as Your follower. Amen.

Make sure you tell someone if you made that decision today.



## ACTIVITY ROTATION

# INVESTIGATION LAB

There is one group activity with two optional individual activities.

Say, Detectives will seek out a person by looking at the evidence they leave behind. This evidence is called trace evidence. Yesterday we learned how fingerprints can help a detective find someone. There are other kinds of evidence that people leave behind. Some kinds of physical evidence are fibers (threads or strings) from their clothing, strands of their hair or flakes, or powder of a substance like food.

In the Evidence Vault today, you saw (or will see) a red fiber hanging on a wall and an unknown powder on the ground. A detective would collect this evidence and take it to the lab for testing.

### GROUP LAB – UNKNOWN POWDER

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>SUPPLIES</b> 3 tablespoons/14 grams of each of the items below:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Baking soda		Bottle of iodine solution
	Cornstarch		Measuring spoons
	Salt		Four test tubes or clear containers such as baby food jars
	Sugar		Clear drinking glass (or lab-type glass such as a cylinder or flask)
	Vinegar		Paper towels
	Water		Metal spoon

### PREPARATION

- Fill four test tubes with 3 tablespoons of baking soda, cornstarch, salt, and sugar. Make a mark on them for yourself so only you can tell what is in them.
- Fill the clear drinking glass with water.

### DISCUSSION

Say, Welcome to the Investigation Lab. A detective may discover powder at a crime scene. The lab will use chemistry to identify the type of powder. They will try different tests on the powder to try to find the answer.

I have four different powders here. We are going to do some tests on these powders.

When examining a powder, the lab will first look at it carefully. Is it gritty, crystal-like, or smooth? Let's look at the powders here and determine what they look like. *(Show each test tube and ask what they look like. The sugar and salt should look gritty or crystal-like. The baking powder and cornstarch should be smooth.)*

Next, some tests will be run. I'll show you some examples.

First, let's take sugar. What do you think might happen if we put heat to the sugar? *(If you want to demonstrate this, choose an appropriate method of heating to do so.)* The sugar melts.

The next powder we will look at is salt. It looks a lot like sugar. It is gritty like the sugar. Do you think it will burn? *(Try the same experiment with it.)* Salt does not burn. Do you think it will dissolve in water? *(Pour a spoonful of salt into a clear container of water. Stir it with a spoon.)* Yes, salt dissolves in the water.

The third powder is cornstarch. It has a smooth appearance. I am going to put a drop of iodine in the cornstarch. Does anyone know what will happen when I do this? *(Allow some children to make guesses. Put a few drops of iodine into the cornstarch.)* The cornstarch turned black.

The fourth powder is baking soda. We are going to pour some vinegar into the baking soda and see what happens. *(Pour enough vinegar into the test tube of baking soda that the children can see the mixture bubbling to the top of the tube and possibly spilling over.)* When baking soda is mixed with vinegar, it will bubble.

Now we are going to do this again but all of you detectives are going to have to guess which substance is which.

*(Choose one of the test tubes at random and ask the students which one they think it is just by looking at it [you can have some the students come up and look at it up closely if you want]. Then, once there is a general consensus, perform the test that the students say will work [have some back up ones in case they are wrong and it doesn't do anything]. Do this until they have guessed all four substances correctly.)*

We didn't know what our unknown was but discovered it after doing tests on it. God knows each one of us. We aren't an unknown to Him. Yesterday, we learned that God seeks us. Today we learned that God saves us. He knows each of us and wants to have a relationship with us. He wants us to know Him.

At any evidence scene, there may be fibers or hair left. These simply fall off clothing or bodies. Detectives have to be observant to find any evidence left behind. We are going to do some labs to investigate fibers and hair.

## INDIVIDUAL LAB – EVIDENCE LEFT BEHIND



### SUPPLIES

Roll of masking tape or duct tape

Tweezers

### PREPARATION

- Find a surface in the room that will not be damaged by placing tape on it and pulling the tape off. Carpets usually work well for this.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Tear off a six inch (150 mm piece) of tape and hand it to each child.
- Have each child stick the tape to a surface in the designated area and pull it up.
- Look at the evidence the tape picked up. Try to identify what is left on the tape.
- Tweezers can also be used to pick up evidence in the designated area.

## MATCH THE FIBERS



### SUPPLIES

Microscope or magnifying glass

Four different types of fibers with one repeating for a total of five (pull from clothing, yarn, sewing supplies, etc.)

Five slides if using microscope or 5 index cards if using magnifying glass

Clear tape if using index cards

White index cards

### PREPARATION

- Place five fibers on slides or index cards. (Tape onto the index cards)
- Pick one fiber as “evidence.” Place it on a slide or tape on an index card and mark it by writing “evidence.”

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Look at each fiber using the microscope or magnifying glass.
- Try to match the one that is the same as the evidence.

DISCUSSION

If time permits, go over the Clue of the Day and the memory verse:

Let’s go over our Clue of the Day. Do you remember the motions?

God  
*(Point to sky)*

saves  
*(Put fists together as if in handcuffs, then pull fists away as if breaking free from the handcuffs)*

us.  
*(Point both thumbs to self)*

What about our memory verse? Let’s say that together: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right” Acts 10:34-35.

Remember that God seeks us. He wants a relationship with us. He doesn’t show favoritism to anyone but wants everyone to love Him and to follow Him. When we make the decision to say yes to Jesus, God saves us.

DETECTIVE CASE SOLVING KIT

If the children will be creating a detective kit this week, have them place the items in their kit.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SUPPLIES
	Magnifying glass
	Tweezers (little plastic ones will work)



## ACTIVITY ROTATION

# DISCOVERY SHOP

### SALVATION BRACELET



#### SUPPLIES

Cord (thinner leather works best)

Pony beads (yellow, black, red, white, green, and blue)

Scissors

Stickers

### PREPARATION

- Cut a 6-inch (15 cm) strips of the leather cord for each child.
- Optional: Tie a knot 1 inch (25mm) to the left of the center of the bracelet (you can also have the kids do this for themselves).

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each child a prepared leather cord.
2. If you would like the beads to be stationary, instruct the children to tie a knot 1 inch to the left of the center of the bracelet.
3. Have them put the beads on while you explain each one in this order: black, red, white, blue, green, yellow.
4. Add another knot at the end of the yellow bead to secure the beads.
5. Tie on wrists as a bracelet.
6. Optional: To make bracelets adjustable, insert one side of the leather cording through a white pony bead and knot the end so that the cord will not slide out of the bead. Then, place the other end of the leather cording through the same pony bead and knot it at the end so that it will not slide out. Pull the two ends to adjust the size of the bracelet.

### DISCUSSION

Say, the first bead that we are going to put on our bracelet is a black bead. This bead represents our sin.

The next bead we are going to put on our bracelet is a red bead. This bead represents the blood of Jesus Christ and how He loved the world so much that He gave His life for us.

Now pick up a white bead and place it on your bracelet. This bead represents how Jesus washed away our sins and cleansed us with His blood.

Next is the blue bead. This bead stands for water baptism, which is an outward demonstration to others that we have accepted Jesus' sacrifice and that we will live our lives for Him!

The next color is green. You know how all of the plants and grass outside are mostly green and are always growing? Well as Christians, we are always growing in our faith! Becoming a Christian is a journey that never stops. We get closer and closer in relationship with God our whole lives!

Our last color is yellow. Yellow represents heaven and the gift of eternal life that is promised by God.

Just like Rahab used the red cord to identify herself as a believer in God, you can use this bracelet to say that you are a Christian. You can also use it to tell the story of salvation to others.

Today, we have made a craft that can be used to identify us as believers in God. Evidence is often left behind, and these are clues that help us solve a mystery. Some evidence could be in fibers such as thread or string from your clothing or a hair strand from your head. Also, it could be a powder like the powdered sugar on a doughnut or sand tracked in from a sandbox. They are clues to the unknown. Does God need clues to figure out something about us? No. He created us, He knows all about us. He loves us and seeks us. He wants to have a relationship with us and for us to know Him.

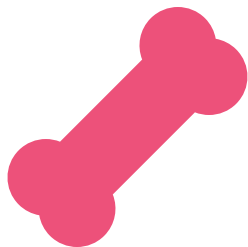
*(If time permits, review the Clue of the Day and the memory verse.)*

Do you remember the Clue of the Day? Let's say it together with the motions:

<b>God</b> <i>(Point to sky)</i>	<b>saves</b> <i>(Put fists together as if in handcuffs, then pull fists away as if breaking free from the handcuffs)</i>	<b>us.</b> <i>(Point both thumbs to self)</i>
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Let's see if we can remember the memory verse. We'll put a few motions with it to help us.

<b>"I now realize how true it is that God</b> <i>(Point to sky)</i>	<b>does not show favoritism</b> <i>(Shake head and tap middle finger on lower chin)</i>	<b>but accepts from every nation</b> <i>(Make a "come here" motion)</i>
<b>the one who fears Him and does what is right."</b> <i>(Place palms of hands together as if praying)</i>	<b>Acts 10:34-35</b> <i>(Hold up 10 fingers)</i>	



## ACTIVITY ROTATION

# CONFIDENTIAL CAFÉ

## JERICO'S WALL

The children will construct a wall of Jericho and hang the red cord from the wall. If you do not have these resources, enjoy a snack together that is related to the story and discuss the questions below. Learn today's memory verse.



### SUPPLIES

For each child:<sup>o</sup>

Rice Krispies square* (buy prepackaged or make) <sup>o</sup>
Red licorice string/red icing <sup>o</sup>
Paper plate <sup>o</sup>
Lesson Two PowerPoint slides (memory verse motions)

\*Alternative: Brownies, graham crackers or other bite-sized crackers or squared cookies could be used.

## PREPARATION

- Read all the instructions before the children arrive. If possible, make an example.
- Cut the Rice Krispies squares into bite size pieces to resemble bricks.
- To save time, ingredients could be prepackaged on a plate.

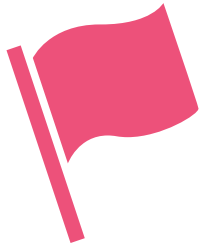
## INSTRUCTIONS

If the children have heard the story, review it as you are “building” your snack. For example, discuss how the Rice Krispies/cereal squares represent the wall, and ask how the wall was a part of our story. If not, tell them that they will hear a story later about the walls of Jericho and a red cord that was hung from a window in the wall.

## DISCUSSION

You may use the following script.

Say, Today, as we are uncovering clues to solve the Case of the Hanging Red Cord, we are going to make a snack that reminds us of something that happens in the Bible story. On the plate, build a wall with the little Rice Krispies/cereal squares or squared cookie. If you would like, try to build the wall with a window inside it. Once the wall is built, take the red licorice string and hang it from the window (if you made one) or down the side of the wall.



## ACTIVITY ROTATION

# FIELD ADVENTURES

### WEAVING A WEB



#### SUPPLIES

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Three balls of yarn/string

### PREPARATION

- None

### INSTRUCTIONS


1. All players form a circle.
2. Give the balls of yarn/string to three different players.
3. One player holds on to the end of the yarn/string and throws the ball across the circle to another player who holds on to the yarn and throws it again. Do this a few times until a web starts to form.
4. The second ball is thrown across the circle to another player while holding on to the yarn.
5. After a few throws, start the third ball.
6. Keep throwing the balls until a mess has been formed.

### DISCUSSION

Say, Life can feel a little like this web that is a mess. Has anyone felt like this? When we have a relationship with God, He is always with us. In our Bible story, Rahab and the spies were in messy situations, and God helped them through it. Even though messy things will still happen today, God will always help us find a way out.

**STRINGS ATTACHED – MEMORY VERSE GAME**

“I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right.” Acts 10:34-35

	<b>SUPPLIES</b>
	Index cards (or cut cardstock or cardboard)
	Hole punch
	Different color yarn scraps
	Black marker

**PREPARATION**

- Punch a hole in each index card.
- Write one word to the verse on each index card.
- Tie a piece of yarn to the card. Vary the lengths of the yarn.
- Hide the cards in different places in the room (or outside) with at least a small piece of yarn showing. Longer pieces of yarn could be placed so that the children have to follow a path to find the clue.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Tell the children to examine the room (or outside area) for pieces of yarn.
2. When they find a piece of yarn, follow the yarn to the card attached.
3. The children should work together to put the words to the verse in order as the clues are found.

# CLOSING



## SUPPLIES

File folder for The Case of the Hanging Red Cord (from opening skit)

PowerPoint slides (Clue of the Day and memory verse motions)

## PREPARATION

- None

## DIALOGUE

**Emery:** Welcome back to our detective agency. We've been solving the Case of the Hanging Red Cord. *(Holds up the folder from the opening skit.)* The big question is. . . who hung the red cord? And why did they hang it?

**Snoop:** Let me guess! Please let me guess! I'm sure I know. *(Jumps up and down.)*

**Emery:** Yes, I'm sure you know. But do these detectives-in-training know?

**Snoop:** Well, they did solve the case yesterday. Like I said. . . they are sleuthy.

**Emery:** I suppose they are sleuthy, if that is even an official word. Before we get to the hanging red cord, let's see if they remember the Clue of the Day. Who knows the Clue of the Day?

*(Choose a child to come forward and lead the group in saying the Clue of the Day using the motions.)*

**God**  
*(Point to sky)*

**saves**  
*(Put fists together as if in handcuffs, then pull fists away as if breaking free from the handcuffs)*

**us.**  
*(Point both thumbs to self)*

**Snoop:** Good job, sleuthy investigators.

**Emery:** Very good. Now who might know our memory verse today?

*(Choose a child to come forward and say the verse. Encourage the children to do the motions while the verse is being quoted. If the child forgets the words, invite everyone to say it together. Thank the child for volunteering.)*

"I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right." Acts 10:34-35

**Emery:** Now, let's see if we can solve the Case of the Hanging Red Cord.

**Snoop:** Yes! I can't wait to hear what the sleuths have to say. This is sooooo exciting! Exciting as riding a roller coaster! As white-water rafting. As exciting as. . .

**Emery:** Snoop, please. Let's get on with it.

**Snoop:** Sorry, boss. Got a little carried away.

**Emery:** *(turns to the children)* Who hung the red cord on the wall? *(Choose a child to answer the question.)* Yes, Rahab hung it.

**Snoop:** Good thing she did.

**Emery:** Why did she hang it? *(Choose a child to answer the question.)* Absolutely. Rahab hung the red cord so she and her family would be saved when the Israelites took the city of Jericho. She made a choice to trust God.

**Snoop:** And guess what? God saves us today when we take a step of faith and trust in Him.

**Emery:** That's right. He wants a relationship with each one of us. He seeks us. He saves us. We now know more about God's plan for us.

**Snoop:** Hey, I forgot to ask. What happened with the string and the paper we sent to the lab? Any clues?

**Emery:** It was odd. The string was just a normal piece of string. But the paper. . . the fibers on it were dog hair.

**Snoop:** Dog hair?

**Emery:** Yes, dog hair. Perhaps it fell off Sherlock's dog bowl onto the paper since it was under the bowl. Yet, still odd. There was a lot of dog hair on it.

**Snoop:** That's too bad. I was hoping we would find the felon using whatever trace evidence he or she left behind.

**Emery:** Hopefully the felon is gone.

**Snoop:** I hope so. By the way, any cases for tomorrow? What will we solve?

**Emery:** We will definitely require help from these detectives. Tomorrow, we will try to solve the Case of the Broken Jar. When we solve the case, I am confident that we will learn another part of God's plan for us. See you tomorrow as we continue to track down God's plan.