

# COMMUNICATION

## BIG IDEA

Communication is the ability to convey thoughts, attitudes, feelings, and actions to others in a kind and having a listening manner that reflects Christ.

## MEMORY VERSE

I Timothy 4:12

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

## • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

### BIBLE LESSON: SKIT

- Sheets of paper
- Trash bag for cleanup

### GAME

- Chair

### CRAFT

- small paper bags
- rolls of crepe paper
- glue
- strong string
- small toys and/or candies

### WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)
- Photocopies of piñata picture instructions, one per team



# COMMUNICATION

Lesson 9

## BIBLE LESSON • INTERACTIVE

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Play the Telephone Game to humorously introduce the topic of communication. Ask for 7-10 volunteers to line up in front of the audience. Explain to the players that you will whisper something into the ear of the first person who will then whisper it into the ear of the second person and so on until the message has reached the end of the line. The whisperers cannot repeat themselves. The listeners cannot ask “what?” They can only pass on what they think they heard. Start the game by whispering “Ten teeny tiny trees turn together.”

Bring up another group of volunteers and change the rules slightly. The whisperers may repeat themselves and the listeners may ask “what?” and whisper “Six socks sitting in a soapy sink.”

Play the Communication Origami to further explore the idea of good communication. Ask for 7-10 volunteers. Give them each an identical piece of paper. Instruct them to close their eyes and follow your directions exactly. They may not open their eyes or ask questions. With your own piece of paper demonstrate your directions while saying them out loud.

Fold your paper in half.  
Fold it in half again.  
Tear off the top right corner.  
Flip the paper over.  
Fold the top right corner down into a small triangle.  
Flip your paper over again.  
Tear the paper down the middle part way then stop.

Have the kids open their eyes and compare their papers with yours. Take a moment to enjoy the silly differences.

Bring up another group of volunteers and change the rules slightly. This time the volunteers may ask one clarifying question. Again, with your own piece of paper demonstrate your directions as you give them. These directions are more specific.

Hold your paper the tall way.  
Now fold it in half like a book.  
Hold your paper the tall way and tear off the top two corners.  
Now fold it in half again from top to bottom.  
Hold your paper so the new fold is at the top.  
Now tear off the top two corners.

Have the kids open their eyes and compare their papers with yours. Hopefully the results are

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similar to yours.

Use the following question prompts to discuss good communication and poor communication.

- Our first round of the Telephone Game was very funny, and it was a communication failure! What caused the communication to get so garbled up?
- The second round was much more accurate. Why?
- Our first round of Communication Origami was also very funny and a complete communication failure. Why did everyone come up with different paper shapes from mine?
- The second round was more accurate. Why?
- What are some important pieces of good communication? (clear explanations, good listening, asking good questions)
- Besides talking and listening, what are some other ways people communicate? (writing, pictures, sign language, facial expressions, etc.)
- How does God communicate with us? (the bible, Holy Spirit, through other Christians)

Say: Did you know that the bible has different types of communication in it? The first five books of the bible are history books starting with the creation of everything and telling about the first Israelites. The middle of the bible has a book called Proverbs and it has all sorts of short wise sayings like, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” There is another book in the middle of the bible that is full of music lyrics, those are in the book of Psalms.

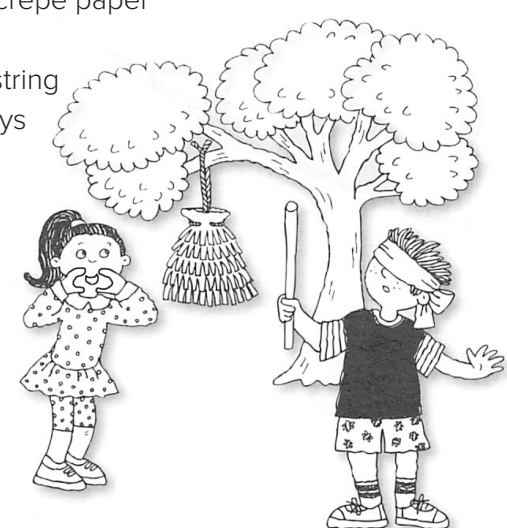
History writing, wise sayings and music are all in the Old Testament. In the New Testament Jesus used simple stories to tell important spiritual truths, and these are called parables. Later, Jesus’ followers communicated to other Christians through letters. And then at the end of the bible God communicated to a man named John in a vision about the future, that book is called Revelation. So you can see, even in one book God used many different types of communication to tell us about Himself and our relationship with him.

One final question: How can we communicate with God? (prayer) Does prayer have to be spoken out loud? Does prayer have to have fancy words? (no) What if we don’t even know how to explain ourselves to God, does that mean we can’t communicate with him?

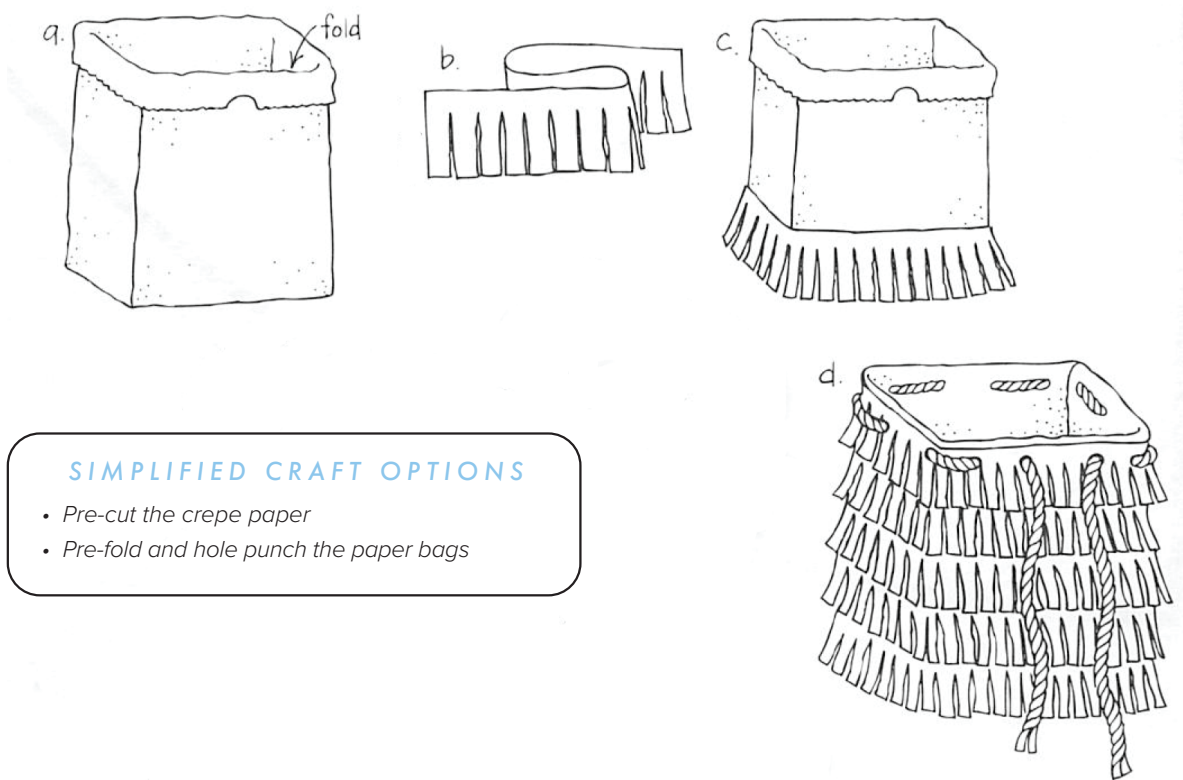
One of the most beautiful things about our communication with God is that He always fully understands our thoughts, feelings and needs. Even when we can’t come up with the right words or thoughts, God still knows! We always have perfect communication with God!

# COMMUNICATION

• CRAFT •

<p><b>OBJECTIVE: PIÑATA</b></p> <p>Kids will make piñatas together and then enjoy hitting them apart.</p>	<p><b>MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scissors, staplers, hole punches</li></ul>
<p><b>DIRECTIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Divide the kids into small groups. Groups will work together to make a piñata by following picture instructions.</li><li>• Give each group a paper bag, roll of crepe paper, glue, hole punch, string, some scissors and pictorial directions.</li><li>• As the kids work praise teams who are using good communication. Encourage teams to share the work and not rely on one person.</li><li>• Fill piñatas with small toys and/or candies.</li><li>• Each team ties their piñata up high and they take turns being blind folded and trying to hit the piñata.</li><li>• Encourage teams to communicate with their blindfolded teammate.</li></ul>	<p><b>MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• small paper bags</li><li>• rolls of crepe paper</li><li>• glue</li><li>• strong string</li><li>• small toys and/or candies</li></ul> 

EXAMPLE



SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Pre-cut the crepe paper
- Pre-fold and hole punch the paper bags

• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: "UH UM" RACE

A race to communicate clearly without using the words "uh", "um", "like" and "you know."

MATERIALS

- Chair

DIRECTIONS

This is a timed race. Divide the group into several evenly numbered teams. Team one lines up at one end of the play area. Place a chair at the other end. Team one is given a situation that they must communicate. Each player has give one and only one instruction without using the words "uh", "um", "like" and "you know." Start the timer as the first player runs to the chair, sits down and gives one instruction. Player runs back and tags the second player who sits in the chair and gives the second instruction. Game continues in this fashion. However, IF a player says "uh", "um", "like" or "you know" they have to stand up and run around the chair 5 times before continuing. Stop the timer when all team one members have played.

Second team races trying to beat the first team's time. Third team races for the best time, etc.

Situation ideas:

- How to ride a bike.
- How to tie a shoe.
- How to wrap a gift.
- How to mail a letter.
- How to make a sandwich (only in communities where food scarcity is not an issue)
- How build a fort.
- How to plant a garden.
- How to clean a house.



SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTIONS

- Instead of racing have the kids stand in a line and say one instruction per person going down the line. A person who says "uh", "um", "like" or "you know" has to run around the chair 5 times before continuing.
- Give the teams 5 minutes to strategize.





