



WELCOME TO MY316!

If you could choose one way to teach everybody in your church how to share Jesus with others, how would you choose to do it? MY316 would be a good option because it helps every church member, even children, to not only share their testimony verbally, but to put it into action as well.

MY316 does this by helping you use what you already know to share Jesus with your friends and family. You know John 3:16 and you know what He has done for you; so, you already know all you need to know to share Jesus with others.

Researchers tell us that John 3:16 is a verse that most people in Oklahoma already know. This makes it a familiar method to share. John 3:16 is the gospel in a nutshell. This makes it a thorough way to share. John 3:16 was originally spoken by Christ Himself. This makes it a powerful way to share! And what better way to share your own story than linking it with the powerful words of our Lord!

So, we hope you will use this valuable resource to equip your people to effectively reach your community for Jesus Christ in a personal and powerful way.

TWO OPTIONS

We have provided you with two options to utilize MY316.

OPTION ONE: We have included complete lesson plans for five sessions that will fit into a normal Sunday School time frame. This will allow your group to work through the MY316 emphasis in detail and to practice the various elements as a group.

OPTION TWO: We have also included a MY316 Highlight plan. This is a 10-12 minute emphasis that you could use at the beginning of your class period each week to encourage your members to get involved in reaching their friends and family and to “take it personally.”

RESOURCES

Each downloaded session has a lesson plan for the leader and student handouts to help with note taking and assignments.

In addition, optional pieces can be downloaded from www.bgco.org/MY316. You can also call Lindsey Craig at (405) 942-3000 ext. 4313 to order materials.

Also, visit www.MY316.com and read the information and testimonies to see how God is blessing people and how He is using this powerful witnessing tool. You can even add your own thoughts and stories.



Basic Small Group Lesson for MY316 (4th, 5th & 6th grade)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave
His one and only Son, that whoever believes
in Him shall not perish but have
eternal life.”
(NIV)

WEEK ONE: Option One

Emphasis:

To introduce the MY316 emphasis to 4th, 5th and 6th graders. To help children understand what John 3:16 means to them in a personal way. As a teacher, you should be prepared to present the A, B, C's of becoming a Christian to boys and girls who want to become a Christian. You will be introducing the “Power” of the verse, the emphasis of “Sharing” the verse, and the emphasis of “Prayer” and “Serving”. Present the Gospel to your class. This will lay the foundation for the next four weeks.

Prepare:

Step 1: Even though this passage is very familiar to you, pray and ask God to prepare your heart to teach His Word!

Step 2: Display a large wrapped present (large box, wrapping paper and bow). Wrap

the lid separately from the box so you can remove the lid. Under the lid, tape a piece of paper with the reference John 3:16 on it. This gift will be used each week.

Step 3: Display four tear sheets. Each sheet should have one of the following questions on it for children to answer. Have markers for the children to use.

Tear Sheet 1: What is the most powerful, expensive gift you have ever received? (The “Power” of the verse.)

Tear Sheet 2: List some gifts you have received. (The “Share” emphasis)

Tear Sheet 3: What is a gift you have given to someone else? (The “Serve” emphasis.)

Tear Sheet 4: What is a gift you have **asked** for but you do not have? (The “Prayer” emphasis.)

Step 4: Gather 3x5 cards, markers and stickers.

Step 5: Copy Response Cards - one for each student.

Early Arrivers: Have kids decorate a name plate. Have 3x5 cards on the table with stickers and markers. Have them personalize it by writing their name on a card and decorating it in a way that relates to their personality. If they come in late and do not have time to decorate a card, have them write their name only.

Teach: (10 min.)

After kids finish the name plates, direct them to the tear sheets on the wall and encourage them to write as many answers as possible. (Step 3: Prepare) As they work on the sheets, listen to their conversations. By listening to their conversation you will be able to **personalize** the discussion time with them.

As they ask about the gift, tell them it is something we will all share and you will be opening it later.

Discussion: (10-15 min.)

Let the kids discuss their answers and share what they have recorded on the tear sheets. By allowing them to share something they like to talk about, this will help them to open up and be more comfortable with each other.

Transition: (10 min.)

Say: “We have talked about some expensive, powerful gifts: gifts others have shared with you, gifts you want to give to others and gifts you have asked for and are waiting to receive. For the next few weeks we are going to talk about the greatest gift we have been offered and how we can share it with someone else. This beautiful gift here in our room will help us with our Bible study each week.” Open the top of the box and show the underneath side of the lid. And ask the kids to turn to John 3:16 in their Bible and read the verse. Explain that the greatest gift we can ever receive is “Eternal Life,” which means beginning a relationship with God that will last forever. After reading the verse **ask**, “Are you part of the world?” After they answer, have each

child bring their name plate up and put it in the gift box to represent that Jesus gave His life for each of them personally. (Each week you will add something or take something out of the box.)

Say: “Just like the answers you wrote on the tear sheets, this verse has power because it was very expensive, it is something we can share with others, it is something that some of us have been given and it may be something you are still considering. Before we can fully understand the power of John 3:16, you need to know that if you died today, you would go to Heaven. Let’s talk about it.”

Gospel Presentation: (15 min.)

In order to personalize John 3:16, children need to know for sure if they are a Christian. You need to present the gospel and give those who are still waiting for the gift of eternal life the opportunity to receive Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

You may have your own way of presenting the gospel to kids and feel more comfortable with your own presentation or you may want to use the A,B,C’s of salvation. Here are some tips to help:

Ask: What is Sin? Sin is anything we do that displeases God. List answers on the board for kids to see. How do you feel when you sin? How does God feel when you sin? Read Romans 6:23. Talk about wages being something we earn. If we got what we earned or deserved for our sin it would be death. Explain that “death” in this verse does not mean our hearts will stop beating but it is a spiritual death, being separate from God. BUT, the rest of the verse says that the gift of God is Heaven.

Why do we get to go to Heaven? Read John 3:16. God loves us so much that he gave us the gift of Heaven by dying on the cross for all those sins we listed on the board, the sins we didn't list, and all the sins we are going to do the rest of our lives. What you need to ask yourself is have you ever prayed and asked God to forgive you of your sins, turn your life over to him, come into your heart and be the boss of your life? When you become a Christian YOU make a promise to live for Him the rest of your life. If you have never done this, you can today. I will lead us in prayer and you pray right there in your chair. "Dear Jesus, I know I am a sinner, forgive me of my sins, come into my life and be the boss of my life. I promise to try to live for you the rest of my life. Thank you for forgiving me of all of my sins." Amen.

Take your eraser and erase the board. Explain that this is what happens when Jesus comes into our hearts. He erases our sin and we have a clean fresh start, a new life in Christ.

Say: Some of you have already prayed and asked Jesus into your heart before today and know that there are some things in your life that need to change. You are not living a life that would bring honor to God. If you already have asked Jesus in your heart before today and want to ask Him to forgive you and help you to be a better Christian, pray with me now. Lead them in a prayer asking for forgiveness and strength to be a better Christian. Encourage all the children to begin reading their Bible each day and pray. This will help them stay closer to Jesus and follow Him.

Response Cards: (10 min.)

Response card are located at the end of the lesson. Give each child a card and have

them complete it. When it is completed, have them place it in the gift box. (After class you will need to get those response cards for your follow-up information. Parents must be notified of their child's decision.) You will need to make appointments for each child who prayed the prayer of salvation in class to assure they understand the decision they made and for you to explain baptism.

Closing: (5 min.)

Encourage them to start memorizing John 3:16 this week at home. Practice the verse together. Mail them the verse during the week, give them an encouraging phone call, or e-mail or text as a reminder. If you see a child in the hall at church, race to see who can recite John 3:16 the fastest.

Optional: (15 min.)

If you are planning on using MY316 in a 15 minute opening or closing session, here are some suggestions:

Use the large wrapped gift as explained in Step 2. Open the lid and have the kids look up the scripture reference you put on the lid. After reading the scripture, you should use the 15 minutes to present the gospel to your class. Use the gospel presentation to help you. This will lay the foundation for the next four weeks. You will use the gift box each week.

You can also choose to use only the Early Arriver "Name Plate" exercise or the Tear Sheet discussion for your 15 minute introduction. However, you will need to make sure that your students have a personal relationship with Christ in order to help them share their story in the weeks to come.



Put an X on the statement that best describes your choice today.

_____ I prayed today and asked Jesus to be the boss of my life.

_____ I am already a Christian and prayed today for Jesus to help me be a better Christian.

_____ I want to talk to someone privately about becoming a Christian.

_____ I want to think about becoming a Christian some more.

My Name



Basic Small Group Lesson for MY316

Emphasis

(4th, 5th, & 6th grade)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NIV)

WEEK TWO: Option One

Prepare:

Step 1: Pray and ask God to prepare your heart to teach His word! Personalize your story and practice telling someone about your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Step 2: Write John 3:16 on a piece of construction paper or you can use poster board to make it jumbo size. Turn the paper over and draw a puzzle pattern. Make the puzzle harder (more pieces) for older kids. Cut the puzzle pieces apart and store them in a zip lock bag or sack. Make enough puzzles for a small group (2-3 kids) to work on a puzzle of their own. Make each puzzle different so kids can rotate to each puzzle.

Step 3: Order one MY316 tract for each student from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma (no cost.) There is also a large version designed for teachers to use during this session. You may order them by calling (405) 942-3000 ext. 4313 or by e-mailing lcraig@bgco.org. You may also order from www.bgco.org/my316.

Step 4: (optional) To make your own MY316 wheel, gather enough old CD's (one for each child), paper CD sleeves, permanent markers & white contact paper for each child. Make copies of the handouts for each child. You can also make your own wheels out of poster board or construction paper.

Early Arrivers:

Since you challenged the kids in your class by e-mail, phone call or text to start memorizing John 3:16 ask if anyone can say it to the class. Always compliment with encouraging words. For those who did memorize the verse this activity will help them recall it and for those who did not memorize it, this will help them start the memorization process.

Let the kids work individually or as a group to put the John 3:16 puzzles together. To make it more fun, groups can race each other.

Teach: (30 min.)

Have students open their Bible to John 3:16 and read the verse together. Remind the kids that in order to personalize the verse and put their story in the verse, they have to know Jesus and ask forgiveness of their sin. (Be prepared to present the gospel as in week one or have a teacher take those who were not there in week one and present the gospel in a different location.)

Use the handout “MY316 Story” to help the kids personalize their story into John 3:16. The children's wheel was developed to help kids have a tool to share John 3:16 as well as their personal salvation story. You will see suggested ideas that go along with each phrase on the wheel as well as questions to connect their story to each phrase. This will allow kids to become

familiar with explaining the importance of John 3:16 as well as their personal journey to Christ. They may need help putting their story into words as they work through the questions for each phrase. It's important that they describe what happened to them in their salvation experience.

Demonstrate (10 min.)

When everyone has completed the handout, tell the children that this is their story and they can share it with a friend who needs Jesus. Demonstrate for the kids by sharing YOUR testimony using the wheel to demonstrate.

Gospel Presentation: (15 min.)

Option #1 – Divide the kids into groups of 2-3. Hand out the MY316 children's wheel you ordered from the BGCO. Have each kid practice telling their personal testimony from the handout you prepared together. Let each child use the wheel to share John 3:16 with a friend in class. All kids in each group need to have a chance to share their personal story.

Option #2 – You can have kids make their own wheel out of poster board, construction paper or an old CD covered with white contact paper if you have time. Use the outline to help kids make their own wheel. When the wheel is complete, practice using it as described in option #1. Encourage the kids to put the disk or wheel in the paper sleeve and keep it to tell others about Jesus Christ.

Closing: (10 min.)

When you have finished telling YOUR story, put your wheel into the gift box from week one. Challenge the kids to use their wheel this week and come back with a story next week to share with the class. Start a prayer

circle by opening up with a prayer, "Jesus, help us this week to share our story about the greatest gift of Heaven with-----?" Go around the circle and have the kids say a name out loud of someone with whom they can share with. (Possibly a mom, dad, brother, sister, grandmother or friend.) Amen. End the class by telling the kids that we just prayed for several friends that need to hear about Christ. Next week, we will focus on prayer.

Teacher Challenge:

During the week, e-mail, phone call, text or send a card telling your students that you are praying for them as they share their story this week. (If you say you are praying, then make sure you do.)

Optional: (15 min.)

If you are planning on using MY316 in a 15 minute opening or closing session, make a copy of the handout "MY316 Story." Help students write their story using the questions provided. Hand out the MY316 wheels you ordered and show them how to use it by telling YOUR personal story.



MY316 Story

For God: God is the creator of everything in the world, including people. He created the first two people to ever live on the earth. Their names were Adam and Eve.

What were some of the things you understood about God that made you realize how powerful He is?

So loved: God is love. He didn't just create Adam and Eve, He loved them.

How did it make you feel the first time you understood that God loved you?

The World: But He didn't just love Adam and Eve, he loves everyone who has been born since then. He loves all the people in the world.

When you think about people in your life that God loves, who do you think about?

That He gave His one and only son: Jesus is God's son and was sent by him because of our sin. Adam and Eve made a choice to disobey God and we have all made that same choice. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (NIV) That sin separates us from God in this life and in the life to come. Jesus was sent to live a perfect life and his death paid the cost for everyone who will trust in Him.

What were some of the things in your life that made you realize you had sinned?

That whoever believes in Him: When you understand who Jesus is and what He has done, you can make a choice to turn your life over to Him. You can accept His offer to pay for your sins and begin a relationship with God.

Describe what it was like when you first believed that Jesus was God's son and could forgive you of your sins?

Should not perish but have eternal life: Perish means to be separated from God forever. If you trust in Jesus your relationship with God starts on this earth and keeps going even after you die.

Describe what it was like when you asked Jesus to take control of your life:

I have, will you?

What is the most exciting thing about your life since you decided to follow Jesus?

What would you say to someone who is wondering if they should trust Jesus?

Trusting in Jesus involves three important things.

1. Admit that you have sin in your life. (Rom. 3:23)
2. Believe that Jesus is God's son and died to pay the price for that sin. (Rom. 6:23)
3. Confess (say) with your mouth that Jesus is Lord. (Rom. 10:9)

There is a sample prayer on the back of the wheel you can use to help your friend say these things to God.





Basic Small Group Lesson for MY316

Emphasis (4th, 5th & 6th grade)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
(NIV)

WEEK THREE: Option One

Emphasis:

This week we will focus on the power of prayer and praying for our lost friends. The focal passage is Daniel 3, the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego being delivered from the fiery furnace because they prayed to the one and only true God who hears our prayers. The boys and girls will pick three friends and they will promise to pray for them.

Prepare:

Step 1: Pray and ask God to prepare your heart to teach His word. Read the passage in Daniel 3 and prepare to tell the story in your own words. For older kids, you can break the passage down for them to read in class and discuss as you go along. Discussion points will be in the “Teach” section.

Step 2: Make copies of the handout, Words In Today’s Story, for early arrivers.

Step 3: Have a Three Musketeer candy bar for each child (can be regular size or fun size). Gather a snack size baggie for each child and permanent markers.

Step 4: Make two signs to put somewhere in your room. One sign will say “Agree” and the other sign will say “Disagree.”

Step 5: Have a post card OR greeting card for each child. (See example.)

Step 6: Option One: Gather a rock for each child, big enough for kids to write on but be able to carry home, paint (tempera or acrylic), and permanent markers.

Option Two: Gather a bright colored piece of craft foam for each child. Craft foam comes in animal prints, camouflage, and lots of neat patterns that will appeal to 4th, 5th & 6th graders, as well as bright neon colors. If you do not want to use craft foam, you can always use poster board or construction paper. Gather several different sizes of stencils of the number “3.”

Early Arriver:

As kids come in, ask them to tell their stories about sharing with a friend and using their MY316 wheel. After they share, they can work on the word search. Tell the kids that they are searching for words they will hear today in the Bible story. If you are making the Prayer Rock you may want to use the early time to paint the rocks so they can dry.

Teach: (25 min.)

Share any stories that the kids have about telling a friend about Jesus. It is important for kids to hear your story as well.

Introduce the lesson by asking, "Has anyone ever heard of "The Three Musketeers?"

Explain to the kids that, "The Three Musketeers" is a movie and cartoon about three soldiers who were friends. These friends had a saying "All for one and one for all!" Ask the kids what they think that means? (It means that no matter what, they had each other's back, they were a team.) The Three Musketeers not only were friends, but also lived their lives for the same purpose and were together in good times and bad. **Say:** "The story of The Three Musketeers reminds me of our Bible story today about three friends who lived their life with the same purpose, stayed together in good times and bad and always had each other's back. Before we look at the scripture, I want to give you a test about your friends or the people you are around."

Statements: Tell the kids that you will read a statement and if they agree with the statement, they should go stand by the "agree" sign and if they disagree, go stand by that sign. See Step 4 in the "prepare" section. (If your space is limited, have the kids stand for "agree" and sit down for "disagree.") You will want to briefly discuss these statements if the kids cannot make a clear choice.

1. I should always agree with my friends.

2. I should not do something wrong for my friend.
3. My friend needs to believe in the same God that I do.
4. I should only have my friends back if I will not get in trouble.
5. One of the best things I can do for my friends is pray for them.
6. I should only pray for my friends when we are getting along.
7. Friends should be a team. (That does not mean on the same sports team.)
8. Prayer is powerful! God is powerful!

Have the children open their Bible to Daniel 3 and you tell the story in your own words or have them read the passage out loud in the class. Here are some points you will want to talk about:

- Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were on the same team – (verse 12).
- Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego lived for the same purpose – (verses 16 and 17).
- They were willing to stay together even if the outcome was bad. They had each others' back (verse 18).
- **Ask:** Do you think Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego started praying to their God when the soldiers were tying them up? (verse 20).
- God heard their prayers and was with them (verse 25).
- God answered their prayers (verse 28).
- God rewards obedience (verse 29 and 30).

Closing: (10 min.)

Close in prayer asking God to help you be the best friend you can to those you are around. After closing, say, "Sometimes we don't always get along with our friends. As you grow up and go to different schools, you may not always have the same friends, but there is one thing we can do to be the best friend ever. We can pray for our friends so that we will live our lives with the same purpose, which is to follow Jesus Christ and know for sure that we will go to Heaven when we die."

Tell the kids to think about three friends that they are around that need to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior. These friends do not have to be their best friend, but can be a classmate, a locker-mate, lunch room lady or anyone. Give each kid a Three Musketeer bar and have them carefully open the wrapper so the inside of the wrapper can be seen. Give each child a permanent marker and have them write the names of three friends they can pray for who need to become a Christian on the wrapper. If they do not want to eat their candy, provide a snack size baggie so they can take the candy bar home. Place the wrapper with the three friends names on it in your gift box that you have used each week.

Options: (25 min.)

Choose one of the following options to complete this session.

Option 1:

Prayer Rock: If you choose to do this activity and did not use your early time to paint, you will need to allow enough time for the rock to dry or dry it with a fan or hair dryer. Let the kids pick from a rock you brought, paint it and write the names of their three friends on the rock. They can take the rock home to remind them to pray for their friends who need to know Jesus.

Option 2:

Foam #3's: Let the kids use the stencils you provided to trace the number three onto the craft foam they chose or allow them to draw their own number three. Give them a permanent marker and have them write the names of their three friends on their number. Encourage them to take it home and tape it on their mirror or somewhere they will see it morning and night to remind them to pray for three friends who need to know Jesus.

Teacher Challenge:

Send the kids a postcard to let them know you are praying for them as they pray for their friends. See example provided.

Option Two: (15 min.)

If you are planning on using MY316 in a 15 minute opening or closing session, use the statements about friends and the closing section.

If you want to simplify more, have the kids look up these verses on the power of prayer for others and discuss them. Luke 10:12; Colossians 1:9-14; and Ephesians 3:14-21.

Thinking of you this week
as you pray for your friends.
See you Sunday.
Mr. Don & Mrs. Wanda

(Example of what to put on your post card)

Words in Today's Story

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | F | G | Y | R | B | L | S | N | F | D | P | G | H | L | R | A | S | X | E |
| A | I | T | O | Y | W | O | Y | O | U | R | O | N | L | A | E | D | W | K | H |
| R | P | H | A | D | L | F | U | L | R | A | W | I | R | B | N | I | O | F | X |
| D | C | R | C | D | L | T | C | Y | N | W | E | K | I | E | E | M | N | I | I |
| W | P | W | I | A | H | O | D | B | A | E | R | K | I | D | S | S | Y | A | K |
| L | F | E | M | R | H | V | V | A | C | R | I | R | G | N | I | G | A | R | D |
| L | R | E | E | V | Z | S | O | B | E | V | F | N | V | E | T | H | R | O | W |
| S | S | E | P | F | A | L | E | B | L | A | Z | I | N | G | R | O | H | F | X |
| H | C | A | R | D | A | H | S | M | L | C | U | O | N | O | U | I | X | M | A |
| B | O | W | Y | A | B | X | N | Q | D | D | W | W | N | R | O | H | F | A | Z |

ABEDNEGO

GOD

SMOKE

DANIEL

FURNACE

SHADRACH

SOLDIERS

HORN

BOW

MESHACH

THROW

FRIENDS

KING

THREE

REWARD

FLAMES

RAGING

BABYLON

FIRE

PRAY

BLAZING

POWER



Basic Small Group Lesson for MY316

Emphasis (4th, 5th & 6th grade)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (NIV)

WEEK FOUR: Option One

Emphasis:

To teach boys and girls the importance of serving others. You will do a service project in today's lesson and talk about other service projects to do at church, home and in the community. Jesus was our example of servanthood. You should be prepared to select a project to work on as a class.

Prepare:

Step 1: Pray and ask God to prepare your heart to teach His word! Read the passage Matthew 16:24-25 and ask God to show you the importance of taking up your cross

DAILY. Read the passage Matthew 20:20-28 and be prepared to tell the story in your own words.

Step 2: Prepare sugar cookies (slice & bake) for your class and another class for whom you will serve cookies. Bring canned frosting, sprinkles and plates or napkins. Provide frozen juice the kids will need to mix, a pitcher and cups. Provide gloves and hand sanitizer.

Step 3: Before Sunday, talk to a younger class (first grade or younger) and ask if your class can serve them snacks today and arrange the time to be there.

Step 4: Before class, gather items you will need for a student or teacher to wash another person's feet. Make sure you talk to all participants.

Step 5: A camera.

Step 6: Make one copy of the handout Serving Others for each student.

Early Arrivers:

As kids arrive, have them sanitize their hands and use the gloves to decorate the cookies and mix the juice to serve today. Set the plates of cookies and drinks aside. You can allow your class to eat their cookie while waiting for class to start.

Teach: (20 min.)

To introduce the lesson, have those who are doing the foot washing come up and show the class an act of servanthood. The actors do not have to speak but need to be very serious about this demonstration. After they are done, tell the class that in the day of Jesus, one way to serve someone was to wash their feet. Washing someone's dirty feet showed a true act of humility and being a servant. A true servant has a humble heart. In today's story, we will learn what Jesus says about serving others and that He himself was our example of a servant.

Have the kids open their Bibles to Matthew 20:20-28. You can tell the story in your own words or have the kids act it out as you read the scripture. At the end of the story, discuss the questions with your class:

- What did James and John's mother want Jesus to promise her? (For her sons to sit at his side verse 21.)
- What did Jesus ask their mother in return? (Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink? Ask, "What does that mean?" verse 22.)
- Who did Jesus say would sit at his side? (Those whom his Father has chosen verse 23.)
- What lesson did Jesus teach the disciples from these two brothers? (That whoever wants to become

great must learn to be a servant verse 26.)

- What does the Scripture tell us Jesus came to do? (Not to be served but to serve others by giving His life verse 28.)
- What does God want you to learn from this story?

Brainstorm: (10 min.)

Give each of the kids a copy of the handout, Ways I Can Serve Others, and work on it together as a class or they can work it individually. Another option is to give one handout to a group of kids to work on together. When you are finished, discuss your answers and decide on a service project you can do as a class. Try to choose a date together. Look at the school calendar, church calendar and holidays ahead of time.

Application: (20 min.)

Have the kids gather the items needed to go serve snacks to the younger class. You may want to provide a story for one of your kids to read to the younger children. Tell them that this is one way to serve others while at church. Take pictures of your class serving the younger class and post them outside your classroom for parents to see. Submit photos to the church secretary to publish in the church newsletter and on the church website.

Closing: (10 min.)

Put a copy of the picture you took in your gift box. If you do not have access to an immediate photo, tell the class that you will get it printed and then you will put it in the gift box from week one. E-mail a copy of the photo(s) or post them on your Facebook page.

Before praying, ask the kids to report on their week of prayer. Always be ready to set the example by sharing your story too. Ask how they can serve those three friends on their prayer list. Discuss ideas.

Ask the kids to pray using this sentence: Jesus, help me to be a servant this week by _____. Allow the kids to quietly finish the statement prayerfully.

Teacher Challenge:

Find a way to serve one of your student's families. Make a cake, dinner, or whatever the need is. Ask God to show you and be ready to respond.

Option Two: (15 min.)

If you are using MY316 in a 15 minute opening or closing session, use the student handout and discuss a project you can do as a class. End the session by using the conclusion part of this lesson.

Service Project Suggestions:**At Church:**

Cleaning flower beds

Cleaning vans

Picking up trash

Making cards to senior citizens in your church

Decorating a bulletin board or your classroom walls

At Home:

Chores

Helping with a younger sibling

Practice using a certain set of manners for a length of time

Taking care of a pet

Cleaning out a vehicle

At School:

Being a friend

Waiting your turn

Helping someone when you see they need it

Opening a door for someone

Putting others first

In Sports & Play:

Being polite to others

Not getting angry

Encouraging those around me

In the Community:

Clean up a park

Pick up trash when you see it

Collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Charities

Collect items for the Pregnancy Resource Center

Visit a retirement home or nursing Home



Ways I Can Serve Others

**List ways to serve in the following areas:
When you are done, put a star by six things you WILL do!**

At our Church:

At Home:

At School:

At Sports or Play:

In my Community:



Basic Small Group Lesson for MY316

Emphasis (4th, 5th & 6th grade)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (NIV)

WEEK FIVE: Option One

Emphasis:

To teach boys and girls the importance of living a Christian life around their friends and that the power of their personal story can influence those they are around. To help them understand the importance of bringing their lost friends to Jesus and to review Weeks 1-4.

Prepare:

Step 1: Pray and ask God to prepare your heart to teach His word. Read the passage Luke 5:17-26 and be ready to tell the story in your own words.

Step 2: “Power of Friends” bracelet:
Gather the following colors of beads for every student in your class: Red, White and a third bead of any color. Cut one 12-inch piece of leather string for each student in your class. You will not need the full 12-inches but can adjust the size by cutting off

the excess string. You can also make a zipper pull for kids to clip on a purse, coat or gym bag. If you choose the clip, you will need to purchase key chain clips from a craft store and cut your string into 6 inch strips. Kids who are readers may choose to make a book mark and just place the beads at the end of a long leather string.

Step 3: Make enough copies of the handout “Friends.” Copy one for each student.

Provide a pencil for each student and have a pencil sharpener available.

Step 4: Write the verse Mark 5:19 on the chalkboard or a posterboard for all the kids to see. “Go home to your friends; and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you.”

Step 5: Make a game grid on the floor OR use your “Giant Game Floor Mat” to review weeks 1-4. Provide a bean bag. See Review Questions.

Early Arriver: (Power of Friends bracelet)

Have the beads from Prepare (Step 2) for kids to make a bracelet or clip. Tie a knot where you want the first bead to sit. Have them use one red bead, put any color of bead on next and then a white bead. Kids may have to tie a knot after each bead if the string is thin. Explain that the red bead represents “POWER” and the middle bead will stand for the word “of” and the white bead is for the word “FRIEND.” Tell the kids that in today’s story, we will talk about the importance of friendship and how powerful friendship can be to bring someone to Jesus.

Teach: (30 min.)

Give each child a copy of the handout "Friends" and a pencil. Have them use the pencil to **darkly** color one of the letters in the word Friend. When they have colored a letter, tell them to use their finger to rub over the colored area they have filled in with the pencil. (If time allows, color the entire word.) The pencil will "rub off" onto their finger. Tell them that friendship is powerful to each other. When we hang out with someone, we will either "rub off" on them or they will "rub off" on us. That is why it is so important to be the kind of friend that will "rub off" in a good way. We have talked about praying for our friends, serving them, and inviting them to church but the best thing we can do is to "rub off" on them in a way that would bring a lost friend to Jesus. In today's story, we will learn about friends who would not let anything get in their way to bring their friend to Jesus. Open your Bible and tell the story of Jesus healing a paralyzed man in Luke 5:17-26. Tell the story in your own words.

Points you will want to emphasize:

- The friends brought their friend to Jesus in front of others. They were not afraid or ashamed. **Ask:** "Why are people afraid to tell their friends about Jesus?" (verse 17).
- They did not give up even though they faced a large crowd (verse 19). Emphasize that we should not give up just because a friend cannot come to church with us the first

time we ask. We have to keep trying no matter what obstacles we face.

- Jesus met the need of the friend (verse 24). We may not know what our friends needs are, but Jesus loves them and wants to meet everyone's needs.
- If we have a friend who needs to know Jesus, we should bring them to Jesus. **Ask:** "What are some ways to bring our friends to Jesus?"

Review: (20 min.)

Use the game grid on the floor or your giant game floor mat and the review questions to review the previous weeks.

Closing: (10 min.)

Have the kids open their Bible to Mark 5:19. Ask the kids to name things they can share with others that God has done for them. When you have finished, have the kids bow their heads and pray after you (silently). "Dear Jesus, help me to go home to my friends and tell them what great things you have done for me. Help me to "rub off" on them in such a way, that they will see Jesus in me." Amen.

Teacher Challenge:

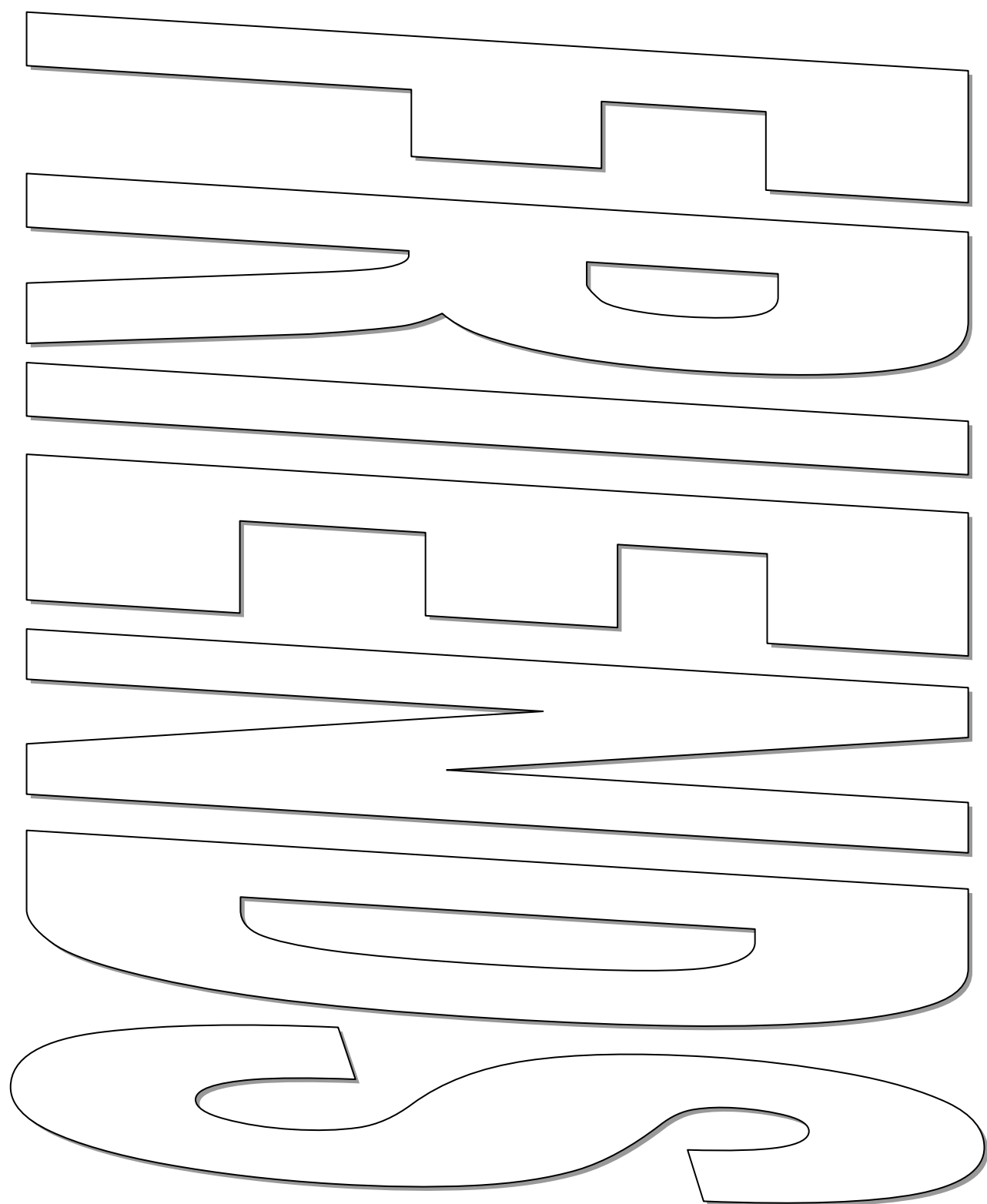
Teaching kids the importance of writing and sharing their testimony is something we need to do on a regular basis. Once a quarter, use the "My316 Story" Handout from Week Two and the MY316 wheel to teach kids the importance of sharing their testimony.

Option Two: (15 min.)

If you are using MY316 in a 15 minute opening or closing session, use the friends handout and talk about the importance of “rubbing off” on our friends in such a way that our lost friends would come to know

Jesus. Ideas and directions are under the “Teach” section.

Another option is to use the “Closing” portion and challenge your kids to go home and show others.





Review Questions:

Week 1:

1. Say John 3:16 (For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.) (NIV)
2. What does our large wrapped gift represent? (Eternal life)
3. According to John 3:16, what does “perish” mean? (To be separated from God forever, not go to Heaven.)
4. What is sin? (Anytime we disobey God.)
5. How did Jesus pay for our sin? (He died on the cross.)
6. What does it mean to become a Christian? (To ask Jesus into your heart to become the boss of your life, ask Him to forgive your sins, and make a promise to live for Him the rest of your life.)

Week 2:

1. What is a testimony? (A story about something that has happened in your life)
2. Why is it important for me to share about Jesus? (The Bible says to; it pleases God; to lead others to Christ.)
3. Name a way you can share your testimony? (MY316 wheel, actions, etc.)
4. Name someone with whom you can share your testimony.
5. Say John 3:16 (For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.) (NIV)

Week 3:

1. Name one of the three friends in the fiery furnace. (Shadrach, Meshach or Abednego.)
2. Why would the 3 friends not bow to the King’s statue? (They believed in praying only to the one true God.)
3. How many figures did the King see in the fiery furnace after throwing in the three friends? (Four.)
4. How can we pray for our friends? (Many possible answers.)
5. Does God hear our prayers? (Yes, Daniel 3.)
6. Name a friend for whom you have personally prayed.

Week 4:

1. What does it mean to be a servant? (Many possible answers.)
2. What did James’ and John’s mother want Jesus to promise her? (For her sons to sit at his side, Matt. 20:21.)

3. What did Jesus ask their mother in return? (Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink? verse 22.)
4. Who did Jesus say would sit at his side? (Those whom his Father has chosen, verse 23.)
5. What lesson did Jesus teach the disciples from these two brothers? (That whoever wants to become great must learn to be a servant, verse 26.)
6. What does the scripture tell us Jesus came to do? (Not to be served but to serve others by giving His life, verse 28.)
7. What does God want me to learn from this story?

Example of a game grid on floor OR use your Giant Game Floor mat from Lifeway.

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|--------|
| Week 2 | Your choice | Week 1 | Week3 |
| Your choice | Miss a turn | Week 4 | Week 1 |
| Week 4 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 1 |
| Your team goes twice | Week 1 | Double points | Week 2 |
| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 |

Make a game grid on the floor and fill the squares with a piece of construction paper like the above pattern. Divide your group into two teams. Toss a beanbag on a square and see what week you have to answer the review question from. You can use the giant game floor mat if you have one, use the questions and make a jeopardy game, make a tic-tac-toe board, or connect four on the floor. Point value is your choice.