

“The Game of Life” - LESSON 4

“Memory”

Main Focus:

We must hide God's word in our hearts!



Power Verse:

“I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”
- Psalm 119:11



Watt's Up:

“I Will Memorize What The Bible Say!”

LEADER'S INFO

The human mind is such a powerful thing. God created our minds to be more powerful than the world's fastest computer. But, because of that power, we must be very careful what we put in our minds.

Every sin begins with a thought. We must learn to “take captive every thought” so as to not act on those that would lead to sin. The best way to do that is to fill our minds with GOOD things - like the Word of God.

In this lesson, the children will learn the importance of committing God's Word to “Memory.” When our minds are filled with God's Word, then sinful thoughts will have no place to take root.



“The Spark” Intro Video

The “Game Boy”



“Watt's Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt's Up?”



Character Skit

“Regina Rulebook”



Offering Time



Game On!

“Memory”



Bible Story

“Jesus In The Wilderness” (Matthew 4:1-11)



Power Verse Video

“I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” - Psalm 119:11



Call To Action

“Memory”



Brain Drain

PowerPoint Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

We must hide God’s word in
our hearts!



Power Verse:

“I have hidden your word in my
heart, that I might not sin
against you.”

- Psalm 119:11



Watt’s Up:

“I Will Memorize What The
Bible Say!”

ORDER OF SERVICE

1	_____
	by _____
2	_____
	by _____
3	_____
	by _____
4	_____
	by _____
5	_____
	by _____
6	_____
	by _____
7	_____
	by _____
8	_____
	by _____
9	_____
	by _____
10	_____
	by _____
11	_____
	by _____
12	_____
	by _____
13	_____
	by _____
14	_____
	by _____
15	_____
	by _____
16	_____
	by _____
17	_____
	by _____

“The Spark” Intro Video

The “Game Boy”

“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”

Character Skit

“Regina Rulebook”

Offering Time

Game On!

“Memory”

Bible Story

“Jesus In The Wilderness” (Matthew 4:1-11)

Power Verse Video

“I have hidden your word in my hear, that I might
not sin against you.” - Psalm 119:11

Call To Action

“Memory”

Brain Drain

PowerPoint Review Game

Small Group Experience



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: Regina Rulebook (a quirky girl who is obsessed with rules)

(Play “Regina Rulebook’s Video Intro” off the DVD—Regina enters with her nose in the air, sneaks up behind the leader, and slaps her clipboard very hard)

REGINA: Now WHAT do we have here??

Leader: HA! You’re not scaring me THIS time, Regina! There’s no way you can make me jump.

REGINA: Is that so? Not according to Rule #63. *(shows the leader her clipboard)*

Leader: *(reads)* Rule #63...”Regina can always make you jump”....huh?

REGINA: *(spanks the leader in the behind with her clipboard)*

Leader: *(jumps)* OW!!

REGINA: See? These are REGINA’S RULES, and rules are meant to be followed!

Leader: It’s almost like you have that entire clipboard memorized.

REGINA: Indeed I do! Here, test me. *(offers them her clipboard)*

Leader: Ohhh no, last time I tried to hold your clipboard I broke the rule that said “Never hold Regina’s clipboard” and I got popped for it!

REGINA: Silly little Rule Breaker! Rule #7,012 - “Anyone can hold Regina’s Rules when they are testing Regina’s ability to memorize her own rules.”

Leader: Good grief. Alright...*(flips through the pages)* Rule #93?

REGINA: Rule #93 – “No one shall wear sombreros unless it is Taco Tuesday!”

Leader: Taco Tuesday??

REGINA: Indeed! Come now, Rule breaker, and give me a TOUGH ONE!

Leader: Fine. *(flips through the pages)* Ah-HA! Rule #9,675,300....and a half.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



CHARACTER SKIT *(continued)*

REGINA: *(takes a deep breath)* Green pants are not allowed to be worn during a rainstorm unless it is the third Monday of the second month of a leap year and the bearer of the green pants must be whistling the national anthem and wading in a kiddie pool of beef gravy while playing a left-handed bass guitar solo – I mean SERIOUSLY give me something DIFFICULT!!

Leader: *(amazed)* Regina, you’ve spent so much time memorizing all of these rules! It’s...

REGINA: IMPRESSIVE! I know.

Leader: I was going to say silly...and a little sad.

REGINA: WHAT?? What do you mean?

Leader: Well, today the boys and girls are learning all about how we should memorize scripture from the BIBLE. It’s God’s word, and God has given it to us to help guide us through our lives! He wants us to memorize it so we can always have it to help with tough situations!

REGINA: *(snatches the rulebook from the leader’s hands)* But, these are VERY helpful! Without my rules, how would I ever know when to wear a sombrero or green pants?? What could the BIBLE have to say that’s more important than THAT??

Leader: TONS! I’m glad you came to church today, because we have SO MUCH MORE to teach the boys and girls about memorizing God’s word. There’s a lot you can learn, too!

REGINA: I can’t.

Leader: Why not?

REGINA: *(flips through her rulebook)* Rule #586 – Regina cannot learn anything until the leader sniffs their own armpit and yells, “WHO ORDERED THE CHEESEBURGER?!”

Leader: WHAT?!

REGINA: If you want me to leave, you’ll do it, Rule Breaker!

Leader: Eww.....okay...*(cautiously sniffs their armpit)* WHO ORDERED THE CHEESEBURGER?!

REGINA: *(gasps)* That’s DISGUSTING! *(spanks the leader in the behind with her clipboard)* I’ll see you later, boys and girls! Remember, these are Regina’s Rules and RULES ARE MEANT TO BE FOLLOWED!



GAME ON!

“Memory”

Items Needed For Game:

The Data Disc

Preparation:

Open the PowerPoint Presentation provided on the Data Disc, titled “Memory Game.”
Divide the room into two teams.

How To Play:

Take turns allowing one player from each team to choose a pair of the squares on the game board. The goal is to match the objects shown. If a player matches two objects, then those two objects disappear. The team to match the most objects is declared the winner!

After the game, say:

“Wow! Great job on using your memory to remember where the objects were hidden. Today, we are going to learn about how to use our memory to ‘hide God’s Word in our hearts.’ It’s an important lesson that will help us fill our minds with God’s best for our lives.”



Bible Story

“Jesus In The Wilderness”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; the PowerPoint presentation for Lesson 4; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Matthew 4:1-11; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today, I want to share something incredible with you. It’s something that happened to Jesus. We find the story in Matthew 4. Jesus went off by Himself into the wilderness to pray and fast for 40 days and 40 nights. (*show pic*) “Fasting” means he didn’t eat. Can you imagine not eating ANYTHING for 40 days? I am sure He was extremely hungry.

Well, as Jesus was there in the wilderness – guess who shows up? None other than the devil himself. He came to try to tempt Jesus to sin. (*show pic*) He came and said to Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, change these stones into loaves of bread.”

(*show pic*) But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God.’ “ Pretty smart of Jesus, huh? He went straight to the Scriptures and told Satan what God’s Word says.

(*show pic*) Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, (*show pic*) “If you are the Son of God, jump off! Everyone knows that God will send His angels to protect you!”

(*show pic*) Jesus responded, “The Scriptures say, ‘Do not test the Lord your God.’ “ Once again, Jesus goes right to the Scriptures. He knew exactly what God’s Word says and He reminded the devil that we shouldn’t tempt God by doing dumb things like jumping off a building.

(*show pic*) Next, the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory. (*show pic*) The devil told Jesus, “I will give it all to you if you will only kneel down and worship me.”

(*show pic*) Jesus responds, “Get out of here, Satan!” “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God; serve only him.’ “ YES! Jesus hits the devil with the Word of God. The Bible tells us that right then - the devil went away. Jesus had defeated the devil with God’s Word.

Today, we are learning all about how we must memorize God’s Word so it can guide us and help us in the toughest situations as well. We can defeat the devil just like Jesus did!





Call To Action

“Memory”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; a small seed; a full grown plant; a large sponge; two large pitchers (*one with dirty water , one with clear water*); a large clear container

Preparation:

Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson Four,” begin with the slide titled “Memory”

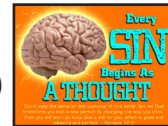
The Message: (*title slide*)



Today, we are learning from the game, “Memory.” Our minds are very powerful. Scientists have calculated that the human brain is more powerful than even the fastest computer known to man. I bet you didn’t realize you were THAT smart, huh?

It is very important that we are very careful with what kind of things we put into our mind. Whatever we put into our mind will affect how we live. If we want to stay away from sin, then we have to keep our minds filled with the good things of God. Because...

Every Sin Begins As A Thought (*slide*)

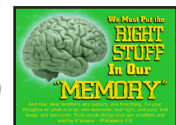


(*hold up the seed*) See this seed? Seems very small and insignificant, huh? The truth is, this seed is the beginning of something much bigger. (*hold up the plant*) It’s hard to believe that this large plant was actually once a tiny seed. That’s where it all began. Never underestimate the power of a single seed, because it can grow into something much larger.

It’s the same way in our spiritual lives. We should never underestimate the power of a single thought. After all, every sin first begins as a single wrong thought. We don’t just suddenly find ourselves cheating on a test. First, it begins with a single thought, “Man, I really want a good grade on this test, but I didn’t study. I wonder if I could just sneak a peak at the answers in my book while my teacher isn’t looking.” Then, before you know it, that thought, just like a seed, sprouts into something terrible - sin. Every sin first begins as a thought. That is why it is SO important to make sure our minds are filled with good thoughts.

Romans 12:2 says, “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.” You see, if we allow God to change our thoughts (our MEMORY), then we will be able to stay away from sin. So...

We Must Put The RIGHT Stuff In Our “MEMORY” (*slide*)



Whatever we put into our mind will eventually become a “thought seed” that will come out as an action. Let
(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



Call To Action (Continued)

me show you what I mean. *(hold up the sponge)* Our minds are like a sponge. Whatever we put into our “MEMORY” will eventually come out in our lives as an action. *(place the sponge into the dirty water)* If we put a bunch of garbage like bad music, movies with violence and curse words, dirty jokes, and other sinful things, our “MEMORY” soaks those things up. Then, when the pressure is on in our lives *(begin to squeeze the sponge over the clear container allowing the dirty water to pour out of the sponge)*, guess what is going to come out of our lives? *(allow response)* That’s right, sinful thoughts lead to sinful actions. *(pour the dirty water back into the original container so that the clear container is now empty again)*

You say, “I don’t want to have sinful actions in my life, but I also don’t want to give up my bad movies and music and other sinful thoughts.” Well, you can wish and hope all you want, but you will never get Godly actions if all you put into your MEMORY is sinful thoughts. Remember, whatever you put in is what will come out. Every sin begins as a thought. So, what should you do? *(dip the sponge into the clear water)* You should put GOOD thoughts into your MEMORY, then when the pressure of life is on *(squeeze the clear water into the clear container)*. Isn’t that amazing?

Philippians 4:8 teaches us, “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” You may be wondering, “Where do I find all of that stuff? Where do I find things that are pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy?” I have an answer for you...THE BIBLE!

Memorizing Scripture Helps Us Stay Away From Sin

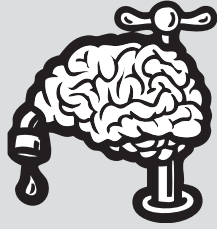


The Bible is full of God’s truth! It is full of words that are “lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy!” It’s God’s “guidebook for living” that He has given to us. We must read it, study it, and get it into our minds! One of the best ways to get the Bible into our minds is to MEMORIZE it. When we do, it will help us stay away from sin.

Psalms 119:11 says, “I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” That’s our Power Verse! That’s what we need to do! As much as possible, we should put God’s word in our MEMORY so that we can do exactly what Jesus did - in times of temptation, quote scripture to remind us of the RIGHT action to take. Every day, as much as possible, let’s commit to putting God’s word in our MEMORY.

ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children to commit to hiding God’s word in their hearts. Give them a scripture to memorize this week (start with our Power Verse). Tell them that everyone who comes back next week and can quote the verse will get a prize.



BRAIN DRAIN

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; The DVD

Preparation:

Play the “Brain Drain” Video Intro off the DVD; Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson Four;” begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

1. Watt’s Up today?

Answer: “I Will Memorize What The Bible Says!”

2. Where was Jesus when he was confronted by the devil?

Answer: in the wilderness

3. How long had Jesus gone without food?

Answer: 40 days

4. What three words did Jesus say to the devil over and over again?

Answer: “The Scriptures Say”

5. What game did we learn lessons from today?

Answer: Memory

6. According to our lesson today, “Every Sin Begins As A _____. ”

Answer: Thought

7. According to our lesson today, “We Must Put The _____ Stuff In Our Memory.”

Answer: Right

8. According to our lesson today, “Memorizing Scripture Helps Us Stay Away From ____.”

Answer: Sin

9. Was the devil able to make Jesus sin?

Answer: No

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Psalm 119:11

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK