I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

John 8:12
(NIV 1984)
What did Philip tell a man who was riding in a chariot?

Philip told the man the good news about Jesus.

Application: God wants people all over the world to hear the good news about Jesus.

Response: We look for ways to help people all over the world hear the good news about Jesus.

Lesson Summary: The Holy Spirit sent Philip to an Ethiopian man who was reading God’s Word as he rode in a chariot on a desert road. After accepting the man’s invitation to ride in the chariot, Philip explained God’s Word and taught the man about Jesus. The Holy Spirit worked through the Word and led the man to believe in Jesus as his Savior from sin.

Mark 16:15

Holy Spirit, thank you for bringing me to faith in Jesus. Help me look for ways I can share the good news of the Savior with people nearby and in faraway places. Instill in my students a love for the lost and a zeal to spread your Word all over the world. Amen.
Begin with the following action rhyme:

I can tell, I can tell (cup hands around mouth)
News of Jesus’ love. (cross hands over chest)
The Holy Spirit helps me (point up)
Tell of heaven above. (cup hands around mouth)

You need either a chariot picture made from Copy Master 1 or a student lesson picture.

Ask What do people read to learn about Jesus? [The Bible.] Show a Bible, and say that our Bibles are books. Then show the scroll. Explain that long, long ago Bibles were written on scrolls. Demonstrate how a scroll was used.

In our Bible lesson today, we will hear about a man who was riding in a chariot. God sent a believer named Philip to talk to that man. Today we will learn what Philip told the man who was riding in a chariot.
Make a scroll as described in Introduce (Alternate), using paper 5 inches high and about 18 inches long to accommodate three pictures made from Copy Master 1. Glue the pictures in order along the scroll, and roll it up. As you tell the story, unroll the scroll to reveal one picture at a time.

The enemies of Jesus wanted to stop people from believing in him. They went from house to house, hurting believers and putting them in jail.

Many believers left their homes and moved to other towns and cities. Wherever they went, they told people the good news about Jesus.

Philip was a believer who left the city of Jerusalem and went to a different city. There he told people the good news about Jesus, and many of them believed in Jesus as their Savior from sin.

One day Jesus sent an angel to Philip. The angel told him, “Go walk on the desert road.” Philip did what the angel said.

As Philip walked along the road, he met a man riding in a chariot. The man was from a faraway land called Ethiopia. He had an important job working for the queen of his land. The man was on his way home from Jerusalem. He had gone there to worship God.

God the Holy Spirit told Philip, “Run up to the chariot.”

Philip ran to the chariot and heard the man reading some of God’s Word. Philip asked him, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

The man answered, “How can I unless I have someone to tell me what it means?” Then the man asked Philip to come and sit in his chariot. Philip got in, explained the words the man was reading, and told him the good news about Jesus. Philip taught the man that Jesus had died on a cross and had come back to life again to save all people. God the Holy Spirit worked in the man’s heart and led him to believe in Jesus as his Savior.

As Philip and the man traveled in the chariot, they came to some water. The man from Ethiopia said, “Look, here is water! Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” Then he told the man driving the chariot to stop.

Philip and the man from Ethiopia got out of the chariot and went into the water. There Philip baptized the man. Then the Lord took Philip away to preach to other people.

How happy the man was as he went back to his home in Ethiopia! He believed in Jesus, his Savior from sin.
one end of a sawhorse, and set the sawhorse in front of the box. Place blue fabric on the floor to represent water.

You need a globe, Chatter, Melody, and the puppet skit from Copy Master 2.

Let’s pretend we are walking along a desert road, just as God told Philip to do.

Walk in place with the children.

Whom did Philip meet? [A man who was riding in a chariot.]

Show what the Holy Spirit told Philip to do.

Run in place with the children.

When Philip got to the chariot, what did he hear the man doing? [Reading part of God’s Word.]

The man who was riding in the chariot was an African—an Ethiopian—but was not from the area we know as Ethiopia today.

You will draw on the board. You need the first two pictures made from Copy Master 1, several dolls or puppets, an offering envelope, and a picture of a computer.

Draw a road going across the board. Then show the picture of Philip walking.

What did God’s angel tell Philip to do? [Go walk on a desert road.]

God had a special plan. He was going to use Philip to tell someone the good news about Jesus.

Attach the chariot picture near the far right end of the road. Walk Philip along the road, starting at the left.

As Philip walked along the road, whom did he see? [A man who was riding in a chariot.]

What did the Holy Spirit tell Philip to do? [Run up to the chariot.]

Make Philip run to the chariot.

When Philip got to the chariot, what did he hear the man reading? [Part of God’s Word.]

The man asked Philip to get into the chariot with him.

Then what good news did Philip tell the man? [Jesus had died on a cross and come back to life to save all people from their sins.]

God wants people all over the world to hear that same good news about Jesus. In the Bible, Jesus told his followers to tell people about him.

Say and explain the memory treasure. Have the children say the passage with you. Then have them watch as you scatter dolls (puppets) throughout the room.

Let’s pretend these dolls are people who live far away from us. We would have a hard time inviting them to church or telling them about Jesus. But there are other ways we can help people all over the world learn about Jesus.

Show an offering envelope. Discuss how our offerings help spread the good news of Jesus throughout the world. [Provide money to support missionaries; buy Bibles; and build churches.]

Maybe someday you could be a missionary and tell people in other countries about Jesus.
Do Show a picture of a computer. Discuss how a Christian can use a computer to share God’s Word with people far away. [Send electronic messages with Bible passages or devotions to people far away.]

Say Let’s always look for ways we can help people all over the world hear the good news about Jesus.

CLOSE You need a student lesson picture.

Say God wants people all over the world to hear the good news about Jesus.

Do Show a student lesson picture.

Ask Which man in this picture needed to hear the good news about Jesus? [The man riding in a chariot.]

Say As Philip told the man about Jesus, the Holy Spirit worked in the man’s heart and led him to believe in Jesus as his Savior from sin.

Ask Who wants us to tell people all over the world about the Savior? [God.]

Say We want other people to believe in Jesus as their Savior, so we look for ways to help people all over the world hear the good news about Jesus.

Do Sing these words to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

Let us tell the news (cup hands by mouth)  
To people far and near: (point away and then nearby)  
“Jesus died for everyone, (make cross with index fingers)  
To him we are so dear.” (hug self)
We look for ways to help people all over the world hear about Jesus.

Pray: Dear God, thank you for our faith. Help us look for ways to help people all over the world hear the good news about Jesus. Work in their hearts and lead them to believe in Jesus as their Savior. Amen.

Parent Idea: On the attached heart, write the name of one country your family named while doing the second student lesson activity. Return the heart so we can use it for a class project.

Note: See Activity 4 (Bulletin Board) under Lesson Activities.

Parent Idea: Instead of having your child draw a cross for the first student lesson activity, provide material (toothpick, paper, craft foam) for making a cross (or add a cross sticker). Then have some fun doing the action rhyme together. We’ll be using that rhyme during our next class.

Note: Use Activity 5 (Action Rhyme) under Lesson Activities during your next class.

Mark 16:15
• Begin by singing the refrain to “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (hymn 57). Then sing the refrain again, substituting “That Jesus died for all” for “That Jesus Christ is born.”

• Use either idea in Activity 1 under Lesson Activities to review the Bible story.

• Have the children watch as you use the following directions to make an airplane from an 8½” x 11” piece of paper. Do only the steps that involve folding the paper. Do not cut anything.

Hold the finished airplane next to a globe or world map as a reminder that airplanes can travel to places all over the world. Ask what good news God wants people all over the world to hear. [Jesus saved us from our sins.] Then teach the following rhyme:

Take the message far and wide.
Jesus saved us when he died.

Help the children make their own paper airplanes. Then give the children a few minutes to say the rhyme while flying their airplanes in a wide, open space. Remind them that we want to spread God’s Word far and wide.

Have the children watch as you cut the wings off of your airplane. (See the diagram.) Unfold the paper to reveal a cross—a reminder of the good news God wants people all over the world to hear! Help the children, as needed, to cut the wings off their airplanes to make their own crosses. Suggestion: Have each child make two airplanes, one to fly and one to cut into a cross.

• Pray: Dear God, thank you for giving us faith in Jesus, our Savior from sin. Help us look for ways to spread the good news about Jesus to people near us and far away. Send your Holy Spirit to lead them to believe in him as their Savior. Amen.

• Choose and use the Lesson Activities that best meet the needs of your students.
Lesson Activities

1. Review

Substitute Teacher

Purpose: To have a child tell the Bible story.

Procedure: Have a child be a substitute teacher who tells the rest of the class the Bible story. Have pictures made from Copy Master 1 available for the “substitute” to use.

Dramatization

Purpose: To review the story by acting it out.

Procedure: Use chairs or cardboard boxes to make a chariot. Have one child be the chariot driver and hold a rope as some reins. Have two children bend down near the rope as horses. One child can ride in the chariot as the Ethiopian, and another child can be Philip. Use a blue sheet as the water where the baptism took place.

As you or a child narrates the story, have volunteers act it out. Some children may even be willing to speak certain parts. Repeat, as time permits, so other children get to play parts.

2. Application

World Mission

Purpose: To increase awareness of and get involved in a world mission.

Procedure: Recall that God wants us to tell the good news of Jesus to people all over the world. Then tell the children about a missionary who is currently in a different country, telling people the good news about Jesus. Give background on the country, its people, and the missionary (and his family). Then discuss ways your class could help the people in that country hear the good news about Jesus. Possibilities include:

• set up a display to inform family, friends, and congregation members about the mission and encourage people to pray for and support it.

Suggestion: Consider choosing an African mission since the man riding in the chariot was from an area in Africa.

3. Music

Preach the Good News

Purpose: To sing about preaching the good news all over the world.

Procedure: Recall that God wants people all over the world to hear the good news about Jesus. Then have a volunteer point to a country on a globe. As you sing the following words to the tune of “Ten Little Indians,” insert the country’s name.

Go to _____ and preach the good news.
Go to _____ and preach the good news.
Go to _____ and preach the good news.
Tell of Jesus Christ.

Riding Down the Tracks

Purpose: To sing about being on the way to heaven and telling others about God’s love as we go.

Procedure: Teach the song “Riding Down the Tracks” from Copy Master 3. Then have the children stand single file and pretend they are cars of a train. Have them move their arms like wheels as they move around the room singing the song. Reverse the train so the “engine” becomes the “caboose” and the caboose becomes the engine. Then have the children repeat the song and movement.
4. Art

**Bulletin Board**

*Purpose:* To make a display that reminds the children to help spread the good news about Jesus throughout the world.

*Procedure:* Before class, cut out one 8-inch paper heart for each child. Attach each heart to a different country on a world map, and write the country’s name on the heart.

During class, explain that we want to help people all over the world hear the good news about Jesus because we love them and want them to believe in Jesus as their Savior from sin. Then have one child at a time come and choose a heart. Read the name of the country. Have the children use a variety of craft supplies to decorate the area around the names. Attach the hearts to a bulletin board with a picture of Jesus in the middle and the words of the memory treasure. *Variation:* Have the children use the hearts from To Do at Home (Alternate) for this activity.

**Good News Scroll**

*Purpose:* To make a scroll that displays the good news that God wants us to share.

*Procedure:* Recall that God wants people all over the world to hear the good news about Jesus. Have each child make a scroll as described in Introduce (Alternate). Then demonstrate how to make “good news” scrolls.

- Place a Jesus sticker near the left end of the paper.
- Near the right end, attach magazine pictures of people from other countries. *Variation:* Draw many faces.
- Draw a cross or attach a cross sticker to the right of the Jesus sticker.
- Write a large numeral 4 to the right of the cross but before the people pictures.

Teach the children to point to the items in order and read the good news: “Jesus died for all people.” Then show them how to roll up their scrolls. Encourage the children to read their good news scrolls to others. *Suggestion:* Use pieces of yarn to tie the scrolls shut.

5. Other Ideas

**Musical Work Out the Wiggles**

*Purpose:* To move to a song based on events from the story.

*Procedure:* Teach the following words to the tune of “The Mulberry Bush.” Lead the children in doing the suggested actions.

This is the way we walk down the road, Walk down the road, walk down the road. *(walk in place)*

This is the way we walk down the road, Just as Philip did.

**Action Rhyme**

*Purpose:* To learn an action rhyme about telling people in other places about Jesus.

*Procedure:* Teach the following words and actions:

Jesus died for you. *(point to someone else)*
Jesus died for me. *(point to self)*
Jesus died for people here *(point down)*
And far across the sea. *(put hand above eyes and look far away)*

Here’s a job for you. *(point to someone else)*
Here’s a job for me. *(point to self)*
Get the news to people here *(point down)*
And far across the sea. *(put hand above eyes and look far away)*
**Telling People All Over the World**

*Purpose:* To act out telling people from other countries about Jesus.

*Procedure:* Divide the class into seven groups. Cut out several sets of faces made from Copy Master 4. Give all the members of a group the same copied face. Have the group members tape their paper faces to their shirts. One group will be the American (if you are in Canada, substitute Canadian or Canadians as needed) group and will not receive faces. Have the Americans stand in the middle of the room. Have the remaining groups spread out so each group is in a different “country” (area of the room).

Have the Americans walk over to a group and sing the following words to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

I am an American child,
American child, American child;
I am an American child.
I say hello to you.

Each “listening group” responds by singing its stanza of the song.

- I am an African child, . . . I say *jambo* to you.
- I am a Hawaiian child, . . . I say *aloha* to you.
- I am a Spanish child, . . . I say *hola* to you.
- I am a Japanese child, . . . I say *ohayo* (pronounced *ohio*) to you.
- I am an Eskimo child, . . . I rub noses with you.
- I am a Dutch child, . . . I say *hallo* to you.

The Americans then tell the other group the good news of Jesus by saying, “Jesus saved you from your sins.” The Americans could also hand a Bible sticker to each member of the other group. Then the Americans should go to a different group and repeat the process.

**Go and Tell Book**

*Purpose:* To make a book about telling others about Jesus.

*Procedure:* Give each child a set of pages made from Copy Masters 5 and 6. Have the children illustrate the pages as follows:

- Friends, family, and neighbor pages: Draw the people mentioned.
- “I can go and tell” pages: Make the bottom circle of the traffic light into a happy face and color it green.
- Jesus died: Make a cross.

Give the children colorful pages of the same size to decorate as front and back covers. Staple the books together. Practice reading the books. Then encourage the children to read their books to their families and friends.