

11. Complete Gospel Presentation **Third Method—Gospel Octopus**

Introduction:

The Gospel Octopus is another Complete Gospel Presentation method of witnessing which includes the five Gospel points. This Gospel octopus is a crocheted shape that could be of any size you desire --- the 8 legs are all to be a different color. It utilizes the five colors of the wordless book (taught in method 2) plus three more colors with different meanings. It is an attention-getter and can be used to explain the Gospel of salvation from Genesis to Revelation in a clear and understandable way.

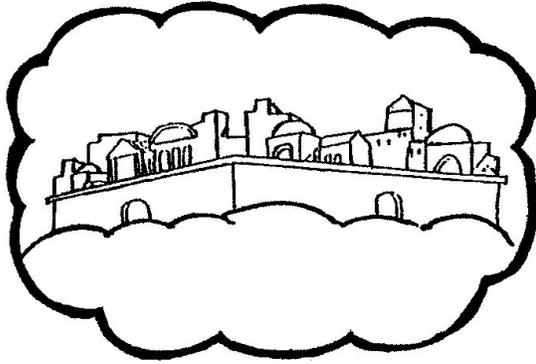
Goal:

Through the study of this lesson, the students will be able to tell the message of salvation using the Gospel octopus.

1. The Wordless Book Bible Verse Pictures

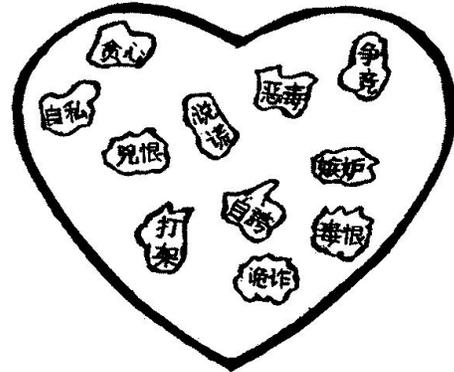
The words under the pictures are Bible passages. Picture 1 is John 14:2. Picture 2 is Romans 3:23, and the words on the small pieces in the heart are sins, such as selfishness, arguing, and others. Picture 3 is First John 1:7. Picture 4 is Mark 16:16. Picture 5 is Second Peter 3:18. Picture six lists all five of these verses.

1.



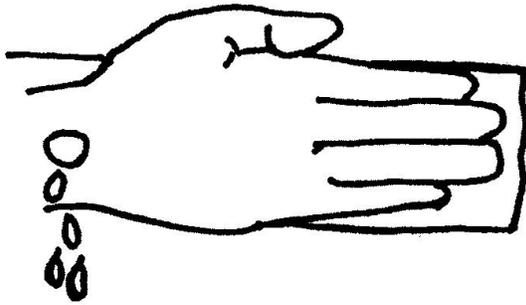
在我父的家里有许多住处；若是没有，我就早已告诉你们了。我去原是为你们预备地方去。约 14:2

2.



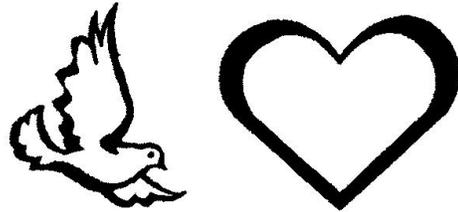
因为世人都犯了罪，亏缺了上帝的荣耀；罗 3:23

3.



祂儿子耶稣的血也洗净我们一切的罪。约壹 1:7

4.



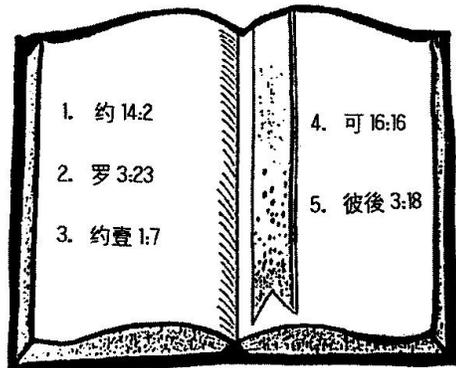
信而受洗的，必然得救；可 16:16

5.



你们却要在我们主救主耶稣基督的恩典和知识上有长进。愿荣耀归给祂，从今直到永远。阿们！ 彼后 3:18

6.



1. These pictures correspond with the five points of the Wordless Book. How might this page of pictures be used? [Possible answers:
 - 1) This page of pictures can be used as a witnessing tool to explain the five Gospel points to an unbeliever.
 - 2) This page of pictures can be cut up into 6 portions and given one at a time to children to memorize. Each time a verse is taught, the child gets one small Bible verse picture to take home to use in reviewing the Bible verse.]
 - 3) Each individual picture on the visual aid could be enlarged. Then how could they be used?
 - a. [as visual aids with people of all ages]
 - b. [for children to color as they are reciting each Bible verse]
2. Now we will think about the content of the Wordless Book Bible Verse Pictures.
 - 1) Picture 1--What is this picture and how does it relate to the gold color? [a picture of the golden mansions in Heaven]
 - 2) Picture 2--What is this picture and how does it relate to the black color? [a picture of the sin in our dark hearts]
 - 3) Picture 3--What is this picture and how does it relate to the red color? [a picture of Jesus' hand bleeding (red) for our sins]
 - 4) Picture 4--What is this picture and how does it relate to the white color? [the Holy Spirit as a dove coming to our hearts through the Word and baptism—Through believing and being baptized we have clean hearts.]
 - 5) Picture 5--What is this picture and how does it relate to the green color? [a picture of a growing tree with many green leaves—We grow closer and closer to Christ, and more and more like Him.]
 - 6) Picture 6--How could the sixth picture be used? [to review the five points by reading or reciting the verses which correspond with the references]

3. The Gospel Octopus Message

1. Find ► the Gospel octopus (the gray crocheted hand puppet) and explanation in the plastic bag in the back of your student's book.
2. The Gospel octopus has five legs which are the same colors as those contained in the wordless book which was explained in Lesson 10. As it is an octopus and has a total of eight legs, it has three more colors than the wordless book. The additional three colors are as follows:
 - 1) Purple represents that God made the world.
 - a. Purple—God made a very colorful world including the beautiful color purple.
 - b. **†Ge 1:1** What did God make? [the heavens and the earth] **†Ge 1:31a** Did God make everything good? [yes, very good]
 - 2) Light blue represents baptism.

- a. Light blue—Light blue represents the waters of baptism.
 - b. Here are a few Bible verses which remind us of the importance of baptism:
 - a) †Mk 16:16a What two things are necessary for salvation? [belief and baptism]
 - b) †Jn 3:5 What does it mean to be born “of water”? [to be baptized] Who gives us the faith to believe in Christ? [the Holy Spirit]
- 3) Blue represents Jesus’ second coming.
- a. Blue—Some day Jesus will come back in the blue sky and take all believers to heaven.
 - b. Here are two Bible verses which remind us of His second coming:
 - a) †Lk 21:27 How did Jesus say He would come when He returns the second time to the earth? [in a cloud with power and great glory]
 - b) †Ac 1:9-11 How did the angels say that Jesus was going to come back again? [just as He went up with a cloud into heaven]
3. The order of presentation should be as follows:
- 1) **Purple**—God made the world.
 - 2) **Black**— Man sinned.
 - 3) **Red**— Jesus shed His blood and died for our sin.
 - 4) **White**—We believe that God washes away our sin through the blood of Jesus.
 - 5) **Light Blue**—We are baptized.
 - 6) **Green**—As we take part in the Word and sacraments faithfully, we grow spiritually.
 - 7) **Blue**—Some day Jesus will come back in the sky to take all of us believers to heaven.
 - 8) **Gold**—All who believe and are baptized will go to heaven for eternity.
4. The Gospel octopus can be used to explain the message of salvation from Genesis to Revelation.
- 1) This presentation begins with the first verse of the Bible and ends with the last two verses of the Bible. Let us look at these verses.
 - a. †Ge 1:1
 - a) In the Gospel Octopus Message, which number speaks of Ge1:1? [No. 1—That God made the world.]
 - b) What color represents that number and why? [the purple color which reminds us that God made a beautiful world including the royal color of purple]
 - b. †Rev 22:20-21
 - a) In these verses Who says, “Surely I am coming soon.”? [Jesus]
 - b) What words does John, the writer of the book of Revelation, have in response to Jesus’ return? [“Amen, Come, Lord Jesus!”]
 - c) With what blessing does the Bible conclude? [“The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.”] This is a beautiful blessing, namely to have God’s grace with us.
 - d) In these two verses and the rest of the book of Revelations we see that Jesus is coming back to take us to the beautiful heaven He has prepared.
 - (1) In the Gospel Octopus Message what two numbers speak of His coming back and heaven? [No. 7 which tells us that someday Jesus will come back in the sky for us, and No. 8, which speaks of heaven.]
 - (2) What colors are used for these two numbers? [No. 7—blue, and No. 8—gold]

- 2) When using this presentation, one can share a whole overview of the Bible, starting with the creation of the world (No. 1) and ending with the new heavens and new earth (No. 7 and No. 8).
5. This Gospel octopus can be used again and again as a witnessing tool.
- 1) Anyone who can crochet can make Gospel octopuses to give to others to use as witnessing tools.
 - a. An octopus can be crocheted much smaller to fit on a pencil or a person's finger.
 - b. Or it can be crocheted much larger to fit on a person's head with the long legs hanging down to the person's waist. In this way the speaker can share the message in front of several hundred people at a time, because it can be seen by all.
 - 2) If you do not have your Gospel octopus with you when you want to witness, what could you use instead? [Possible answers:
 - a. [You could draw an octopus with different colored legs on a piece of paper or on the blackboard.]
 - b. [You could use the colors in your surroundings or the colors of different people's clothes to stand for the various points.]