

Lesson 12 / November 22, 2009

# Never Get Lost Again!

for use as

## STEP 1

### Lesson 12 Focus:

God guides our  
everyday lives.

### Lesson 12 Bible Basis:

Genesis 24

Almost everyone has been lost at one time or another. In this lesson, students will contemplate how, with God by their side, they need never feel lost again.

**D**iscuss:

- ▶ Have you ever been lost? Were you lost by yourself or with your family?
- ▶ How did you realize you were lost and what did you do about it?
- ▶ How did you feel while you were lost? Were you scared? Worried? Calm?
- ▶ How do you feel about asking for help or directions when you're lost?
- ▶ How long did it take until you found your way to the place you wanted to go or found the people you were separated from?
- ▶ How did it feel to finally find your friends or family or to find the place you were looking for?

People in different cities were asked how often they get lost. Even with all of our modern technology, 93 percent of those asked said they get lost quite often. They also said it takes an average of 13 minutes to find what they're looking for. In Germany, about a third of the people who were asked said they had never been lost—the highest number of any of the thirteen countries that were studied.

It turns out that the city that's easiest to get lost in is London, where one in ten people said they find it impossible to get around. Not only are you more likely to be lost in London, you're more likely to get bad directions. That's because one in three Londoners admitted they've actually given someone the wrong directions—not accidentally, but on purpose.

Discuss:

- ▶ Have you ever been asked to give someone directions? Was it easy or hard?

Lesson 12  
**Memory Verse**

Guide me in Your truth  
and teach me, for You  
are God my Savior.

—Psalm 25:5

- ▶ **What are some of the ways that we can use to help us find our way when we don't know how to get someplace?** (*GPS; compass; MapQuest, Google Maps, and other online sites that provide directions; a paper map or atlas; have someone write down the directions for us or draw us a map; mark a trail so that you can find your way back*)

Now pair up with the person next to you. Using only words to explain, tell that person how to get from church to your house. Then let your partner do the same for you. Don't use pencil or paper or even hand gestures.

Discuss:

- ▶ **How hard is it to give directions without pointing or drawing the way?**

Following the guidance God gives us every day may not be quite as easy as listening to your GPS tell you to turn left just ahead. However, God does guide us every day if we're just willing to listen. Let's find out how God helped Abraham's servant find his way on a long and important trip.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your *Upper Elementary Teacher's Guide*; your Step 4 appears below.)

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Source:

For more information about getting lost in London and other places, see [<http://www.cellular-news.com/story/34856.php>]

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## STEP 4

### Lesson 12 Focus:

God guides our  
everyday lives.

### Lesson 12 Bible Basis:

Genesis 24

### Supplies needed:

- one piece of paper for each student (tear an 8.5 x 11 piece into two to four pieces—big enough for students to write the memory verse or the lesson focus and draw a bit too)
- one wet tea bag (or more, depending on the size of your class)
- cookie sheet(s) for students to share, or a paper plate for each student
- hair dryer(s)
- markers
- paper towels
- cotton balls
- cooking oil

**T**oday's lesson is about how God guides us every day. What's interesting is the memory verse not only talks about God being our guide, but Psalm 25 itself is a guide in its own way.

Discuss:

- ▶ Do you know what an acrostic poem is?** (*In an acrostic, the first letter of each line, when read downward, spells something—often the title or the subject of the poem.*)

Psalm 25 is an acrostic. This psalm was originally written in Hebrew. The Hebrew alphabet has 22 letters, and Psalm 25 has 22 verses. Each verse starts with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet, in order.

Discuss:

- ▶ Why might the psalm have been written as an acrostic?** (*Knowing what each verse starts with might make it easier for someone to memorize.*)

To remind us this week how God guides us, we're going to make a treasure map. We'll write our memory verse (or lesson focus) on it and draw something to remind us where we need God's guidance—in school, at home, at sports practice, or somewhere else.

### Directions:

1. Hand each student a piece of paper and ask them to crumple it.
2. Smooth out the piece of paper.
3. Put the paper onto the cookie sheet (or on a paper plate).
4. Rub each piece of paper with the wet tea bag, to get the paper to darken.

Lesson 12  
**Memory Verse**

Guide me in Your truth  
and teach me, for You  
are God my Savior.

—Psalm 25:5

5. Use the hair dryer(s) to gently dry each piece of paper. Depending on the maturity of your class, you may be able to let them help with this step. You can use the high setting as long as you keep the dryer moving.
6. After the paper is dry, students can draw and write the memory verse on it.
7. To really make it feel like parchment, coat the paper with a thin layer of oil, using the cotton balls. Blot the paper with paper towels to dry.

See [<http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/pirates/mmap.html>] for more ideas on making a treasure map.

After encouraging students to share areas where they need God's guidance, end with prayer.

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