

Lesson 12

Focus

GOD ALWAYS STICKS WITH YOU

Overview

	Section	Students will ...	Supplies
Pre-Start	Pre-Start Activities (15 minutes before class begins)	build relationships and have fun!	Pre-Start Activities (pp. 8, 9), SuperStart! DVD (Intro Loop), SuperStart! CD, CD and DVD players, TV or projection equipment
Large Group	Get-Started Activity (5 minutes)	think about times when they need help.	SuperStart! DVD (Countdown), DVD player, TV or projection equipment
	Teaching Time (15 minutes)	discover that God always sticks with them.	SuperStart! DVD (Sticky Situations Game Show Clips, Lesson 12), DVD player, TV or projection equipment, Bible
	Worship (10 minutes)	praise God for sticking with them.	SuperStart! CD, CD player
Small Group	Scripture Study (15 minutes)	study the Scripture to discover that God always sticks with them.	<i>SuperStart!</i> magazines, Bibles
	Scripture Memory Discovery (5 minutes)	learn Psalm 145:1-7.	Bibles (optional: large sticky notes, pencils or pens)
	Life Application (5 minutes)	share about last weeks' challenge and discuss a challenge for this week.	1 stick of chewing gum per student
	Recap (5 minutes)	be encouraged to thank God for sticking with them.	none
Extra Time	Extra-Time Activities	further explore the lesson.	Unit 3 Extra-Time Activities (p. 64)

Theme

The Psalms: A Study of God

Big Question

How Big Is God?

Scripture

The Psalms

Scripture Memory

Psalm 145:1-7

Things to do ahead of time:

1. Set out the supplies for the Pre-Start Activities.
2. Collect supplies for the small groups. Put the supplies in sets, one for each small-group leader.
3. Make sure the DVD and CD players and projection equipment are cued and ready to go.



Supplies

Pre-Start Activities (pp. 8-11)
SuperStart DVD Intro Loop
Countdown: Sticky Situations
Game Show Clips, Lesson
84 SuperStarts CD, DVD and
CD players, TV or projection
equipment, Bible

Pre-Start

(15 minutes before class)

Choose several of the Pre-Start Activities for students to do as they arrive. You can play songs from the CD and show the DVD Intro Loop as students have fun and interact with the volunteers.

Large Group

(30 minutes)

Get-Started Activity, Teaching Time, Worship

Get-Started Activity (5 minutes)

Play one of the Countdowns when you are ready to begin the Get-Started Activity. Have groups of three or four students act out a situation in which they might need help. A few funny ideas could be getting stuck in quick sand or riding a bull. A few serious ideas could be sticky family problems or schoolwork they don't understand. Have groups act out their situation for at least one other group. Select one or two groups to come to the front to act out their situations for the entire group.

Teaching Time (15 minutes)

Prepare students for the video by saying, **For several weeks now we've been watching video clips of the fun game show called Sticky Situations. Eric is the host of the show and Patrick is the director. Someone showed a blooper tape of Eric during the video shoot and it really hurt Eric's feelings. Now Eric doesn't think he can host the show any more. Let's listen in to hear what Patrick and Eric are talking about.**

Show the video clip.

After the video clip, ask these questions and solicit one or two answers for each:

- **Why did Eric need help?** *(He was scared and needed help to host the show.)*
- **What did Eric decide that he could do in order to get courage to host the show?** *(pray for God's help like the disciples had done)*
- **When are some times that you need help?** *(doing homework, getting along with my brother or sister, doing what my parents want me to do, getting money for something I need, doing what's right even when others aren't)*
- **To whom do you turn to for help?** *(friends, parents, family, God)*

- **Are friends and family members always available to help you? Why or why not?** *(most of the time, but sometimes they're busy; no, they're always too busy)*

Your friends and family may be too busy to help you at times, but God's never too busy to help you. Last week we learned how powerful God is. Another great thing about God is that GOD ALWAYS STICKS WITH YOU. You can count on God's help no matter where you are or what you've done. Have a volunteer come to the front and read Psalm 121:2. Ask the volunteer who we can depend on for help. **It's pretty amazing that the God who made everything is the one who will help you. Let's think about this, though. I'm going to ask you some questions. If you think the answer is *no*, stand up and say *no*. If *yes*, stay seated and say *yes*.**

- **Is it OK to ask God for help answering the questions on a quiz when you didn't study the night before?** *(no)*
- **Is it OK to ask God for help in figuring out a way to get even with someone you don't like?** *(no)*
- **Is it OK to ask God for help when you're having friend problems?** *(yes)*
- **Is it OK to ask God for help in figuring out how to convince your parents that you really, really need an amazing new video game system that you know they can't afford right now?** *(no)*

God will stick with you and help you, but He will only help you with things that are right. And He will help you only with things that are good for you and that also honor Him.

Have a volunteer come to the front and read Psalm 46:1. Ask the volunteer to name another time God helps us. **Think of some trouble you've been in recently. Maybe it was trouble at school, or trouble at home, or trouble with some friends. While you were going through the trouble, did you think that God could help you? He can, and He wants to.**

One more thing—God will stick with you, but He may not change things the way you'd like. Maybe you'd like God to get your parents back together or heal your grandpa. God promises to stick with you, not fix everything.

Have students make a very small circle with their fingers. Tell them to look at a partner through the small circle they've made and tell their partner what they see.

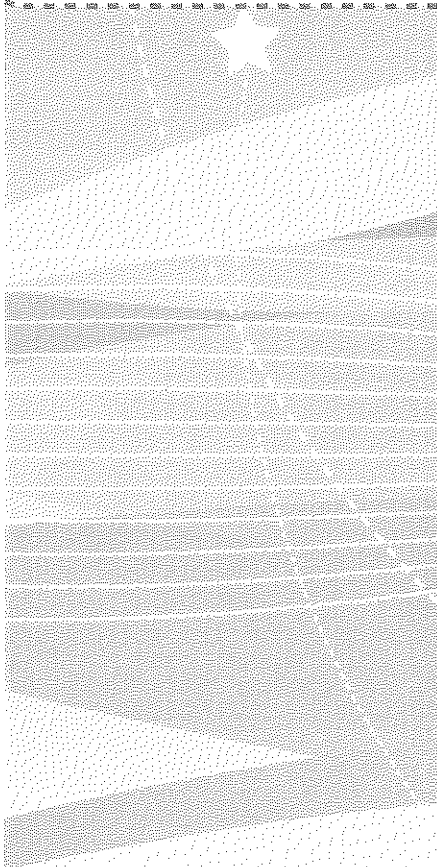
- **How much can you see when you're looking through such a small circle?** *(only a little bit, not much)*

Bible Insight

David wrote many of the psalms when he was in the middle of sticky situations. These psalms tell of David's anguish and his need for God's help. It's comforting that many of the psalms explain how God sticks with us and helps us—giving us good reasons to trust Him. God's constant help is one of His essential attributes.

Teacher Tip

If you have time and would like to add more thoughts from Scripture, see these passages: Psalm 30:2; 33:20; 79:9. You can also use thoughts from Psalm 145:1-7, the Scripture memory for the unit.



■ **How can this be like what you see compared to what God sees?**

(I only see a little bit of what's really happening; God sees a whole lot more.)

God sees a much bigger picture than you and I do. In fact, He sees and knows everything, which is a great reason to trust in God's help. "How big is God?" is the big question we've been asking the last few weeks. He's so big that GOD WILL ALWAYS STICK WITH YOU and will help you. That's a big, big God!

Worship (10 minutes)

Ask students to join you in praising God because He always sticks with us. Lead in two or three songs from the CD, especially "God Is With Us."

Lead in prayer by saying two or three sentences thanking God for sticking with us.

Have students go to their small groups to go deeper into God's Word and for relationship building.

Q&A with Eric

If you have time, there are three fun review questions on the DVD for this lesson (Q&A with Eric, Lesson 12). You can pretend you're doing your own Sticky Situations Game Show by choosing one boy and one girl to be the contestants, or have the boys compete against the girls. Pause the DVD player after each question so students can answer. You can use this fun video clip in lots of ways: at the end of the large-group time, at the end of the small-group time while you're waiting for parents to arrive, just before the lesson Recap in the small-group time, or during the Pre-Start Activities. It's one more fun way to help students remember the important concepts in the lesson.

Review Questions

1. Eric decided he couldn't do the game show anymore because
 - a. **he saw his mess-ups on the blooper tape.**
 - b. he got the lead role in Romeo and Juliet.
 - c. he got a better offer from another TV show.

2. God sticks with us because
 - a. He doesn't trust us.
 - b. we'd mess it up if He didn't.
 - c. **He wants to help us.**

3. When we get in sticky situations, it's best to
 - a. wait and see what happens next.
 - b. **pray to God.**
 - c. cry like a baby.

Small Group

[30 minutes]

Scripture Study, Scripture Memory Discovery, Life Application, Recap

Scripture Study (15 minutes)

Hand out the *SuperStart! magazines* and have students turn to pages 10 and 11. Have students read about all the sticky stuff. Talk about what all of the items have in common and what sticky stuff might be missing. **One thing missing is God's help—that's pretty sticky. God sticks with us in all situations, even the stickiest ones.**

Have students use the Bible concordances to find Scriptures in the book of Psalms about God's help. Let students share what they find.

Ask the following questions. Encourage all students to participate and be sure to give students time to think about the questions.

- **What are some ways that God helps you?** *(He's with me when I'm lonely or in trouble. He helps me know what to do. He helps me when I'm scared.)*
- **What can God help you with right now?** *(problems at school, illness, trouble at home)*

Have students turn to Psalm 146. Ask students to listen for ways God helps us while volunteers read aloud verses 3 and 5-9.

- **What are some of the ways God helps us?** *(gives us food, heals us, stops the wicked, loves us, watches over us)*
- **What's the difference between God's help and the help people give us?** *(people can't always help us, God's help is bigger)*

Have students stand, find a partner, and if they want to, put a hand on their partner's shoulder. Ask students to share with their partner one thing they need God's help with. Then have students pray for each other, thanking God that He always sticks with us and helps us.

Supplies

SuperStart! magazines, Bibles, Bible concordances, sticky or chewing gum and student papers or large sticky notes, pencils or pens

Teacher Tip

Be sure to be sensitive to your students' reading abilities. Ask for volunteers to read aloud or be sure to call on those whom you know like to read aloud. Include reluctant readers by asking them to listen as you or others read Scripture aloud and let them answer questions.



Optional Activity

Give each student a large sticky note and pencil or pen. Ask volunteers to read aloud the verses. Tell students to write on their sticky notes several words or phrases from the verses that describe God or something He has done. When finished, have them stick their notes on a wall. Have a volunteer read what's on the notes.

Reminder

Last week, students were challenged to show their thankfulness for God's power or use their own power to help others. Celebrate with those who have a good report. Encourage, don't embarrass, those who either forgot or who didn't have a good experience.

Collect the SuperStart! magazines for use in the following weeks.

Scripture Memory Discovery (5 minutes)

Have students turn to Psalm 145:1-7. Tell students that you will read these verses aloud, but when you pause after the word *will* each time, they should read the next word.

- **What does David, the writer of this psalm, say he is going to do because of the mighty acts and good things God has done?** (*praise God and tell about God*)
- **What are some of the good things God has done?**

One really good thing God has done and continues to do is to stick with us. David had lots of good times, but he also had lots of sticky situations. David knew that God stuck with him, and you can remember that GOD ALWAYS STICKS WITH YOU too.

Life Application (5 minutes)

Ask students to share how their challenge from last week went. Get their ideas about what they can do this week to show God how thankful they are for His help and that He always sticks with them. Some ideas include praying with a friend who needs God's help, helping a friend with a school project, or helping a new student at school. Give each student a stick of chewing gum. **This is a reminder that GOD ALWAYS STICKS WITH YOU and helps you. And you, in turn, can help others and tell them that God wants to help them too.** Remind students to come prepared to share next week how they helped someone.

Recap (5 minutes)

When things aren't going so well, you're in trouble, or you need some help, remember that GOD ALWAYS STICKS WITH YOU. Give a personal example of a time when God helped you or stuck with you (especially a time when you were a preteen). **God has helped me many times. I know He's helped you too, even if you didn't realize it. This week, watch for ways that God helps you and sticks with you. Then be sure to stop and tell Him thanks.**

Extra Time

As you have time, let students participate in one or more of the Extra-Time Activities on page 64.