First Century Fellowship

Lesson: Are You Both a Hearer & Doer of the Word?

Summarized Content:

- REVIEW: God gives blessings and curses based on our actions/obedience to Him.
- Hearing God's Word is essential to understanding it.
- Doing God's Word (what you heard) is essential to pleasing God and obeying Him.
- We hear and do what God says because we love Him!
- Hearing and doing God's Word is part of following Christ.
- God wants to yoke us with Him so that we walk in His ways rather than man's ways.
- When we are yoked with Christ, the burden is light and we have peace.
- If we hear God's, but don't do what It says, we are fooling ourselves into thinking that we follow Christ. Action is a necessary part of the deal!
- Doing things God's way requires us to be humble before Him and to yield (give in) to His will (ways) in our lives.
- When we are yoked with Christ, we CAN do all things with His strength and guidance.
- Sometimes the doing part is challenging, but we must remember that we can do all things through him who strengthens us.

Scriptures:

- Matthew 11:28-30 (Hearing and doing)
- Matthew 13:18-23 (Parable of the Sower)
- Luke 6:46-49 (Hearing and doing is like being a wise man..)
- James 1:22-23 (Be a doer)
- Phil. 4:13 (I can do all things...)

Activities:

Exploring God's Word:

Review the summarized content.

To provide children with an example of "hearing" and a different example of "hearing and doing", **play Simon Says** for a few minutes. Which people win at this game – hearers or hearers & doers?

Read the scriptures listed above in order.

Look at the laminated pictures. Ask the children: How is each picture is related to hearing and doing? They can talk with a partner about each picture and then share out with the whole group about a few of the pictures.

Understanding God's Word (choose from the activities below):

Hear & Do Game: Take turns rolling 3 dice. Go to the scripture on the Scripture Board of the number you roll. Read the scripture out loud. Tell what you would DO based on what you HEARD the scripture say. You can even choose to act out what you would do rather than say it.

Walking Like Jesus Page: Give children each a picture of a giant footprint. In the foot print, ask children to write things they can DO as a result of hearing God's Word. They can color the picture once their writing is completed.

I Can Do All Things Collage: Remind children that one of God's blessings is found in Phil. 4:13. The way this verse, like all of God's blessings, is activated in our lives is when we have FAITH in God's power, FORGIVE OTHERS, and OBEY GOD. Have children color and cut out the small paper template, glue it on a piece of cardstock, and add the 3 ingredients (FAITH, FORGIVE, & OBEY) using cut out paper letters around it as reminders. Magazine pictures can also be glued onto the collage to personalize the meaning of the scripture for the children.

Read It! Do It! Coloring Page: Have children color the Read It! Do It! page. They can add a small list of DOING VERBS along the side of this sheet. For example, "read", "share", "encourage" are words that could be listed here along with many others.