

# “The Bridge” - LESSON 1

## “Jesus Is The Bridge”

### Main Focus:

Jesus Bridges The Gap  
Between Me And God



### Power Verse:

“Jesus said, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.’”

- John 14:6



### Watt’s Up:

“Jesus Is The Bridge That Will  
Bring Us To God!”

## LEADER’S INFO

Bridges can come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. But, no matter what shape or size they come in, bridges are meant for ONE thing. To get you from one side to the other.

The Bible teaches us that SIN separates us from God. When SIN enters your life, it’s almost as if you are on one side of a chasm and GOD is on the other side. SIN is the chasm that keeps you separated from God.

But, God did NOT want that. That’s why He sent His Son, Jesus to Earth. Jesus created a BRIDGE for us to get to God.

In this lesson, your kids will learn about how Jesus is the Bridge for us to get to God. If we accept the price Jesus paid on the Cross, we can cross the chasm of sin and be reunited with God.



### “The Spark” Intro Video

“Brian Needs A Bridge”



### “Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”



### Character Skit

“Archie Keystone”



### Offering Time



### Game On!

“Noodle Joust”



### Bible Story

“The Story Of Jesus”



### Power Verse Video

“Jesus said, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.’”

- John 14:6



### Call To Action

“Jesus Is The Bridge”



### Brain Drain

PowerPoint Review Game



### Small Group Experience

**Main Focus:**

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Between Me And God



**Power Verse:**

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and the life. No one can come to  
the Father except through me.’”  
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**Call To Action**

“Jesus Is The Bridge”

**Brain Drain**

PowerPoint Review Game

**Small Group Experience**

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

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## CHARACTER SKIT

**Character: Archie Keystone** (*Archie is a loud, gruff, construction worker who specializes in building bridges. His hearing is terrible due to his love of construction equipment and power tools. He always wears a tool belt, a hardhat, and has a MASSIVE mustache*)

**ARCHIE:** (*comes out onstage waving a clipboard around and yelling to someone offstage*) BE CAREFUL WITH THAT TRUSS, GORDON! We gotta clear those I-beams by MONDAY! (*pauses*) Yes, Gordon! MONDAY! (*pauses*) I know your cat's at the dentist but we gotta get this done TODAY!

**Leader:** Excuse me, sir, but can I help you?

**ARCHIE:** (*turns to look at the leader, says loudly*) Hey there, can you help me??

**Leader:** (*confused*) That's what I just said.

**ARCHIE:** No thank you, I don't need any bread. Lemme ask the fellas though. (*turns over his shoulder and yells*) HEY GORDON, YOU WANT ANY BREAD?! (*pauses*) I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WENT VEGAN!! SINCE WHEN?? (*pauses*) CATS DON'T GO VEGAN!! (*turns to leader*) No bread for Gordon, he's on some sorta weirdo diet.

**Leader:** I didn't say ANYTHING about bread! And who are you? And who is GORDON??

**ARCHIE:** My name is Archie! Archie Keystone! I'm an engineer, and Gordon is my construction foreman! Gordon the foreman! Get it? It rhymes! (*laughs loudly*)

**Leader:** Engineer? Foreman? (*laughs*) Ohhh, I get it! You guys work in CONSTRUCTION! You BUILD stuff!

**ARCHIE:** No, we don't play bagpipes, we build stuff!

**Leader:** That's what I said!

**ARCHIE:** (*chuckles to himself*) Sorry, my hearing ain't so good. Y'see, I work with some really loud equipment, building bridges all the time!

**Leader:** (*excited*) You build BRIDGES?? That's AWESOME! Today we're teaching the kids all about the greatest bridge of all time! JESUS!

**ARCHIE:** WHOAH! HOOOOOLD IT! Stop it right there! Are you tellin' me, that you're tellin' THEM (*points to the kids*) that Jesus is a BRIDGE??

**Leader:** Well...yeah.

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## CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

**ARCHIE:** *(turns to look over his shoulder)* GORDON! GO GET ME MY HAMMER! I GOTTA KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO THIS WEIRDO! *(pauses)* THE HAMMER IN MY OFFICE! *(pauses)* NO, THE BIG ONE! THIS PERSON'S HEAD IS ENORMOUS! I GOTTA HIT IT HARD!

**Leader:** Why on Earth are you going to hit me with a HAMMER??

**ARCHIE:** Jesus is NOT a bridge! I've been working on bridges since I was knee-high to a guinea pig and I know for a FACT that Jesus AIN'T NO BRIDGE!! He ain't made of concrete, he ain't made of bricks, and you don't drive your CAR over Him! WHY WOULD YOU TRY TO DRIVE YOUR CAR OVER HIM?? IT DON'T MAKE NO SENSE!

**Leader:** Archie, we don't mean it like that! When we say that Jesus is a bridge, what we MEAN is that He's like a SPIRITUAL bridge that will bring us to GOD!

**ARCHIE:** Well EVERYBODY who's ANYBOY knows that! You can't get to God without Jesus because of all the SIN in our lives!

**Leader:** That's right! Sin creates this GAP between US and God! Someone had to pay the price for our sin, and that's what Jesus did! Because of what Jesus did, we can now get across the gap and get to God!

**ARCHIE:** Man, I tell ya what! When you put it like that, I guess Jesus IS a bridge! *(turns over his shoulder)* YO, GORDON! DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS IS A BRIDGE?! *(pauses)* NO, YOU CORNBALL! NOT A FRIDGE!! BRIDGE!! *(pauses)* WELL IT MAKES MORE SENSE THAN “FRIDGE”, DON'T IT?! *(turns back to the leader)* I'm sorry, but I gotta go back to work. This project is killin' me.

**Leader:** What is it you're building?

**ARCHIE:** We're working on a brand new bridge made entirely out of HOT LAVA and FRUIT! It's gonna be called “The Molten Grape Bridge!”

**Leader:** Is that safe??

**ARCHIE:** Of course it's safe, or my name ain't Archie Keystone! *(looks over his shoulder)* I HEAR YA, GORDAN! I'M COMIN'! *(turns back to the kids)* I'll see ya later, kiddos! Until next time, this is Archie sayin' *(gets distracted yells offstage)* GORDON, PUT DOWN MY LUNCHBOX AND GET BACK TO WORK!! I AIN'T GOT NO VEGAN FOOD!

*(runs offstage as his music plays)*



## **GAME ON!**

### **“Noodle Joust”**

#### **Items Needed For Game:**

Two “fun noodles” (*four feet long, styrofoam tubes used as a swimming pool toy*), two large hats

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#### **Preparation:**

Choose three boys and three girls to participate in this game.

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#### **How To Play:**

Choose one boy and one girl to compete against each other first. Place a hat on top of each of them (*make sure it is not tight on their head*). Have the contestants stand approximately 3-4 feet apart from one another, facing one another. Give each of the contestants a “fun noodle.” Have them hold the “fun noodle” in one hand, while placing the other hand behind their back.

When you say, “Go!”, the contestants must use their “fun noodle” to try to knock the hat off of their opponent’s head. The first one to do so is declared the winner. Do three rounds of the game, allowing the other contestants to compete against each other. The team who wins the best two out of three is the winning team!



# Bible Story

## “The Story Of Jesus”

### Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; the PowerPoint presentation for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

### Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in The Gospels; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

### The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is probably the most important story in the entire Bible. It’s the story of Jesus. Jesus is God’s Son. He had the perfect life up in Heaven. He was King of the Universe and had everything He could possibly ever need. But, Jesus decided to leave Heaven and come to Earth.



(*show pic*) He didn’t come to Earth as a king, though. No, Jesus left His throne in Heaven and came to Earth as a tiny little baby. He was born to a couple named Mary and Joseph. Jesus was born in a stable - a barn - and was laid in a manger full of hay. Not much of a life for a King.



There was a reason that Jesus came to Earth. The people of Earth had turned away from God. They had sinned and done all kinds of evil things. Jesus knew that SIN separates people from God. He didn’t want that, so He came to Earth to show God’s love. (*show pic*) As He grew, Jesus began teaching everyone that HE was the way to get past sin and get back to God.



He told them, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.” The people weren’t sure what Jesus meant. All they knew was that Jesus was a man of love who NEVER sinned at all. He was an amazing man.



But, there were some religious leaders who got very jealous of Jesus. They decided Jesus was getting too popular among the people, so they arrested Jesus and sentenced Him to die on a cross. (*show pic*) Jesus was nailed to a cross in order to pay the price for our sin. He had never sinned, so He took our place on that cross.

Three days after He was buried, (*show pic*) Jesus rose from the dead. He was alive! He rose up into Heaven and is there to this very day. He paid the price on the cross so that He could be “The Bridge” to bring us to God. In your lesson today, you are going to learn how YOU can make the decision to walk across “The Bridge” and be reunited with your Heavenly Father. It is going to be amazing!



# Call To Action

## “Jesus Is The Bridge”

### Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; two 5 gallon plastic buckets; one 8 ft 2X8 piece of lumber; Scotch tape; a medium size box; three standard size pieces of paper (*one has the word “GOD”, one has the word “MAN”, one has the word “SIN”*)

### Preparation:

Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson One,” begin with the slide titled “Jesus Is The Bridge”; place the sign that says “GOD” on one of the 5 gallon buckets; place the sign that says “MAN” on the other 5 gallon bucket; place the sign that says “SIN” on the medium size box

### The Message: *(title slide)*



Today, we have begun to learn about “The Bridge.” We have heard a lot about how Jesus is the bridge that will bring us to God. Some of you might be wondering, “What does that even mean?” Well, I want to show you. Listen carefully, because this lesson could change your life!

When God created the world, He created human beings to be in close relationship with Him. (place the “GOD” bucket right next to the “MAN” bucket) God and the first humans (Adam and Eve) spent time with each other every day in the Garden of Eden. But, one day Adam and Eve sinned. They disobeyed God and brought SIN into the world. As a result...

### SIN Creates A Gap Between Me & God *(slide)*



*(place the “SIN” box in between the “GOD” bucket and the “MAN” bucket, then place the buckets about 6 feet apart from each other)* Sin separates us from God because God can’t be around sin. Sin is the OPPOSITE of what God stands for. Even worse than that, the Bible says in Romans 6:23 that the payment for sin “is death.” WHOA! That’s huge!

When I have sin in my life, it keeps me from getting to God. *(stand on top of the “MAN” bucket and demonstrate how you can’t possibly step from the “MAN” bucket to the “GOD” bucket)* It’s impossible. A lot of people try. They think, “I will do good deeds and that will get me to God.” *(try to step to the “GOD” bucket and don’t make it)* Nope, that doesn’t work. Some people think, “I will go to church a lot and give in the offering.” *(try to step to the “GOD” bucket and don’t make it)* Nope, that doesn’t work. Some people try following other religions and putting their faith in other gods. *(try to step to the “GOD” bucket and don’t make it)* Nope, that doesn’t work. There is only ONE way to get across the chasm of SIN and be reunited with our Heavenly Father...

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## Call To Action (Continued)

### Jesus Paid The Price For Sin *(slide)*



When Jesus died on the cross, it wasn't because He deserved it. Remember, Jesus NEVER sinned. Instead, Jesus was paying the price for our sin. He was making it possible for us to be able to ask God for forgiveness for sin. *(pick up the 2X8 board and place it on top of the two buckets as a bridge across the chasm of "SIN")*

### Jesus Is The Bridge For Me To Get To God *(slide)*

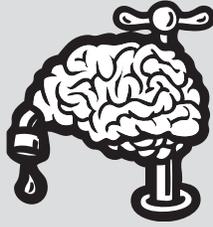


All we have to do is accept the price that Jesus paid for our sin, *(step up onto the 2X8 on top of the "MAN" bucket)* ask God to forgive us of our sin *(begin to walk across "the bridge" over to the "GOD" bucket)*, and be reunited with our Heavenly Father *(step all the way across "the bridge" to the "GOD" bucket)*. Isn't that amazing?

We don't have to be separated from God. We don't have to be slaves to sin. We can be free and forgiven. All we have to do is "walk across the bridge." Jesus is the bridge that will bring us to God. All we have to do is ask and receive the forgiveness of sin that Jesus paid for. What an amazing gift!

### ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children who need to receive Jesus as their Savior. Lead them in a prayer of forgiveness of sin. Pray that they will walk across "The Bridge" of Jesus and be reunited with their Heavenly Father. Then, take some time to rejoice with them that they are now living for God! Their lives will never be the same again!



## **BRAIN DRAIN**

### **Materials Needed:**

The Data Disc; The DVD

### **Preparation:**

Play the “Brain Drain” Video Intro off the DVD; Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson One,” begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

**1. Watt’s Up today?**

**Answer:** “Jesus Is The Bridge That Will Bring Us To God!”

**2. Who was the main character in our Bible Story?**

**Answer:** Jesus

**3. What was Jesus born in?**

**Answer:** A Stable

**4. Did Jesus ever sin?**

**Answer:** No

**5. How did Jesus die?**

**Answer:** Nailed To A Cross

**6. According to our lesson today, “Sin Creates A \_\_\_\_\_ Between Me & God!”**

**Answer:** Gap

**7. According to our lesson today, “Jesus Paid The Price For \_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Answer:** Sin

**8. According to our lesson today, “Jesus Is The \_\_\_\_\_ For Me To Get To God.”**

**Answer:** Bridge

**9. What is the name of the guy in our Intro Video today?**

**Answer:** Brian

**10. Where was our Power Verse found?**

**Answer:** John 14:6

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