

Grade 4 **Building Life Castles**

Lesson	Sessions	Content Objectives	Learning Objectives	Optional Components
1 Who Is Jesus?	A The Deity of Jesus	Jesus is the eternal Creator-God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navigate Scripture by book or reference Summarize key ideas from John 1 List the three persons of the Trinity Recall several common names and titles for Jesus Distinguish intentional <i>unity</i> from uniformity 	<p>Scripture Memory John 1:1</p> <p>Character Trait Unity</p> <p>Hymn Be Thou My Vision</p>
	B The Names of Jesus	As the Son of God, Jesus is one of three persons in the Trinity.		
	C Unity Among Believers	The Trinity models a kind of unity that believers should pursue.		
2 The Promised Messiah	A The Fall of Humanity	The fall of humanity stems from the decision of Adam and Eve to disbelieve and disobey God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinguish between the Old and New Testaments Summarize key points in the narrative of Genesis 3:1–6 Explain the meaning of the terms <i>prophecy</i> and <i>messiah</i> as they relate to Jesus Recognize several events in Jesus' life as fulfillments of prophecy 	<p>Scripture Memory John 1:2</p> <p>Character Trait Faithfulness</p> <p>Hymn Be Thou My Vision</p>
	B Looking for the Messiah	The Old Testament includes many prophecies fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus.		
	C God Is Faithful	God has the will and power to remain faithful.		
3 The Boy Jesus	A The Birth of Jesus	Jesus, the eternal God, chose a humble birth in Bethlehem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affirm the birth of Jesus on Earth as consistent with the Son's eternal coexistence with God Recall the location and basic circumstances of Jesus' birth List significant figures from Jesus' early life Describe one or two ways in which Jesus served as a moral example for Christians 	<p>Scripture Memory John 1:3</p> <p>Character Trait Maturity</p> <p>Hymn Be Thou My Vision</p>
	B Jesus' Early Life	Jesus grew up much like a normal Jewish boy, but events in His early life signaled His role as Messiah.		
	C Jesus Was Obedient	Jesus obeyed authorities in part to be a righteous, sympathetic example for us.		
4 The Land Where Jesus Lived	A Mapping Israel	Jesus' ministry took place in the land of Israel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify several major geographical features in the land of Israel Locate notable places from the life of Jesus on a basic map that includes contextual clues Discuss some cultural and geographic challenges that Jesus faced during His ministry 	<p>Scripture Memory Review John 1:1–3</p> <p>Character Trait Trust</p> <p>Hymn Man of Sorrows</p>
	B Mapping Jesus' Life	During His life on Earth, Jesus traveled to many places in Israel.		
	C Trusting God's Plan	God was in control of the events in Jesus' life.		

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5 Victory Over Temptation	A Satan Tempts Jesus	Jesus was tempted to sin, but He never did.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall the main points in the story of Jesus' temptation Describe how Jesus responded to Satan's trickery Explain Satan's significance within the Bible and his general mission Demonstrate several methods of resisting temptation 	Scripture Memory John 1:4 Character Trait Honesty Hymn Man of Sorrows
	B Who Is Satan?	Satan opposes God and deceives people.		
	C Resisting Temptation	We can resist temptation by depending on God.		
6 The Disciples of Jesus	A What Is a Disciple?	A true disciple of Jesus will follow Him despite persecution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define <i>disciple</i> as a student or follower List several of Jesus' notable followers Explain what Jesus generally expected from His disciples Describe faith as trust in the absence of visible proof 	Scripture Memory John 1:5 Character Trait Loyalty Hymn Man of Sorrows
	B Who Were the Twelve Disciples?	Jesus chose twelve close disciples from different backgrounds.		
	C Jesus Teaches Faith	Jesus taught His disciples about their need for faith.		
7 The Ministry of Jesus	A Jesus Teaches in Nazareth	Jesus revisited His hometown of Nazareth, where the people rejected His message.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List several locations significant to Jesus' early ministry Explain why Jesus was rejected at Nazareth Describe the events around Jesus' first recorded miracle at Cana Discuss how the image of the Good Shepherd describes the compassion of Jesus 	Scripture Memory Review John 1:1–5 Character Trait Compassion Hymn Man of Sorrows
	B Jesus Begins to Do Miracles	Jesus' public ministry involved teaching, miracles, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom.		
	C Having Compassion	Instead of showing annoyance at the crowds, Jesus felt compassion for them.		
8 Jesus Reveals His Power	A Four Areas of Power	Jesus' miracles revealed His power over death, Satan, diseases, and the forces of nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize the areas of sovereignty demonstrated by specific miracles Summarize the events surrounding the resurrection of Lazarus, as well as responses to this miracle Identify the Pharisees as traditional, institutional adversaries of Jesus Distinguish between foolish and wise expressions of faith in God 	Scripture Memory John 1:10 Character Trait Faith Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth
	B Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead	Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead to reveal His power as divine.		
	C Jesus Claims God's Power	Jesus claimed the power of God Himself.		

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9 Responses to Jesus' Power	A Responses to Jesus' Miracles	People who saw Jesus' miracles responded in different ways—some with belief, others in doubt or hatred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the limitation of miracles in inspiring belief • List several responses from those who saw Jesus' miracles • Summarize the events surrounding the healing of the blind man in John 9 • Distinguish between the Pharisee's view of the Sabbath and God's • Discuss the image of Jesus as the Light of the World 	<p>Scripture Memory John 1:11–12</p> <p>Character Trait Humility</p> <p>Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth</p>
	B Jesus Heals a Blind Man	When Jesus healed a blind man, the Pharisees' traditions kept them from recognizing God's work.		
	C Jesus Reveals His Deity	Jesus revealed His deity to the man who had once been blind.		
10 Jesus Teaches with Parables	A Lost and Found	Jesus used three parables about lost things to show how God welcomes sinners back to Himself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define <i>parable</i> and provide biblical examples • Paraphrase the lessons taught by the parables of lost things in Luke 15 • List the kinds of people represented by the seeds in the Parable of the Sower • Distinguish between passive hearing and active listening • Explain the concept of "spiritual fruit" and provide biblical examples 	<p>Scripture Memory Review John 1:10–12</p> <p>Character Trait Attentiveness</p> <p>Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth</p>
	B The Parable of the Sower	The Parable of the Sower shows how different people respond to God's Word.		
	C The Right Kind of Soil	People should respond to God's Word with attentiveness and obedience.		
11 Jesus Teaches About Salvation	A Jesus and Nicodemus	Jesus told Nicodemus that people must be born again spiritually to be part of God's kingdom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what Jesus meant by "born again" in John 3 • Describe the circumstances of Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman in John 4 • Define <i>justify</i> and <i>condemn</i> as used in Paul's arguments to the Roman believers 	<p>Scripture Memory John 1:13</p> <p>Character Trait Love</p> <p>Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth</p>
	B Jesus and the Samaritan Woman	The Samaritan woman believed that Jesus was the Messiah, and she brought others to Him.		
	C We Must Be Born Again	Every person has sinned and needs the justification offered by Jesus Christ.		

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12 The Crucifixion of Jesus	A Jesus Prepares for His Death	Jesus knew His death was coming, and He prepared His disciples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall some of the final instructions Jesus gave His disciples Recognize important figures from the arrest and trial of Jesus Summarize the events surrounding the arrest, trial, and crucifixion of Jesus 	Scripture Memory John 1:14 Character Trait Gratitude Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
	B Jesus Is Arrested and Put on Trial	While on trial, Jesus demonstrated humility and restraint.		
	C Jesus Dies on the Cross	Jesus chose to die on the cross as a sacrifice for our sin.		
13 The Resurrection of Jesus	A He Is Risen!	On the third day after the crucifixion, Jesus rose from the dead, just as He promised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the events of the morning of Jesus' resurrection Recall several witnesses of Jesus' resurrection Explain the importance of Jesus' resurrection to Christian belief 	Scripture Memory Review John 1:10–14 Character Trait Hope Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
	B Witnesses of the Risen Christ	After the resurrection, Jesus appeared to many of His followers.		
	C Why the Resurrection Is Important	Jesus' resurrection is vital to Christian faith and doctrine.		
14 The Arrival of the Holy Spirit	A Not Left Alone	Before Jesus ascended, He promised that God would send His Spirit to help the disciples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the instructions Jesus left His disciples before His ascension Describe the events of Pentecost, including the arrival of the Holy Spirit Recall the signs that accompanied the first appearances of the Spirit List several behaviors that mark believers who walk with the Spirit 	Scripture Memory John 14:15 Character Trait Encouragement Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
	B The Holy Spirit Arrives	The Holy Spirit marked His arrival with signs that showed His power and purpose.		
	C The Holy Spirit and the Early Church	The Holy Spirit works through believers to glorify God.		
15 The Spirit's Work in Us	A The Holy Spirit Is God	As a member of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affirm the deity of the Holy Spirit as a Person in the Trinity Recognize several works of the Spirit as recorded in Scripture List several functions of the Spirit within the life of a believer 	Scripture Memory John 14:16 Character Trait Kindness Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
	B What the Spirit Does	The Spirit does many things for us, including encouraging us, guiding us, and pleading with God on our behalf.		
	C How the Spirit Changes Us	As we mature spiritually, the Spirit changes our response to sinful desires.		

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16 The Fruit of the Spirit	A What the Spirit Makes	The Holy Spirit produces spiritual fruit in our lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall and define most of the attributes listed in Galatians 5:22–23 Identify behaviors that do not reflect the Spirit Provide examples of behaviors that reflect the Spirit’s work Explain Jesus’ use of vine imagery in John 15 	Scripture Memory John 14:17 Character Trait Joy Hymn Come Thou Fount
	B What Sin Makes	When we sin, we think and act in opposition to Christ.		
	C How We Grow Spiritual Fruit	To bear spiritual fruit, we must abide with Christ and keep His Word.		
17 Who Controls Your Life?	A Pleasing Self Instead of God	Jacob served his own desires by tricking Isaac into giving him Esau’s blessing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the causes and consequences of Isaac blessing Jacob Explain the purpose of repentance, as shown in 1 John 1 Summarize the events surrounding the conversion of Zacchaeus Recognize selfish deeds and intents 	Scripture Memory Review John 14:15–17 Character Trait Self-Control & Discipline Hymn Come Thou Fount
	B What to Do When You Sin	We should confess our sin to God and make amends to those we have wronged.		
	C Who Do You Serve?	Our words and deeds reveal what or who we serve.		
18 God Cares for You	A God Knows You	God knew everything about us before we were even born.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define <i>omniscience</i> and relate the term to <i>omnipotence</i> and <i>omnipresence</i> Discuss the implications of biblical descriptions of God’s power Affirm God’s love and faithfulness for believers Explain the meaning of imagery used in Matthew 6:25–33 and Psalm 36 	Scripture Memory 2 Peter 1:5 Character Trait Perseverance Hymn Come Thou Fount
	B God Loves You	God loves us and takes care of us.		
	C God Is Trustworthy	Because God is loving, wise, and holy, He is worthy of our trust.		
19 Your Inner Character	A The Beatitudes	God will bless believers as they represent His kingdom to the rest of the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall and explain several beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount Explain Jesus’ use of “salt” and “light” imagery in Matthew 5:13–16 Describe actions that flow naturally from common attitudes Affirm God’s preeminent role in our sanctification and conformity to Christ 	Scripture Memory 2 Peter 1:6 Character Trait Devotion Hymn Come Thou Fount
	B Actions Reveal the Heart	We reveal our inner self by what we say and do.		
	C Becoming Like Christ	God works to conform us into the image of His Son, Jesus.		

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20 Confidence in God	A Confidence in Prayer	God listens to the prayers of believers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the link between personal confidence and a confidence in God Explain several unique phrases and vocabulary words from Jesus' model prayer in Matthew 6:9–13 Recall several promises regarding God's love and care 	<p>Scripture Memory 2 Peter 1:7</p> <p>Character Trait Responsibility</p> <p>Hymn I Sing the Mighty Power of God</p>
	B Confidence in God's Promises	God will fulfill His promises to believers.		
	C Confidence for Eternity	God will care for believers even beyond death.		
21 Compassion for Others	A The Good Samaritan	Jesus told the Parable of the Good Samaritan to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the Parable of the Good Samaritan and its meaning Explain the two most important commands from the Old Testament Law Recall several examples of Christ's compassion recorded in the Gospels Distinguish between examples of selfish and selfless friendship 	<p>Scripture Memory 2 Peter 1:8</p> <p>Character Trait Mercy</p> <p>Hymn I Sing the Mighty Power of God</p>
	B The Compassion of Jesus	Followers of Jesus should show compassion as He did.		
	C Being a Good Friend	A good friend will respond to others' needs by showing love.		
22 Courage to Stand Alone	A Daniel's Courage	Daniel showed courage by obeying God and trusting in Him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall the events surrounding Daniel's imprisonment in the den of lions Describe some of the threats and mistreatment risked by following Jesus Recognize ways that God can give believers courage Explain some of the imagery used to describe God in Psalm 27 	<p>Scripture Memory Review 2 Peter 1:5–8</p> <p>Character Trait Courage</p> <p>Hymn I Sing the Mighty Power of God</p>
	B Christian Courage	Followers of Jesus face many threats, but God helps them.		
	C The Lord Our Light	We can trust God to guide and protect us.		
23 Learning to Trust God	A Trusting God for Provision	God has promised to provide everything we need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain several promises of God's provision from Scripture Recall examples of God's provision in the ministry of George Müller Describe the nature of Christian faith as a trust built up by God 	<p>Scripture Memory Psalm 1:1–2</p> <p>Character Trait Trust</p> <p>Hymn I Sing the Mighty Power of God</p>
	B George Müller's Faith	George Müller trusted God to provide for the children in his care.		
	C What Is Faith?	God builds our faith through His Word and His provision.		

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24 The Value of Humility	A God Chooses a New King	God chose David, a humble shepherd boy, to be king of Israel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the events surrounding David's anointing Define godly <i>humility</i> as an understanding of our limits and a dependence on God Summarize the events surrounding David's fight with Goliath Distinguish selfish pride from confidence in God Explain why God values people and things that the world considers weak 	Scripture Memory Psalm 1:3 Character Trait Humility Hymn How Firm a Foundation
	B David Trusts God to Fight	David showed faith in God by fighting the Philistine champion, Goliath.		
	C What God Values	God values humility, and He works through those who depend on Him.		
25 Learning Submission	A Saul Envies David	Even though Saul mistreated him, David showed respect to the king.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the reasons for Saul's growing envy of David Define <i>submission</i> as serving or following leadership, sometimes at the cost of personal desires Summarize the events surrounding David's escape from Saul's court Recall the promises tied to several biblical commands to submit 	Scripture Memory Review Psalm 1:1–3 Character Trait Obedience Hymn How Firm a Foundation
	B Saul Tries to Murder David	Saul tried to murder David, but David refused to seek revenge.		
	C Submitting to Rulers	God expects believers to submit to rightful authorities.		
26 Patience to Endure	A David Spares Saul	David showed patience and mercy by refusing to kill Saul when he had the chance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the events surrounding David's encounter with Saul in the cave Explain why David chose not to kill Saul Describe David's reaction to the death of Saul Recognize several passages that encourage patience 	Scripture Memory Psalm 1:4–5 Character Trait Patience Hymn How Firm a Foundation
	B The Death of Saul	After Saul was killed, David mourned.		
	C Learning to Be Patient	God can use difficult situations to teach us patience and trust.		

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27 The Need for Forgiveness	A God Blesses King David	God promised to bless David and his descendants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall at least one of God's promises to David Describe the events surrounding Nathan's confrontation with David Explain Jesus' meaning behind the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant Recognize ways to apply Jesus' teaching about love in Luke 6 Describe <i>forgiveness</i> as a willingness to forgo revenge and offer mercy 	Scripture Memory Psalm 1:6 Character Trait Forgiveness Hymn How Firm a Foundation
	B David Sins Against God	When confronted with his sin, David repented and asked God for forgiveness.		
	C Forgiving Because God Forgave	We should forgive others because God has forgiven us.		
28 Making Wise Choices	A Solomon's Path to Wisdom	God gave Solomon wisdom because of the king's humility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the conversation between God and Solomon in 1 Kings 3:3–14 Define <i>wisdom</i> as the appropriate use of knowledge Explain the meaning behind the Parable of the Two Builders Recognize ways that the Book of Proverbs contrasts wisdom and foolishness Distinguish <i>foolishness</i> from ignorance 	Scripture Memory Review Psalm 1:1–6 Character Trait Wisdom Hymn The King of Love My Shepherd Is
	B Jesus' Teaching on Wisdom	God offers wisdom and security to those who fear and obey Him.		
	C The Foolish and the Wise	A wise person seeks God and His truth, but foolish a person rejects discipline and guidance.		
29 Saul the Persecutor	A Rejecting God's Messengers	Stephen condemned the religious leaders in Jerusalem for rejecting Christ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the primary message of Stephen's sermon before the religious leaders Summarize the events surrounding Stephen's martyrdom Describe Saul's role as a persecutor of the early Church Define <i>martyr</i> as someone killed for their religious beliefs Distinguish true persecution from other forms of suffering 	Scripture Memory Titus 3:3 Character Trait Courage Hymn The King of Love My Shepherd Is
	B The First Martyr	After Stephen became the first Christian martyr, Saul began to persecute believers.		
	C Responding to Persecution	When we face persecution, we should rejoice and show love to our accusers.		

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30 Saul's Conversion	A Saul Meets Jesus	Jesus confronted Saul on the road to Damascus, and Saul responded with submission and faith.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe Saul's vision on the road to Damascus Summarize the events surrounding Saul's conversion Explain how Ananias and Barnabas helped Saul 	<p>Scripture Memory Titus 3:4–5</p> <p>Character Trait Fairness</p> <p>Hymn The King of Love My Shepherd Is</p>
	B Ananias Reaches Out to Saul	God chose Saul to share the gospel with the Gentiles.		
	C The Persecutor Is Persecuted	As a new follower of Jesus, Saul faced distrust and persecution.		
31 Paul's Missionary Journeys	A The First Missionary Journey	On their first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas preached the gospel in many cities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall several notable people and events from Paul's first and second missionary journeys Recognize the general regions that Paul visited Explain ways that Paul prioritized the gospel during his ministry 	<p>Scripture Memory Review Titus 3:3–5</p> <p>Character Trait Diligence</p> <p>Hymn The King of Love My Shepherd Is</p>
	B The Second Missionary Journey	On his second missionary journey, Paul took Silas to preach in many more cities.		
	C For the Sake of the Gospel	Paul's mission was to share the gospel with anyone who listened.		
32 Earthquake at Philippi	A Paul Serves in Philippi	In Philippi, Paul and Silas shared the gospel but faced opposition from city leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize several people that Paul and Silas met in Philippi Summarize the events surrounding the missionaries' imprisonment and release Describe examples of God's work through Paul and Silas in Acts 16 	<p>Scripture Memory Titus 3:6–7</p> <p>Character Trait Encouragement</p> <p>Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</p>
	B The Earthquake	God used an earthquake to reach the Philippian prison keeper.		
	C Ready for God's Work	God worked through Paul and Silas because they seized opportunities to share the gospel.		
33 Paul Faces Trouble	A Many Oppose Paul	Despite opposition, God protected Paul and allowed him to continue sharing the gospel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall some of the forms and sources of opposition to Paul and the early believers Explain the primary message of Paul's speech on the Areopagus Recognize ways that Paul rehearsed God's protection and provision 	<p>Scripture Memory Review Titus 3:3–7</p> <p>Character Trait Confidence</p> <p>Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</p>
	B Paul Preaches on Mars Hill	In Athens, Paul taught about the one true God, and some people believed.		
	C Remembering God's Work	Paul practiced the kind of gratitude that can build confidence in us.		

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34 Paul's Final Journeys	A The Third Missionary Journey	On his third missionary journey, Paul revisited many churches and shared the gospel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize several places and people encountered by Paul during his third missionary journey Describe the events surrounding the riot in Ephesus Explain how Paul ended up in Rome to share the gospel 	Scripture Memory Titus 3:8 Character Trait Generosity Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
	B Idol Worship in Ephesus	In Ephesus, Paul faced a mob of idol-worshippers.		
	C The Fourth Missionary journey	Paul spent his fourth journey as a prisoner heading toward Rome.		
35 A Race Well Run	A Paul Trains Timothy	Paul trained Timothy so that Timothy could train others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain Paul's hopes for Timothy Discuss how Paul responded to personal struggles 	Scripture Memory Review Titus 3:3–8 Character Trait N/A Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
	B God's Grace to Paul	Paul could only serve by grace of God.		
	C Finishing the Race	Paul trusted God to bless and reward his ministry.		