

## LESSON 1

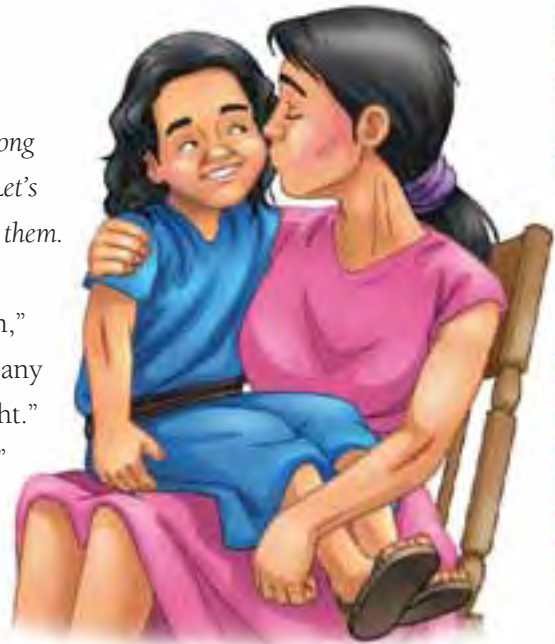
REFERENCES: ACTS 2:42-47; 4:32-35; THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PP. 70-76.

# New Friends

*Do you like to have company come to dinner? A long time ago some people were just learning about Jesus. Let's imagine how one little girl and her family shared with them.*

**D**o a good job now, little Deborah," Mama said with a smile. "Company is coming to supper again tonight."  
Deborah looked up. "Who?" she asked.

"I don't know yet," Mama answered with a twinkle in her eye.



Mama sat and pulled little Deborah onto her lap and kissed her rosy cheek. "I will explain it to you," Mama said.

"The apostles are preaching the good news about Jesus all over our city. They are preaching with great power. Hundreds of people are learning about Jesus every day," Mama began.

Deborah nodded. She knew the apostles were telling everyone about Jesus.

"Well," Mama went on, "many of the new believers are from far away. They came to Jerusalem for the great feast. They heard the

### Memory Verse

"They shared everything they had."

ACTS 4:32, NIV.

### The Message

God's children share what they have.

apostles and learned about Jesus, and now they want to stay for a while and learn even more about Him. Some are running out of money. So we are helping them. We will share God's love with them by sharing our supper."

Deborah slid off Mama's lap. "I'd better hurry and finish sweeping," she said.

Mama mixed a batch of bread. She kneaded the dough and shaped it into loaves. She put the loaves in the oven. The wonderful smell of baking bread soon filled the house.

There was a knock on the door. Mama's friend scurried in. "I have extra lentils," she said, putting a heavy sack on the table. "I thought you might be able to use them," she said with a laugh as she left.

"That's a lot of lentils, Mama," little Deborah said.

"You're right," Mama agreed. She picked up the big sack and weighed it in her hands. "God is providing extra food. This will make lots of soup. God must be bringing lots of people to supper tonight," she said.

"How is my beautiful family?" Papa's booming voice filled the house. He scooped little Deborah up and gave her a gigantic hug. He put an arm around Mama and hugged her, too. "That soup sure smells good!" Papa exclaimed, peering into the big pot.

"We're sharing our supper!" Deborah exclaimed. She twirled across the floor. "We're sharing God's love with the new believers."

"I know," Papa said. "I will get cleaned up, and then we will all go to the apostles. We will find hungry believers and bring them home and feed them."

"And while we eat we will talk about Jesus," Deborah said. "That's my favorite part!"



# Do and Say

## SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story, and use the following to review the memory verse:

**They** . . . . . Point to others.

**shared** . . . . . Hands outstretched toward others.

**everything** . . . . . Arms outstretched.

**they had.**

**Acts 4:32** . . . . . Palms together, then open.

## SUNDAY

Encourage your child to share the food they made in Sabbath School with someone. Or help your child make some simple food and share it with someone. Talk about how people in Jerusalem shared everything they had with those in need.

## MONDAY

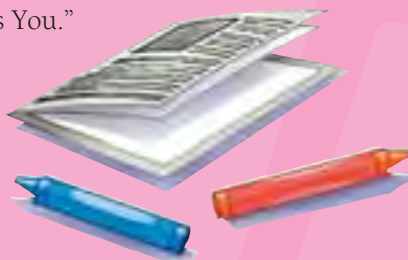
Help your child to make a “good news” book. Cut a rectangle from newspaper, fold it in half, and glue white paper on the inside.

Write “Jesus Loves You.”

Draw a picture to illustrate that.

Share the “good news” book with someone.

At supper, pretend you are sharing your home and food with new believers.



## TUESDAY

Share a special food with your child. Ask: How do you feel when people don't share with you? How do you feel when people do share? Why does Jesus want us to share?

## WEDNESDAY

Invite someone new at your church to Sabbath dinner. Or let your child invite a friend to share food and toys.

Sing a sharing song together before prayer.

## THURSDAY

Read Acts 2:42-47 and 4:32-35 together.

Ask: What would it be like to be far away from home and have no food or place to stay? What can we share

with someone in need?

Share the crayons as you color a picture with your child.

## FRIDAY

Act out the Bible story with your family. Include things you can share: food, blankets, clothing, etc.

Name and count the people with whom your family has shared good things this week. Pray for those people.

