

# SABBATH SCHOOL

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## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 1 • Unit 1 • Week 1

### OVERVIEW - GOD'S HOLY DAYS

#### OBJECTIVE:

To show that God's special feast days teach us His plan for all people.

#### MATERIALS:

White board or poster board

Markers

Cardboard circles

Tape

Pencils

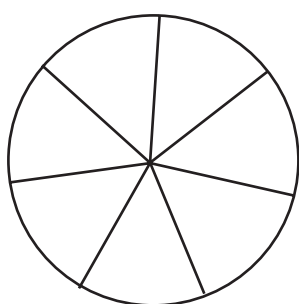
Bean bag or balloon

#### PREPARE BEFORE CLASS TIME:

Cut out two large cardboard circles. Draw seven wedge shapes on each circle (see examples below).

Write the name of a festival/Holy Day on each section of one circle, and then cut apart the wedges.

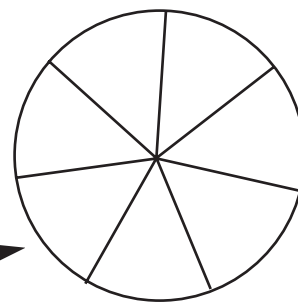
Write the numbers 1 through 7 on the sections of the other cardboard circle and leave intact. Tape the circle with numbered sections in front of the class so all can see.



Label each section with the name of a festival and cut apart.



Number sections 1-7, but don't cut apart.



**ATTENTION GETTER:**

Say: When there is something we would like to do, we must make a plan in order to make it happen. Imagine that we are planning to go on a special picnic. We would need to bring many things.

Ask: How would we plan for our picnic and what items would we need to bring?  
[Ask for suggestions and write them down for all to see.]

Say: It takes a lot planning to have a special picnic. Did you know that God likes to plan too?

**BIBLE LESSON:**

Ask: Why did God make people?

Say: God has a plan. His plan is for all people to be part of His family — to be His children. We can understand God's plan for us by celebrating God's feast days.

Say: God's plan is explained in the Bible. In Leviticus 23, Moses told God's people, the Israelites, about God's plan. It has seven parts.

Do: Pass out the seven wedges with the Holy Days on them to seven children.

Say: Each part of God's plan is pictured by a festival or a Holy Day. We keep each of these festivals holy every year to help us remember the plan God has for us.

Say: First comes the Passover in the springtime. This reminds us that Jesus died for each of us so that all our sins could be forgiven.

Do: Have the child with that wedge on it come forward and attach the wedge to the proper number on the circle (continue to do this for each Holy Day).

Say: Second comes the Days of Unleavened Bread. Sin is like the leavening that makes bread puff up. Leavening spreads quickly just like sin does. God wants us to stop sinning. We picture putting sin out of our lives by putting the leavening out of our homes before the feast begins, and keeping it out for seven days. For a whole week, we don't eat things with leavening in them (like bread, cake and muffins). This helps us remember to make right choices in our lives.

Say: Third is Pentecost. This shows us that Christians who are living God's way are given the Holy Spirit when they are baptized. God's Holy Spirit helps us to obey God's laws.

Say: The first three parts of God's plan are in the springtime. The next four parts are in the fall of the year.

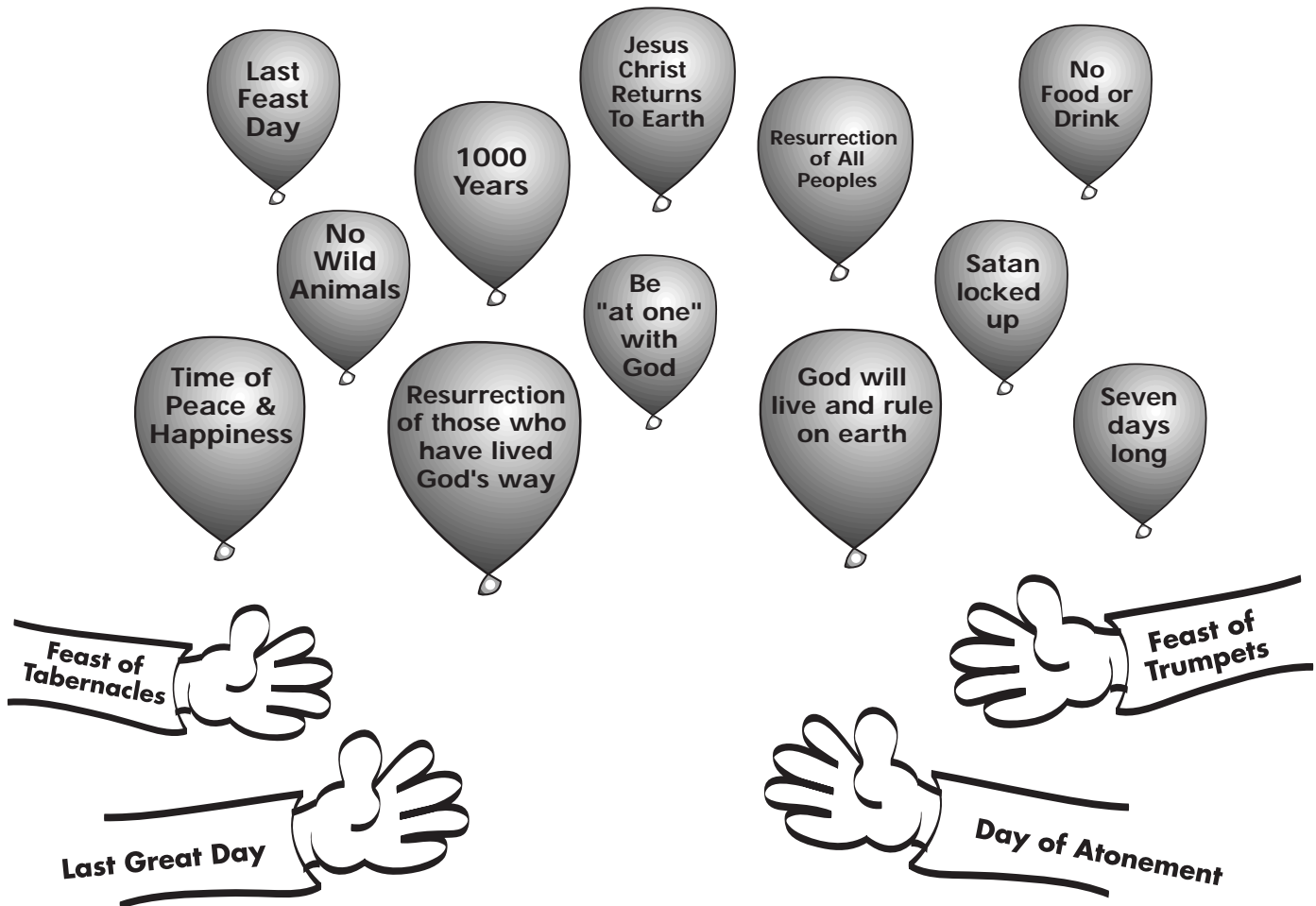
- Say: The fourth piece in the plan of God is the Feast of Trumpets. This day pictures the day when a loud trumpet will sound and Jesus Christ will return to earth. Those who obey God will be resurrected to be with Him forever.
- Say: Fifth is the Day of Atonement. This day reminds us that when Jesus returns, Satan will be locked up and unable to harm people. We celebrate this day differently from the others because we fast. Fasting is when one does not eat or drink for the whole day. This helps us to understand how much we need God in our lives.
- Say: The sixth part of God's plan is the Feast of Tabernacles. The Bible teaches us to observe this feast for seven days. We live in a temporary place like a hotel and learn more about living God's way by attending services each day. The Feast helps us understand how wonderful a place the world will be after Christ's return. It will be a time of peace and happiness for 1000 years. All people on the earth will learn about God and His laws, and animals will no longer be wild.
- Say: The final piece of God's plan is called the Last Great Day. We celebrate this day on the day after the Feast of Tabernacles. This Holy Day pictures a time when all people who lived and died without really knowing God will be resurrected to life. They will be taught God's way and the right way to worship Him. People will be able to choose to live His way. After this the Holy City, New Jerusalem, will come down from heaven and God will live and rule over everything.
- Say: God has given us seven special festivals to celebrate each year. Each one is a piece of God's plan for mankind. When we observe these days it helps us to remember God's great plan. God's plan is complete just like our circle.

### **LESSON APPLICATION:**

Give each child a copy of the "Matching Game" activity sheet. The object is to match the feast day with the description. The teacher can read the description on the balloon and the children can draw the balloon string to the proper Holy Day arm.

## MATCHING GAME

Match the Holy Days with the description by drawing a string from the hand to the correct balloons.



**Music:**

Sing to the tune of "This is the Way We Wash Our Clothes."

This is the way we remember God's plan,  
Remember God's plan,  
Remember God's plan.  
This is the way we remember God's plan,  
By keeping the Holy Days.

This is the time we keep the feasts,  
Keep the feasts,  
Keep the feasts.  
This is the time we keep the feasts,  
From sunset to sunset.

This is the way we praise our God,  
Praise our God,  
Praise our God.  
This is the way we praise our God,  
By joining in the singing.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Leviticus 23:2b "The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts."

Do: Rehearse the memory verse a few times with the children repeating it. Form a circle. Take a small beanbag or balloon and toss it to one of the children. Have them try to say the verse or as much of the verse as they can and then toss the bag to someone else. Give everyone a turn.

# *family activity*

## **THE POINT:**

God's special feast days teach us His plan for all people.

## **ASK ME...**

To name the feast days.

Who made the Holy Days?

What do God's Holy Days picture?

In what times of the year are the Holy Days?

Which Holy Day is celebrated differently from the others?

## **FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

How do we have enough money to go to the Feast of Tabernacles? Explain tithing to your children. Count out ten pennies and show what a tenth would be. Explain that by saving a tithe all year long we are able to go to the Feast.

Play a game of "When Jesus returns...." Have your child imagine how the world will be. (Example: When Jesus returns, I will be able to pet a lion.)

Think of a family tradition that will make a feast day even more meaningful. (Example: A special candlelight dinner as the sun is setting and the Holy Day begins.)

Think of ways to make the Holy Days more special for others. (Example: Invite someone who is alone to have lunch with you.)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse, glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

-----cut along dotted line-----

(Teacher's note: Please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)