## My Sunday School Lesson Plan - Older Grades Book of PHILIPPIANS

DATE: December 29 2019

<b>Preparation:</b> (What I need to do and items to gather before I begin to teach.)	Bibles to use in class
Lesson Title: Scripture Reference(s):	The New Testament Book of Philippians Continue your NEW Testament Wall display by hanging the "Philippians" wall card. Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"
Emphasis or Theme:	How to REJOICE, no matter what!
Introducing the Story: (What you might say or do before the story to help create an interest or curiosity.)	(Hang your "Philippians" wall card on your New Testament wall display.)  SAY: The Book of Philippians was written by apostle Paul - the same apostle who wrote the Book of Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians.
LESSON: Telling the Story Through the Bible: (Outline the story here. Then describe the method you will use to tell the story. Examples might include showing pictures, props, visuals, drawing as you tell, using puppets, costumed characters, dramatic storytelling or any number of other methods.)	SAY: Philippi was a city in Greece, and the people who live in Philippi are called, you guessed it Philippians! Philippians is the next book in the New Testament. The book of Philippians was written by apostle Paul. Paul wrote this letter as he sat in prison. But Paul's little letter to the church in Philippi is packed with power!  SAY: Life was hard in the city of Philippi:  The Christians were being persecuted for their faith.  Paul, their first teacher, was in prison far away. Can you Imagine Paul writing this letter as he sat in prison?!  One of their key church members had fallen deathly ill. The Christians in Philippi had worked for the sake of the gospel ever since Paul first shared it with them—and they were finding that the work was really hard.  SAY: But even with all of these difficult things happening, right in the middle of it all, Paul tells the people to REJOICE.  ASK: Why do you think Paul is telling them to REJOICE? What could possibly give them reason to REJOICE? (Pause for responses.)  SAY: Paul tells them to REJOICE because God is at work.  SAY: The book of Philippians is one of Paul's most encouraging letters. No other book of the Bible focuses on JOY like Philippians. Paul commends the Philippians for their earnest work in spreading the Word of God. He tells them how much he longs to see them. He warns them about potential pitfalls. He coaches them on dealing with hard times by providing examples from his own life, other Christians, and the Lord Jesus Christ.  Paul shares with the Philippians that no matter what, the Good News of Jesus will advance. God will complete His work in their lives. God's children will have all their true needs supplied. And that's reason to REJOICE!

Learning Activities: (Games, crafts artwork, songs, memory verses, or other activities that bring fuller meaning to the scripture or make application to the lives of the students.)	READ TOGETHER AS A CLASS: Rejoice! Christ is our life (Php 1) Rejoice! Christ is our example (Php 2) Rejoice! Christ is our glory (Php 3) Rejoice! Christ is our strength (Php 4)  1. Bible Scripture Relay 2. New Year's Pinata
Review: (Solidify learning by repeating facts, themes, or even the story itself through games, crafts, activities, or visual aides.)	<ol> <li>The Book of Philippians was written by which apostle? PAUL</li> <li>What does Paul tell the people to do? Rejoice</li> <li>Why should the people REJOICE during such a difficult time? Because God is at work; they have God in their lives.</li> </ol>
Closing: (Prayer, last song,)	Repeat and recite together: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" Recite: Hayr Mer