









## FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
4	3	5	Christian Living	Caring	7: Caring for Animals

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes (Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L	Spatial S	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [ copy this:  ] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, you have called me to love you with all that I am, heart, soul, mind, and strength. Today I'm reminded especially of the opportunity I have to love you. All praise be to you, O God. Amen.

**Starter:** Heavenly Father, you have called me to love you with all that I am, heart, soul, mind, and strength. Today I'm reminded especially of the opportunity I have to love you. All praise be to you, O God. Amen.

**Learning objectives:** To learn that God made everything and learn that God entrusted humans with caring for all of His creatures. To learn to think about animals and pets from a God-centred perspective.

### Core Activities and Learning

1. The teacher reviews the Creation story and focuses on God's creation of animals and His wish for humans to care for them. It will help children to think about animals from a God-centred perspective.

Through the exploration of the Creation Bible story, children will review the idea that God made everything and learn that God entrusted humans with caring for all of His creatures, plus explore practical ways to respond to His command.

The teacher will explain to children that Jesus came to take away our sins and re-create this fallen world. One day, in his perfect Kingdom, even the animals will sing praises to Christ. We need his grace and help to be better caretakers of this world and better see Christ's glory in His creatures.

The teacher will initiate a discussion and engage children asking the following questions: Did Jesus like animals? They were with him in the wilderness. (Mark 1:13); He rode a young donkey into Jerusalem. (Mark 11:7, John 12:15); Will there be animals in Heaven? Horses and chariots of fire took Elijah away. (2 Kings 2:11)

The teacher will help each child understand the importance of being kind to animals. Adam gave each of the animals a name. Remind the children that our Heavenly Father planned and Jesus created all the animals, fish, birds, and insects on the earth. Show the Bible and explain that the scriptures tell us that Adam named all the animals (see Genesis 2:19–20).

2. The teacher will show pictures of Noah and the Ark with Animals, and review the story of Noah and the Ark, as found in (Genesis 6–8). Emphasize that at least two of every kind of animal were saved. Our Heavenly Father and Jesus love animals and want them to be on the earth.

Why did Noah put animals on the ark? / What animals are you thankful that Noah put on the ark? / How do you think our Father in Heaven and Jesus want us to treat animals?

As God's children, the blessing of caring for all of His creatures bestows on us the obligation to be good and faithful stewards of that which has been given to us in love. We express a commitment to care for the life entrusted to us (be it dog, cat, hamster, rabbit, bird, fish, or any other pet).

Invite the children to talk about their pets and how they take care of them: feed them good food every day; have fresh water available for them to drink; provide a safe, comfortable place for them to sleep; give them love and attention.

Remind the children that pets and animals are part of God's creation, for which we have a moral and spiritual responsibility. Our Heavenly Father and Jesus want us to be kind to animals. Share your feelings about a pet or about animals.

Finish with a short discussion brainstorming some reasons why it might be important to take care of God's creation (God asked us to; it will make creation last longer; if we care for living things, they can help us).

3. The teacher will pretend to be an animal that is familiar to the children. Have the children guess which animal you are. Let each child have a turn pretending to be an animal while the other children guess which animal he or she is.

**Resources:** Bible for Young children, pictures or flashcards illustrating the Creation story, illustrations that picture Noah's ark Bible story

**Review:** In the next session ask one of the children to recall what we have learnt this Sunday.

**Follow Up:** In the next session we will learn more about caring for plants.