

LESSON

2

# “DUCK’S WRONG TURN”



Children’s Ministry  
Lessons for ages 5 to 10

Written by Lisa Updike

(Based on the award-winning book *Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables*)

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## Lesson 2

# “Duck’s Wrong Turn”

### Unit Bible Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 10:5

***We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ . . .***

#### Today:

- Define “opinion” and explain “lofty opinion”
- Memorize “and every lofty opinion”
- Moral: “If there is only one way, it’s foolish to say another way is okay.”
- First Catechism questions 1-4 and 14
- Bible Lesson: Exodus 12 (the Passover) and John 3 and 14

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#### Preparation:

- Make a copy of the “At-a-Glance” page if you are using it or have other teachers helping you.
- Make copies of the skit and decide who will perform it.
- Decide if you will use the video of the fable or will read it yourself from the book, *Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables* (Make sure you have a copy of the book!)
- Decide on a craft option and gather the materials needed.
- Decide on snack option and gather what is needed.
- Make a copy of the Taking It Home page for each child.

#### Hello! (Gathering time, 10 minutes)

Teachers or small group leaders welcome children, provide them with their nametags, and introduce them to one another.

#### “Getting Closer Questions” and maze

As children arrive, hand them a maze and let them try to solve it. Remind them that there is only one solution. They may color the pictures on the maze when they finish. As the children work, use these questions and statements to guide the discussion:



- Have you ever been lost? Tell us about it.
- What did you do to find your way?
- The easiest way is not always the best way. Tell me about a time when doing the hard thing was best.
- Have you ever ignored good advice from someone who knew more than you? What happened?

### Getting Started (10-15 minutes):

- Use CDs, DVDs, or a song leader to sing 2-3 songs of your choice with motions. Then seat children for the lesson and discussion.
- Review the Unit's Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 10:5

***We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ . . .***

**Teacher:** Last week we talked about the word: “argument.” It does not always mean to quarrel or have a disagreement; it can also mean the set of reasons or ideas used to persuade someone that something is true.

We memorized just the first three words of our Bible verse for this unit, “We destroy arguments . . .” Can you say that back to me? (*Listen.*) Perfect!

The next part is, “and every lofty opinion . . .” You know what an opinion is, right? It’s somebody’s idea that may or may not be correct, or may not even have a right or wrong, just a preference. And “lofty” means “high, above our understanding.” For example, let’s see how these two are sharing their opinions.

### Mini-Skit (3-4 minutes):

(This can be done by two classroom teachers or aides or demonstrated with paintbrushes by the teacher. The painters can be dressed in overalls and carry cans of paint or as artists with palettes. Both need paintbrushes.)

**Painter 1:** The color of the year is blue, blue, blue, the tranquil, lovely, peaceful color blue. It’s such an important color that God made the entire sky blue.

**Painter 2:** Ahhhhh, yellow, the top designers’ favorite color of the year. It’s the color of happiness, of bright sunlight, of warmth and good feelings. That’s why God made the sun to shine down golden rays of yellow upon us.

***Painters 1 and 2 continue talking about their favorite colors, completely enraptured by their favorite color. They say their lines not exactly back and forth, but with pauses so that each can be heard to some degree. Simultaneously, each starts to paint the imaginary wall with paintbrush at opposite ends of the “stage” while they muse on their colors.***



**Painter 1:** Cobalt, indigo, sapphire, azure, lapis . . . all beautiful blue. This wall will look so beautiful painted blue, will attract so much attention and praise for the incredible inspiring richness of tone that will be set off by the serene blueness of the sky. And on cloudy or rain days, it will bring a touch of the clear cerulean sky of fair weather. *(Continues to name more shades of blue—cornflower, periwinkle, Aegean. . .)*

**Person 2:** Lemon, canary, sunflower, banana, butterfly . . . even the names of the shades bring happiness. This wall will be an uplifting and joyous sight to all who pass by it, bringing a ray of sunshine and laughter even on the most dismal of days. It will be like the glow of heaven itself when the brightness of the sun strikes it on a summer's day. *(Continues to name more shades of yellow—honey, school bus, mellow yellow, mustard. . .)*

**The two “paint” until they meet in the middle and paint over each other’s work.**

**Painter 2** *(almost in tears)*: Hey, you got b-b-b-blue paint on my bright sunny yellow wall!

**Painter 1:** Well, you have polluted my beautiful blue wall with your yellow paint! See what you’ve done!

**Both take a step back to inspect the “damage.” Both start to study the wall, oohing and aahing, contemplating the result.**

**Together:** Green! Gorgeous, verdant as God’s green earth, like the shamrocks of the Emerald Isle . . . mint and tea and lime green—delicious, delectable . . . *(looking at it each other)* Let’s do it! *(They trade places and start to “paint” the part of the wall that the other had painted, all the while rambling on about the wonderful shades of green—forest, parakeet, jungle, clover, spring. . .)*

**Teacher:** Hmm. That makes me want to go paint something. Boys and girls, our friends each had a pretty lofty opinion of their favorite color. But their opinions changed. And that’s fine! Opinions DO CHANGE! The problem is that people can get confused and think their opinion is an undeniable, unchangeable truth. Sometimes people have the “opinion” that there is no God or that they are the boss of themselves and don’t need to listen to anyone else. They may even have the opinion that there are many ways to get to heaven.

But wrong opinions can sneak into our own minds, too. That’s why the Bible says, “We destroy arguments and lofty opinions!” We don’t want our own opinions to rule over us! We want minds that are filled with truth!

Say this after me:

We destroy arguments . . . *(repeat)* and every lofty opinion . . . *(repeat)*

Let’s put it all together: *We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion.*

Great! Yes!



## 2 Corinthians 10:5

***We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ . . .***

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### **Introduction to Fable Lesson** (1-2 minutes):

**Teacher:** Last week we started our new unit. Who can tell me what a fable is? *(Listen for answers.)* Right. A fable is a story that typically uses animals as characters and helps us to understand a lesson or a moral.

Who remembers what the letters learned last week? *(Listen for answers.)* Yes, they learned that they were not made for their own glory! The moral for “Frog’s Rainy-Day Story” goes like this: “We’re made for a much larger story, which we miss when we seek our own glory.”

So, let’s see how you do with the Catechism questions:

- Q1.** Who made you? (God)
- Q2.** What else did God make? (God made all things.)
- Q3.** Why did God make you and all things? (For His own glory)
- Q4.** How can you glorify God? (By loving Him and doing what He commands)

Now, I’ve got one more for you to learn.

**Question 14.** Where do you learn how to love and obey God? Answer: In the Bible alone

God Himself tells us in the Bible how to worship Him, how to serve Him, and how to follow Him. We do not make it up on our own or look to other sources. We learn to love and obey God “In the Bible alone.”

*(Review as needed.)*

Great job!

Today we are going to hear another fable. Raise your hand if you have ever been lost. Me, too! It can be scary! I remember being a kid and sometimes getting lost because I did not keep an eye on my mom at the store. She would be doing her shopping, and I would get distracted and look at other things. The next thing I knew, she was gone! Other times I’ve gotten lost because I did not correctly follow the directions given to me. Let me tell you! One wrong turn in the country can take you far, far from where you need to be!

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### **Fable Story** (4 minutes):

(You may use the video or read “Duck’s Wrong Turn” from the book, *Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables*.)

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## Fable Follow-Up (5-6 minutes):

**Teacher:** The culture says, **“One can reach God if one follows any of the paths with wholehearted devotion.”** (Ramakrishna, Indian spiritual leader)

But we know that the culture isn’t always wise. Let’s hear what God’s Word says:

**“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding, Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.”** – Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

**“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.’”** – John 14:6 (NLT)

*(Use the following questions, giving students the opportunity to answer and discuss the story for 3-4 minutes.)*

1. Why did Beaver paint the sign with directions to the pond? *(Listen for answers.)* Sure! He was being helpful.
2. Why did Duck not want to follow Beaver’s directions? *(Listen for answers.)* He didn’t want to have to walk uphill, because it was too hard.
3. Why do you think Duck changed the sign? Did that move the pond? *(Listen.)* He thought that would make his way right.
4. What is wrong with Duck’s reasoning? *(Listen.)* Exactly, the easy road will not get him to where he wants to go! That means in the long run, it will actually be harder!
5. What do you think will happen to Duck? *(Listen.)* You’re right! He never will get to the pond. In fact, the fox may even catch him!

Think about this: Beaver made a sign showing the ONE way to the pond. He didn’t choose the uphill path to make it harder; it was just the only way to the pond. Your parents and Sunday School teachers, the pastors and elders also may tell a way that seems hard—not to make you do the hard things, but because there is only One Way that brings life, and that Way may seem hard.

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## Bible Lesson from Exodus 12 and John 3 and 14 (6-8 minutes):

**Teacher:** God heard the cries of His people from Egypt where they were enslaved. So, He called Moses to lead the people out of Egypt. Of course, it wasn’t that easy. Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, did not want to let his source of free labor go. God sent numerous plagues to punish Pharaoh. Still, Pharaoh would not let the people go. Finally, God would send the most serious plague of all: the firstborn son of every household would die, even of the Israelites! But God would provide a means of escape.

The only way for a household to escape the terrible wrath of God was for a family to take a lamb without blemish (in other words, a perfect little lamb), a boy lamb, one-year-old. For two weeks, each





family kept their little lamb, and then after the two weeks passed, as the sun began to go down, they killed their lamb. They took some of its blood and put it on the door frames of the house in which they lived. God told them, “I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.”

When the terrible night came, all who were sheltered inside the houses with the door frames painted with the blood of the lambs were safe. But those who were not in those houses, lost their firstborn sons.

There was only ONE WAY for the firstborn to be saved. It was through the blood of the Passover lamb.

Now, this was a foreshadowing, or a picture of what was to come in the future when Jesus would die on the cross.

Remember, all the Old Testament is telling us, “A Savior is coming!” That is exactly what was happening on that first Passover night!

So, when we zoom all the way to the New Testament, we find out that a Savior, the perfect Lamb of God, has come!

We read in John 3 about a time one of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with Him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

This was very confusing to Nicodemus. “How can a man be born again when he is old? Can he crawl back into his mother to be born?”

We know the answer to that. Of course not! Jesus realized that Nicodemus did not understand what He meant.

So, Jesus explained that you must first be born as a baby, then, when God gives you the grace to have faith to believe in salvation through His Son Jesus, you are born again as one of God’s own children! That is the **only way**. You **must** be born again!

Jesus explained further: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

Sometime later Jesus was talking to His disciples. We read about this in John 14.

He was preparing them for His death on the cross.

He told them, “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father’s house



are many rooms. . . . And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

One of his friends, Thomas, was worried when he heard that Jesus was going somewhere ahead of them. He said to Jesus, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus replied, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

That’s very clear, isn’t it. God has provided a way, **one way**, and that way is Jesus. Jesus is the **ONLY** Way to God the Father, the **ONLY** Way to heaven.

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**Lesson Discussion** (5-10 minutes. This may be done at tables while students busy their hands with the craft, in small groups, or still part of large group.):

1. **There was only one way for the firstborn son of each Israelite family in Egypt to be saved. What was it?** (*The blood of the lamb was a sign for the angel of death to “passover” that house.*)
  2. **How can we escape the wrath of God poured out on sin?** (*The blood of the ultimate Passover Lamb, Jesus, was poured out for us. We must apply it to the “doorpost” of our hearts.*)
  3. **What does it mean to be born again?** (*It means you are also born of the Spirit of God because you believe in Jesus as your Lord and Savior.*)
  4. **What are some ways that people try to get to God?** (*Good works, other religions, going to church*)
  5. **How many ways are there to have a relationship with God?** (*Only one: Jesus*)
- 

## Craft Options

### Option 1: “Journey on the One Way” Backpack

#### Materials:

- One 8”X10” muslin drawstring backpack for each child (can be found online for less than \$1 each)
- A variety of permanent markers and/or fabric markers
- Copies of Bible verses for children to use on their backpacks:
  - “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” – John 14:16
  - “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.” – Proverbs 3:5-6
  - “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go . . .” – Psalm 32:8a

#### Before Class:

- Cut a sheet of construction paper or light cardboard to put inside each bag, so the markers will not bleed through when students write on the backpacks.





### **During Class:**

- Distribute backpacks, protective paper or cardboard, paint markers, and Bible verses.
  - Explain that the backpacks remind us that as Christians we are on a journey through life with the goal of one day reaching heaven. Jesus has told us that He is the way to salvation, and in His word, the Bible, He has provided us all we need for our journey.
  - Have the children slide their protective paper or cardboard into their bags, explaining that it will help keep the paint from bleeding through to the other side.
  - Tell them they may decorate the bags in any manner they would like and encourage them to use a favorite Bible verse or one of the verses you have printed for them.
  - After they finish, they may choose one of the Bible verses and slide it in their bag!
- 

### **Option 2: Compass Necklace**

#### **Materials:**

- One compass charm per child, 1" to 2" diameter as desired
- 32"-36" strong yarn, ribbon, or cord for each child
- 8-12 pony beads per child

#### **Before Class:**

- Purchase compass charms. (These can be found from 20-80¢ each.)
- Cut cord into appropriate length (long enough to tie and slip over the child's head).
- Count out beads and put in containers for each group of children along with one compass charm per child.
- Alternatively, place everything needed for one complete craft in individual plastic baggies for easy distribution.



#### **During Class:**

- Show sample compass necklace to children. Explain that a compass always points north and so can help people know where they are and which way they are to go. Likewise, the Bible always points us to Jesus, telling us the way to live to please the Lord.
  - Instruct each child to take one cord, one compass, and the number of beads you have prepared for them (8-12) or give each child the bag of supplies you have prepared for each of them.
  - Tell children to divide their beads in half and string them onto the cord, and then add the compass, and then add the remaining beads.
  - Have teachers assist the children in tying knots to make the appropriate length necklace.
- 



### **Snack** (optional):

This may be passed out as kids arrive, eaten during welcome, or eaten during discussion and activity time at the end.

- Graham cracker “One Way” signs – Take one large graham cracker per child and use icing to “pipe” an arrow on it to look like a “one way” sign.
- Cookie “compass” – Using one large, round cookie per child, use icing to “pipe” the letters N at the top, E at the right, S at the bottom, and W at the left to resemble a compass. If you cannot find large round cookies, you may use four small round cookies and put one compass letter on each. Then have children arrange them on their napkin to show the cardinal directions.

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### **Dismissal** (5 minutes):

- Stretch Activities
- Prayer
- Take Home: Coloring sheets and/or study guide



# "Duck's Wrong Turn"



## Hello!

- ☐ Welcome Students
- ☐ Check Name Tags
- ☐ Take Attendance
- ☐ "Getting Closer"

## Know! What's going on today?

- As students arrive, do the things in the "Hello!" box.
- Lead by example! Encourage student participation in singing songs and memory work time.
- Lesson time! Help students pay attention and engage in the lesson.
- "Grow!" Discussion and application of the lesson.
- Activity time! Set up the activity supplies. Help students complete the activity so they can "Show!" others what they learned.
- "Go!" Follow the instructions below to make sure we send the students off well.

## Show! Activities that show what you know!

- Use today's craft activity to review the lesson with the children.
- Have them tell you how they will use this craft to explain the lesson to their parents and friends!

# Faithful Fables

## At-A-Glance

(LESSON 2)

## Getting Closer

### (Discussion Starters)

- Have you ever been lost? Tell us about it.
- The easiest way is not always the best. Tell about a time when doing the hard things was the best.
- Have you ever ignored good advice from someone who knew more than you? What happened?

## Grow! Activities that show what you know!

- There was only one way for the firstborn son of each family to be saved. What was it?
- How can we escape the wrath of God poured out on sin?
- What does it mean to be born again?
- What are some ways that people try to get to God?
- How many ways are there to have a relationship with God?
- How can this compass craft remind you of today's lesson?



## GO!

Before dismissing children to parents, make sure they put away all materials, clean up their area and gather all their belongings including their "Taking It Home" papers.



## "Duck's Wrong Turn"



## Questions! For the Car

- Did anyone new come to class?
- Tell the story of "Duck's Wrong Turn."
- Pretend you are the teacher and teach your family today's lesson.
- What is something that really stood out to you?

## Questions! For Later

- What did a Passover lamb and Jesus have in common?
- What must you do to be saved?
- Why do you think people like to make up other ways to be saved?

# TAKING IT HOME (LESSON 2)

## Lesson from Today's Fable

**If there's only one way, it's foolish to say another way is okay.**

## What the CULTURE Says

**What's wrong with this thought?**

***One can reach God if one follows any of the paths with whole-hearted devotion.***

— RAMAKRISHNA, INDIAN SPIRITUAL LEADER

## What GOD'S WORD Says

**How are these thoughts different from what the culture says?**

***Trust in the Lord with all of your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.*** — PROVERBS 3:5-6 (NLT)

***Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me."*** — JOHN 14:6 (NLT)

## Bible Lesson TODAY

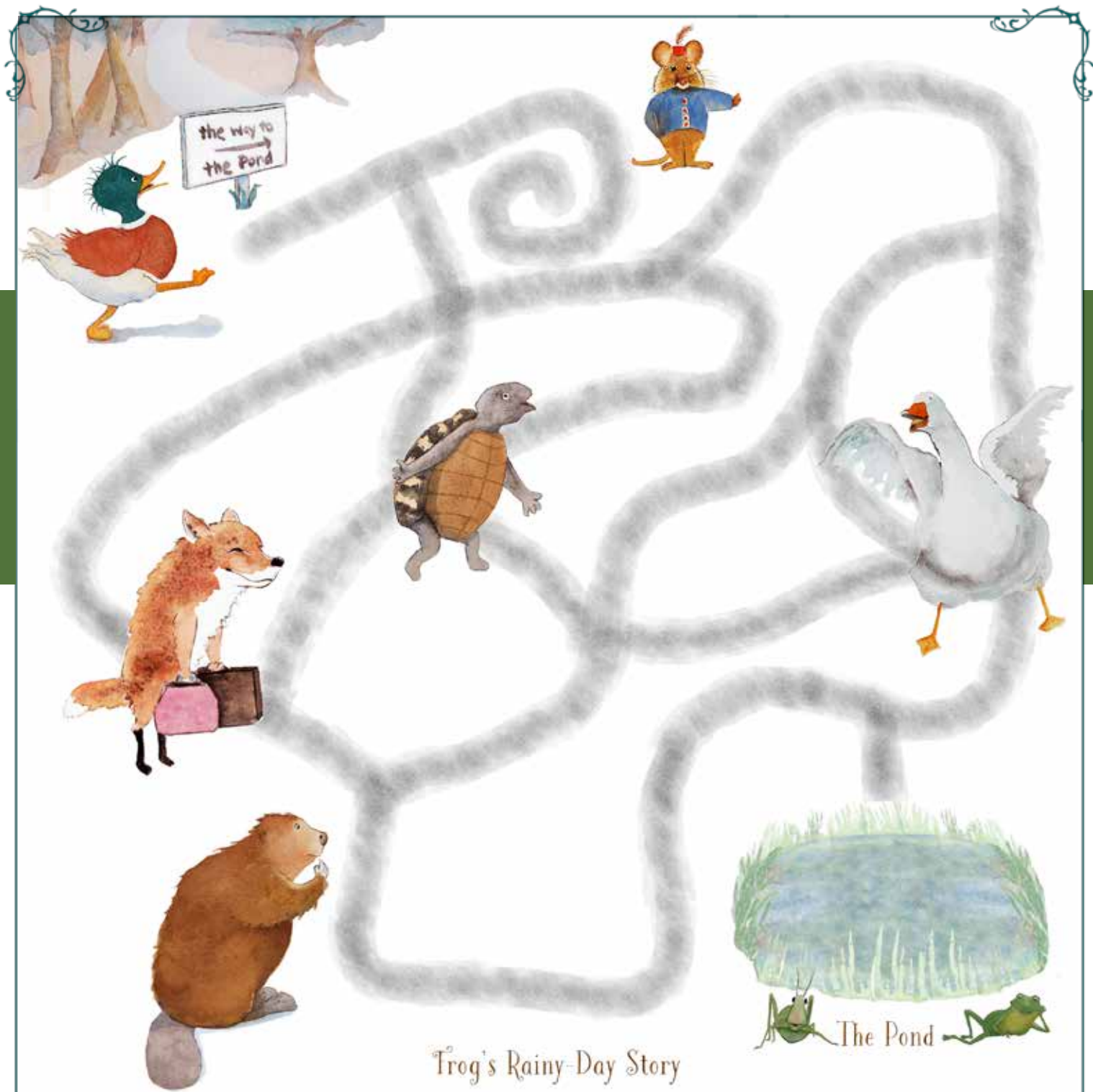
**Exodus 12, John 3 & John 14:** The angel of death passed through Egypt, taking the firstborn son of each family, except for those who had painted their doorframes with the blood of the Passover lamb. The blood of the lamb was the ONLY means of salvation. Likewise, Jesus explained that He was the only way to escape judgment. He came that all who believed in Him would not perish. Jesus is the ONLY means of salvation today.

## Bible Memory

***We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ . . .***

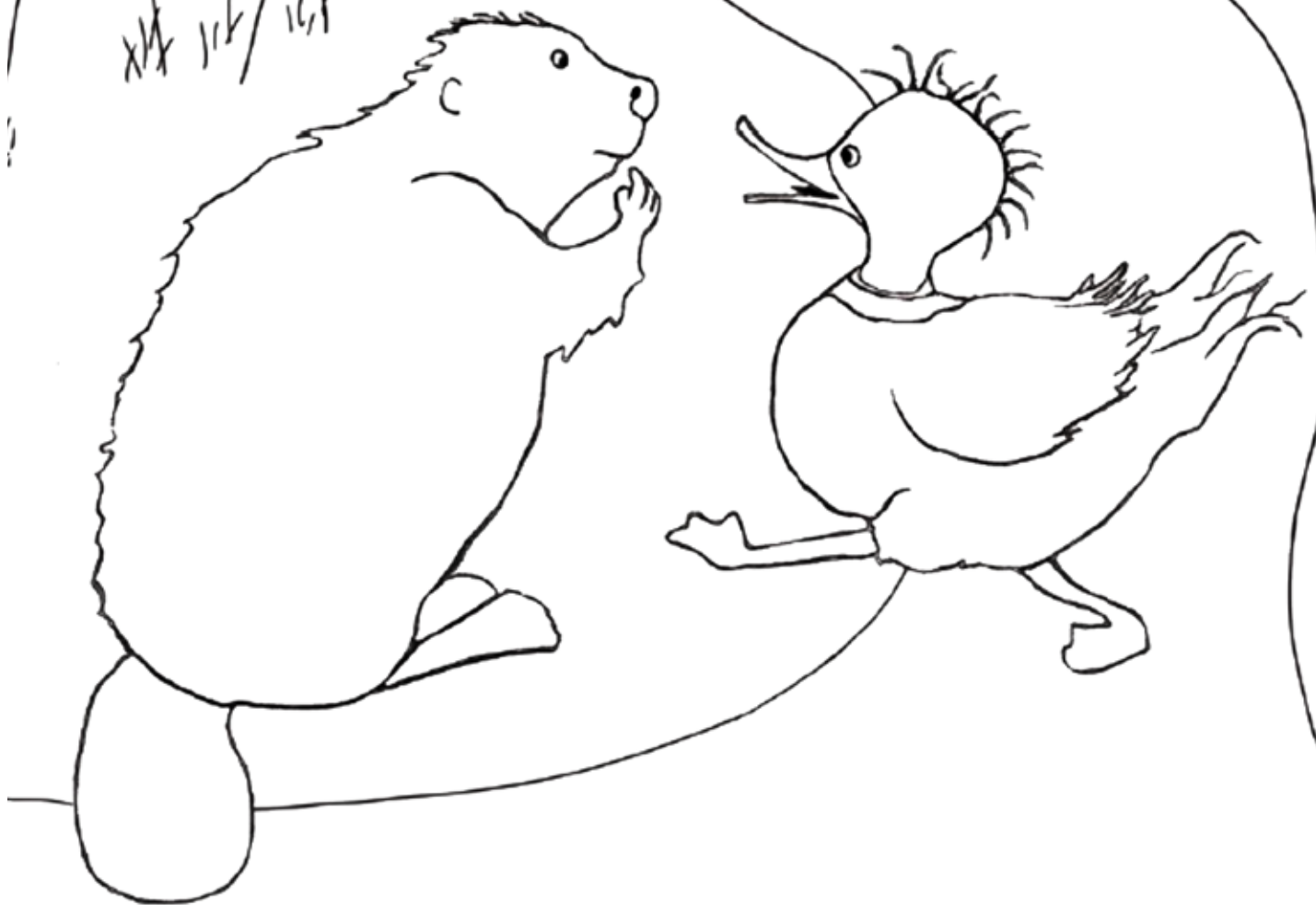
— 2 Corinthians 10:5







# DUCK & BEAVER



Trust in the Lord with all your heart... and He will show you which path to take.  
Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)



# WEEK 2 BIBLE MEMORY

**We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion** raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ ...

2 Corinthians 10:5

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# SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

## **Lofty Opinion:**

Belief, maybe without proof, that is  
valued more than wisdom from God.

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# Lesson 2

## Materials List

### Every Lesson

- Curriculum Guide
- Bible
- *Frog's Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables* book or audio visual file
- Choice of music
- Prepared Bible Memory Cards for current week's lesson (1 per student)
- At-a-Glance (for each small group leader if using in a large group context)
- Taking It Home Papers for current week's lesson (1 per student)
- Coloring sheets for each week as desired

### Lesson 2

- **Skit Props:** Two large paint brushes and paint buckets, or paint pallets
- **Craft Option 1, Backpacks:**
  - Plain cloth drawstring backpack—1 per child
  - Paint pens, fabric markers, or permanent markers—several colors for children to share
  - Optional: Fabric glue, cloth scraps, scissors, gems
- **Craft Option 2, Compass necklaces:**
  - Compass charm—1 per child
  - Pony beads—several per child
  - Cord or yarn—approximately 24" per child
- **Snack Option 1:**
  - Graham Crackers—1 large per child
  - Icing for piping on design
- **Snack Option 2:**
  - Smooth round cookie such as a sugar cookie or sandie—1 per child
  - Icing for piping on design



# Lesson 2

## Mini Skit

(This can be done by two classroom teachers or aides or demonstrated with paintbrushes by the teacher. The painters can be dressed in overalls and carry cans of paint or as artists with palettes. Both need paintbrushes.)

**Painter 1:** The color of the year is blue, blue, blue, the tranquil, lovely, peaceful color blue. It's such an important color that God made the entire sky blue.

**Painter 2:** Ahhhhh, yellow, the top designers' favorite color of the year. It's the color of happiness, of bright sunlight, of warmth and good feelings. That's why God made the sun to shine down golden rays of yellow upon us.

***Painters 1 and 2** continue talking about their favorite colors, completely enraptured by their favorite color. They say their lines not exactly back and forth, but with pauses so that each can be heard to some degree. Simultaneously, each starts to paint the imaginary wall with paintbrush at opposite ends of the "stage" while they muse on their colors.*

**Painter 1:** Cobalt, indigo, sapphire, azure, lapis . . . all beautiful blue. This wall will look so beautiful painted blue, will attract so much attention and praise for the incredible inspiring richness of tone that will be set off by the serene blueness of the sky. And on cloudy or rainy days, it will bring a touch of the clear cerulean sky of fair weather. *(Continues to name more shades of blue—cornflower, periwinkle, Aegean. . .)*

**Person 2:** Lemon, canary, sunflower, banana, butterfly . . . even the names of the shades bring happiness. This wall will be an uplifting and joyous sight to all who pass by it, bringing a ray of sunshine and laughter even on the most dismal of days. It will be like the glow of heaven itself when the brightness of the sun strikes it on a summer's day. *(Continues to name more shades of yellow—honey, school bus, mellow yellow, mustard . . .)*

*The two "paint" until they meet in the middle and paint over each other's work.*

**Painter 2 (almost in tears):** Hey, you got b-b-b-blue paint on my bright sunny yellow wall!

**Painter 1:** Well, you have polluted my beautiful blue wall with your yellow paint! See what you've done!

*Both take a step back to inspect the "damage." Both start to study the wall, oohing and aahing, contemplating the result.*

**Together:** Green! Gorgeous, verdant as God's green earth, like the shamrocks of the Emerald Isle. . . mint and tea and lime green—delicious, delectable . . . *(looking at it each other)* Let's do it! *(They trade places and start to "paint" the part of the wall that the other had painted, all the while rambling on about the wonderful shades of green—forest, parakeet, jungle, clover, spring . . .)*

