



## INTRODUCTION

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Enclosed you will find complete teaching materials for the book of REVELATION in the Bible. The Children Of the Word program was designed to correlate with the Wisdom of the Word program. Our staff felt it was extremely important to teach the three, four, and five year olds God's Word, instead of just providing babysitting.

Each Tuesday morning as the children arrive, they recite their memory verse given to them the week before. At this time the teacher puts the new memory verse in their C.O.W. notebook. The first 30 minutes, while children are arriving and reciting their memory verses, is a free play time for the children. We provide games, toys, puzzles, etc. during this time. The next activity for the children is music. We gather them all onto a large area rug. After music we have our story time. We have provided a complete story for each lesson in this manual.

At the end of the story, the children go to small groups, and we give them opportunity to share prayer requests. These requests vary from praying for a sick grandpa to an injured puppy, etc. Due to the number of children we have in our program, we divide them into four groups. Each child is required to wear a C.O.W. T-shirt and we "color" group the children by painting their names on the backs of their shirts.

We are now ready for our Reinforcement Activity or our Drama time. The reinforcement activity is provided for you at the end of each story. You may use your own creativity to role play with the children, or act out and dramatize the story. The more the leader can dress up and dramatize, or the more we can involve the children, the more they will remember the story.

After this we take the children to tables and finish the morning with crafts. We have included a craft with each story in this manual. As the children finish their crafts, we place the crafts with each child's notebook and bag. We have a snack time during crafts (which the mothers provide).

It is our belief that many children are visual learners, so we have tried to develop the C.O.W. program to reach each type of child by teaching the lesson in three different ways.

Once again, due to the size of our program and the number of children involved, we incorporate many paid nursery workers and a multitude of volunteer people. Realizing that in smaller churches you may not have the options and resources available to you that we do, we have attempted to provide as complete a program as possible to you. Provided within these pages is a complete story, printed memory verse, reinforcement activity, crafts, music, enrollment form, schedule, order form, and certificate of completion to present the children at the end of the study.

We encourage you to use these materials and to adapt them to your needs as a group.

# REVELATION

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## LESSON 1

**SCRIPTURE:** Revelation 1

**MEMORY VERSE:** “*God gave John, a follower of Jesus Christ, a special vision*” (Revelation 1:1, paraphrased).

**STORYTIME:**

What is the strangest dream you have ever had? When you had your dream were you awake or asleep? Did you know that sometimes God gives people special dreams when they are awake? They are called “visions.” The last book of the Bible, called Revelation, tells us about one of Jesus’ friends named John to whom God gave a vision. It was a special vision because God used it to tell John about things that had not yet happened, but *would* happen someday.

When John’s vision began, he heard a loud voice behind him. The voice said, “Write down everything you are about to see.” When John turned to see who was talking to him he saw Jesus. And Jesus looked different.

Think of a time when a friend of yours got a new haircut or got new glasses. You knew it was your friend, but you knew something looked different. John knew he was looking at Jesus, but Jesus looked bigger and more powerful than John remembered.

John had never seen Jesus like this. Many years ago when Jesus was on earth, John had walked and talked with Him. He had seen Jesus heal sick people and teach people how to love God. But this Jesus didn’t look like the one John had known so many years before.

John was so afraid that he fell on the ground to hide his eyes. Then Jesus did what John had seen Him do so many times—he calmed John by gently telling him not to be afraid. He reminded John that He is God. Then Jesus repeated His words: “Write down the things you are about to see. I am going to show you what will happen someday.”

What do you think Jesus looks like? Is He good or bad? Do you think Jesus is gentle, or is He mean? Jesus is loving and gentle to people who love Him. But He is also very powerful. When John saw Jesus, he saw God’s power. But when Jesus calmed John, telling him not to be afraid, He showed that He is still gentle to people who love Him. He reminded John that if we have Him in our hearts we do not need to be afraid of Him.

Isn’t it wonderful to know that God is so gentle and loving, but is strong enough to take care of us? He is the same today as He was in the Bible. He will take care of us if we trust Him.

**REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITY:** Ask for two volunteers to be in a play. Let one child play the part of Jesus, while the other plays the part of John. The child playing Jesus could stand on a chair and show his big muscles, so he looks big and powerful like Jesus did in the vision. The child playing John should turn to look at Jesus and then fall down and hide his eyes. The first child could get down off the chair and pat on the second child, saying, “Don’t be afraid. It’s me, Jesus.” Repeat this play until all the children who want a turn have gotten to be Jesus and John.

# CRAFT (Lesson 1)

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## KALEIDOSCOPE

**SCRIPTURE:** *“God gave John, a follower of Jesus Christ, a special vision”* (Revelation 1:1, paraphrased).

### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- One empty vegetable can per child, with both ends removed
- Poster board
- Mylar
- Thin, clear plastic
- Craft foam
- Sequins, glitter, tiny beads
- Hot glue gun
- Glue
- Masking tape
- Crayons

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

#### **Before class:**

1. Using pattern, cut end pieces (#B) and eye pieces (#C) from craft foam (1 of each per child).
2. Using pattern, cut circles (#A) from clear plastic (2 per child).
3. Hot glue end piece to 1 clear plastic circle (1 per child).
4. Tape eyepiece to one end of can (1 per child).
5. Using pattern, cut poster board and Mylar. Glue Mylar to poster board. (1 per child)
6. Fold poster board in thirds, Mylar facing in, to make a triangular tube.

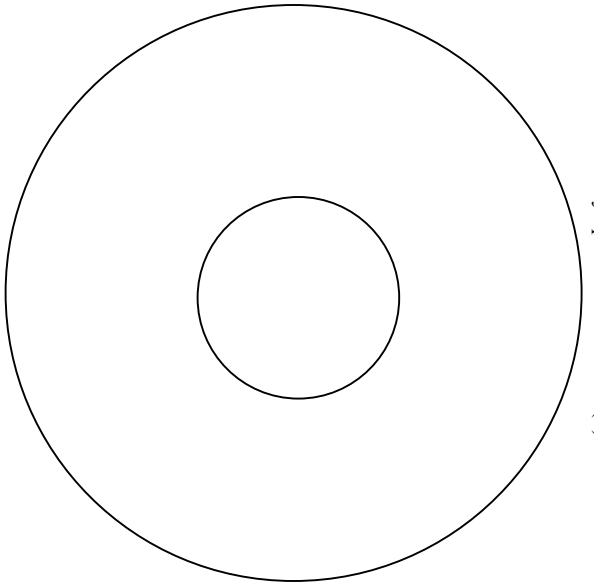
#### **During class:**

1. Put glitter, sequins, and tiny beads in the shallow well created by the end piece and plastic piece. (Enough to almost fill the space, but not so much it can't shake.)
2. Put triangular tube inside can.
3. Color verse strip while the teacher does Steps 4 & 5.
4. Hot glue second clear plastic piece on top of end piece, trapping the glitter, etc. between the 2 pieces of plastic.
5. Tape glittery end piece to end of can, opposite the eyepiece.
6. Glue verse strip to outside of kaleidoscope.

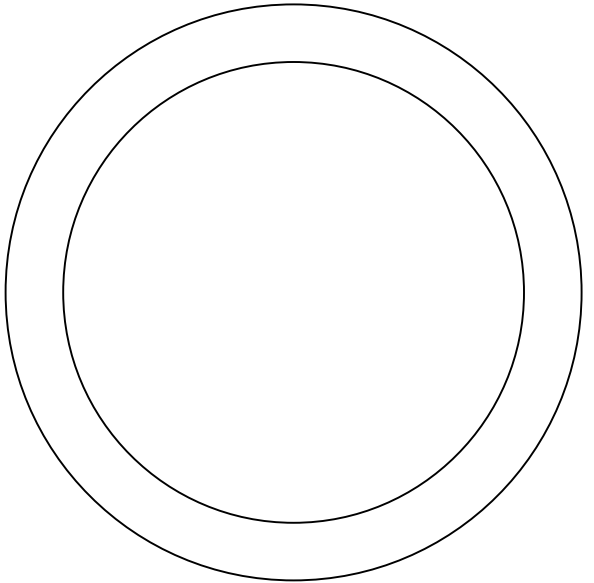
#### **Application:**

When we look through a kaleidoscope, we see strange and beautiful things. John saw strange and beautiful things without a kaleidoscope, because God gave him a vision.

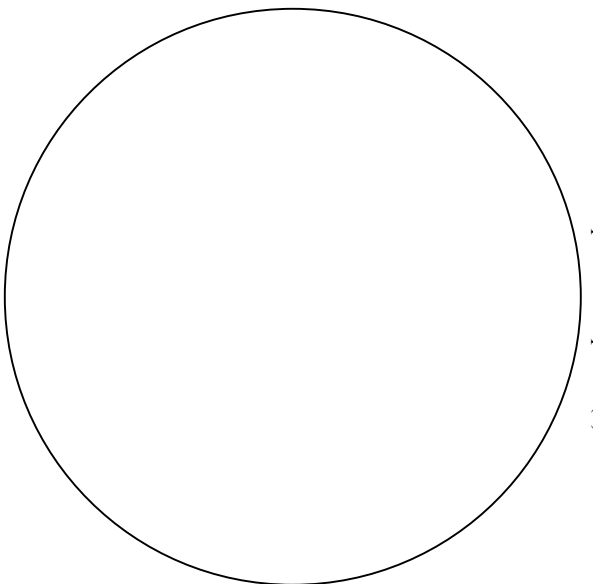
#C: eye piece—craft foam (1)



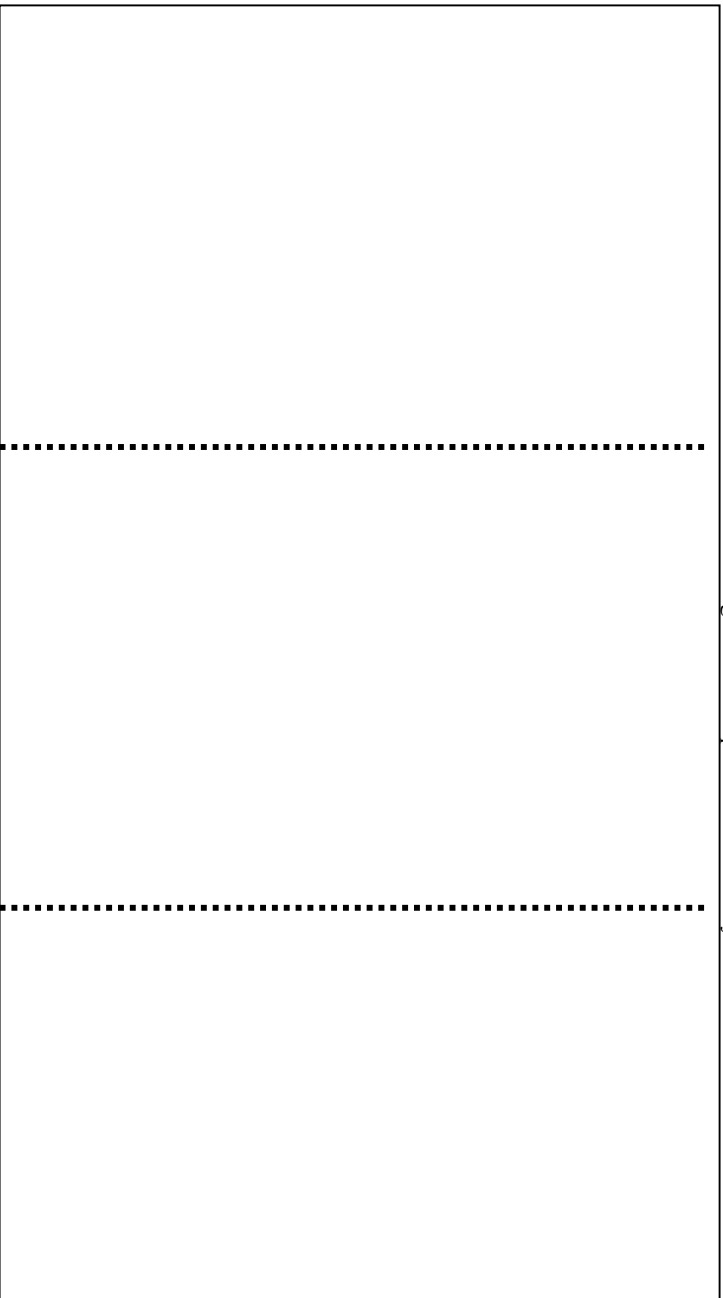
#B: craft foam end piece (1)



#A: clear plastic end pieces (2)



Triangular insert – poster board and Mylar



**“God gave John, a follower of  
Jesus Christ, a special vision.”**

**(Revelation 1:1, paraphrased)**



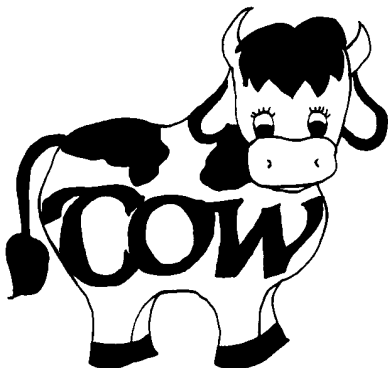
**“God gave John, a follower of  
Jesus Christ, a special vision.”**

**(Revelation 1:1, paraphrased)**

# MEMORY VERSE

*REVELATION ~ Lesson 1*

**“GOD GAVE JOHN, A  
FOLLOWER OF JESUS  
CHRIST, A SPECIAL  
VISION.”**



Children of the Word

**REVELATION 1:1**

**(paraphrased)**