

# God's Eyewitnesses

## Theme

Sharing the Good News with others.

## Object

## Scripture

John 1:29-42

## Children's Sermon: God's Eyewitnesses (John 1:29-42)

Today I need you to be eyewitnesses for me. Can you do that? Here's all you need to do. When you hear me say any word that has to do with seeing, put your hands on your eyes like a pair of glasses. Let's try that. (Practice with kids.) So you'll listen for words like see, saw, watch. Ready?

It is important for us to keep up with what is happening in the world, isn't it? One of the best ways to keep up is by watching the news. (Pause for kids to make glasses.) A typical news broadcast may have several live, on-the-scene reports. The announcer might say something like, "Fire destroyed a downtown business today. Channel 13 Eyewitness News reporter, Marci Brown, is at the scene. Marci?"

Marci would say, "Thank you, Bob. I am talking to Caleb Smith who witnessed the fire. Caleb, can you tell us exactly what you saw?" (Pause for kids to make glasses.) The eyewitness would then tell everyone what he saw. (Pause for kids to make glasses.) It really helps us to understand what happened when we have an eyewitness report, doesn't it?

## **This Little Light of Mine**

Even though there was no TV during the time that Jesus lived, eyewitness reports were still very important. One day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him. (Pause for kids to make glasses.) He said to the people with him,



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### 4-WEEK BUNDLE

"Look! (Pause for kids to make glasses.) There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one I told you about. I didn't know he was the Messiah, but when I baptized him, I saw (Pause for kids to make glasses.) the Holy Spirit coming down from the heavens like a dove. It came down and landed right on his shoulder. I saw it (Pause for kids to make glasses.) with my own two eyes and I tell you, this is the Son of God." When the people heard John's eyewitness report, it helped them understand and believe that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

Okay, great job being eyewitnesses. You can stop making glasses now. Most people come to know about Jesus because someone else tells them about him. Perhaps it's their parents, a Sunday school teacher, a pastor, or a good friend. Who is someone who has told you about Jesus? Maybe your parent, a friend or a teacher. (Allow time for responses.)

These people whom you named have given an eyewitness account of how Jesus changed their life. God wants all of us to be a part of his "Eyewitness News Team."

What would you tell someone about what Jesus means to you? (Allow time for responses.)

Whatever Jesus has done for you, tell others so they can know Him too.

Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son. Help us be witnesses so that others will come to know Your love as we do. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## God's Eyewitnesses

### GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

JOHN SAW JESUS coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Interactive Group Activities  
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

**Sermon Title:** "God's Eyewitness News"

**Scripture Reading:** John 1:29-34

**WITNESS BANNER:** Make a banner using long white paper. Write in bold colored letters JESUS WITNESSESS. Decorate it with drawings of the birth of Jesus, his baptism, etc. Add glitter on the outside. Tape it to the classroom door.

**WHAT WOULD JESUS DO AND SAY?:** Create different scenarios in which Jesus would act. Then ask the children to tell to what they think Jesus would do and say. (Someone is being bullied, a girl has lost her doll, a woman is giving a muffin to a homeless person, a boy fell from his bike, someone is giving a Bible to an older man, a child is in the hospital, etc.)

**"I SAW HIM" Game:** Give the children ideas of an activity to perform for the other children and when they have finished, the other children will say, "I saw him/her skip" or "I saw him/her clap", etc. Let children know that in today's lesson we are going to find out what John the Baptist saw and what he told others about Jesus.

**EYEWITNESS SKIT:** Let the children play act the above game and let one of the children be an announcer giving the class an EYEWITNESS report of what the child is doing. Children will enjoy using a microphone and pretending to be a reporter. Have a discussion about today's lesson and talk about sharing OUR witness with others about what Jesus means to us.

**CLOUD AND DOVE ART:** Allow the children to draw a cloud and add tufts of cotton and pictures or stickers of doves. Write "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him." John 1:32 on the cloud or around the edges of the poster.

**EYEWITNESS VIDEO:** Use a smartphone to make a video. Have the children give a description of some event they have seen. Encourage the children to give as many details of the event as possible. After they have finished this project, have the children to tell something they know about JESUS and to share as many details about what they have "witnessed" about JESUS in their lives. (He loves us; He takes care of us; He heals us; He protects us, etc.)

**EYEWITNESS SNACK:** Have a variety snacks in a bag. Each child will reach in the bag and choose a snack, describe it, and tell everything they know about the snack that they picked.

**Song: "Stop! and Let Me Tell You" - Unknown**

**Song Sheet (PDF)** - Music and lyrics

**Piano Accompaniment (MP3)**

**Song: "I Love to Tell the Story " - Katherine Hankey & William G. Fischer**

**Song Sheet (PDF)** - Music and lyrics

**Piano Accompaniment (MP3)** Right click and save to your computer.

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### **About Carol Williams**

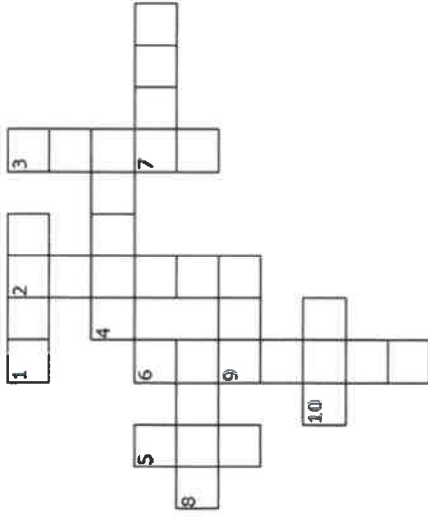
Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles tc (the clown).

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# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

- The man who baptized Jesus
- A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid; H<sub>2</sub>O
- A young sheep
- A bird that is a symbol of peace
- A male descendant
- To break one of God's commands

SIN	HEAVEN	LAMB	JOHN	WATER
GOD	DOVE	TESTIFY	WORLD	SON

## DOWN

- The place where God is
- The earth and everything on it
- The creator of heaven and earth
- To make a statement based on personal knowledge



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# Children's Worship Bulletin

## God's Eyewitness News

John 1:29-42

# Word Search

B X Z U N N I T U W J I A N K  
 W Z C M E J M X L T T Z R Z N  
 N P L V C D W N O Z B C P T O  
 I V A D G N S C S E N T U J W  
 M E R Z E E N R L P X Z J L  
 H Q G N K L B J E S U S S H Y  
 O C Y A V W X A T X E P D R I  
 Q L T D O O V E O P Q I S I N R  
 W S L O O K D K W T C D U P I  
 G A P D T Q I E J D I L J W S  
 G T T I W O R L D O R Z A R R  
 Z V Y E R O H A B N H U E M T  
 Q R V G R I K Z K H F N W D B  
 N P X T E S T I M O N Y X U F  
 B R Y W A H S Q Q B A F T A F

WORLD SENT TESTIMONY	BAPTIZE JESUS LOOK	LAMB KNOW SPIRIT	WATER SIN DOVE	JOHN HEAVEN TAKES
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Your Church Name  
City or Town

# Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

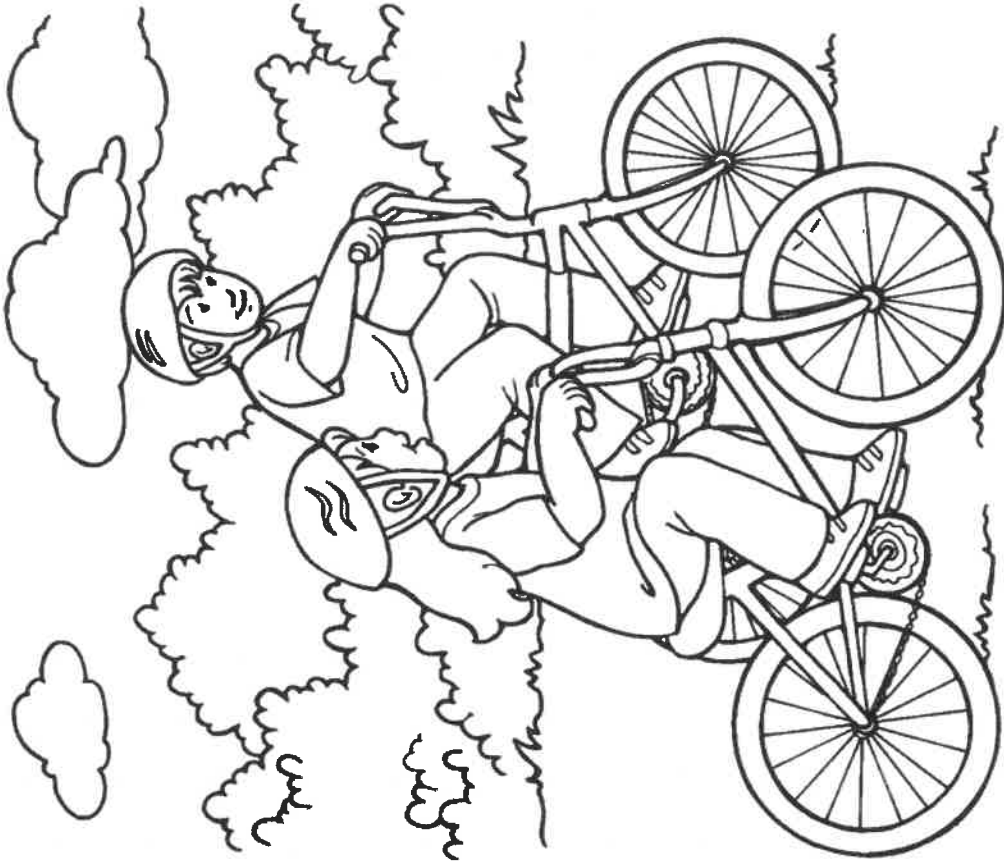
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
O	T	J	V	Q	N	U	A	B	Y	X	R	L	W	Z	P	D	G	S	F	E	M	H	J	K	C

- 2-21-19-2-3-20-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 14-1-12-13-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 13-8-22-9 \_\_\_\_\_
- 17-1-4-21 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-3-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 14-8-2-21-12 \_\_\_\_\_
- 23-21-8-4-21-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-16-3-12-3-2 \_\_\_\_\_

WATER	WORLD	DOVE	SPIRIT
HEAVEN	TESTIFY	SIN	LAMB



# Coloring Page



I can tell my friends about Jesus.



# GOD'S EYE WITNESS NEWS

## SECRET MESSAGE

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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

∞	\$	@	#	†	◇	*	\$	◆	∞	®	∞	†	©	□	?	*	■	□	#	♣				

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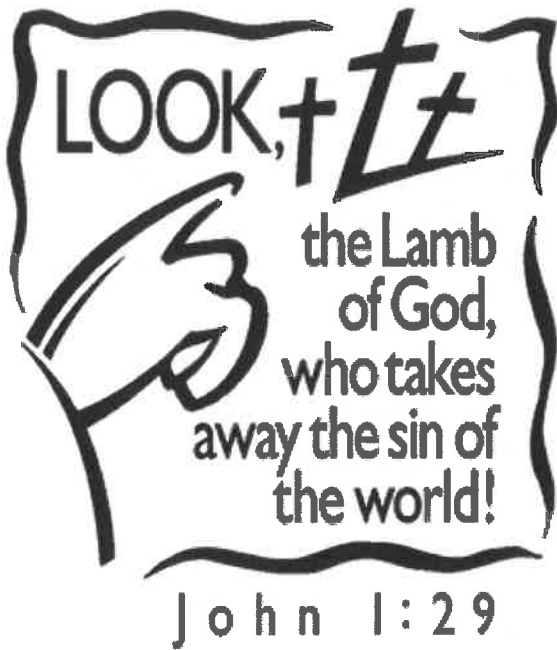
<	□	◇	♣

**1: 32-34**



GOD'S EYE WITNESS NEWS

Unscramble each word, then use the marked letters to reveal the secret word.



RIPSIT        
10 5

VEOD      
1

WERTA       
4 6 3

HEANEV        
8 7

TEISFTY         
9 2

1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

HERE ARE SOME CLUES IN CASE YOU NEED HELP!

1. "I saw the \_\_\_\_ come down from heaven." John 1:32 (NIV)
2. A white or grey bird, often used as a symbol of peace. John 1:32 (NIV)
3. A clear liquid used to baptize. John 1:33 (NIV)
4. The place where God is. John 1:32 (NIV)
5. To tell about something you have seen. John 1:34 (NIV)

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SPIRIT

WATER

DOVE

TESTIFY

HEAVEN



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