APPENDIX V

A Quick Guide for Substitute Teachers and Small Group Leaders

Jesus, What a Savior! is a chronological study for children on redemption. It explores the incomparable greatness and worth of God, the desperate condition of helpless sinners, and the all-sufficient work of Jesus Christ to redeem sinful people.

We can better understand our desperate condition and need for a Savior when we see it in its proper context of God's revealed character, His purposes, His interaction with man, and the unfolding of His redemptive plan. Therefore, the curriculum uses selected Bible stories, presented chronologically, to teach these key redemptive themes:

- the incomparable greatness and worth of God, who is to be desired and treasured above all things;
- the desperate condition of sinners who have fallen short of treasuring the glory of God and are helpless to save themselves;
- the all-sufficient work of Jesus on the cross to save sinners who put their trust in Him.

Because the approach is chronological and the focus is redemption, the curriculum presents these themes based on their order of appearance in Scripture, namely: God, creation, man, sin, etc. That means Jesus is not specifically revealed until Lesson 13. Therefore, lesson order is extremely important and should not be changed. However, the table of contents in the Introduction section of the Teacher's Guide does identify with an asterisk several lessons they could be removed without disrupting the flow of the curriculum. This will give you some options if your church or school year does not allow for all 40 lessons to be taught.

Notes for Teachers

The teacher is responsible for presenting the designated lesson portion of the material.

- In preparation, carefully review the entire lesson. Prayerfully focus on the main themes and Scripture texts you will be presenting.
- If possible, review the lesson that was taught the previous week. Usually, there is an intentional flow in which the current lesson builds on the previous one.
- Gather all the materials listed in the visuals section on the first page of the lesson and print those provided on the Resources DVD.
- The teacher is responsible for presenting the designated lesson portion to the students.
- Ideally, the lesson should be presented within a 20-25-minute time frame.
- Formatting cues are used to help guide the teacher through the lesson material.
 - » Visual Thumbnails—Visual thumbnails and short text descriptions in the left margin give teachers a quick reference to what should be displayed at certain points during the lesson.
 - » Font Style
 - Sentences in italics recommend a specific wording of the concept or illustration being taught. This is used to make certain theological points very clear, to convey a specific tone,

or to address the heart of the students in a special way.

- Lesson material **not** in italics should be conveyed in your own words.
- Scripture portions are in bold italics.
- » Scripture—While the portions are usually included in the lesson, you are strongly encouraged to read from your Bible while teaching the lesson so that the authority of the Bible in teaching is emphasized. Note: Sometimes, lessons may reference Bible stories that may or may not be familiar to your students. Be aware of the Bible literacy of your classroom, and be prepared to provide additional background information when needed.
- » Parenthetical Teacher Instructions—Each lesson contains teaching instructions and other helpful information in parentheses for the teacher. Read these carefully when preparing to teach the lesson. In addition to reading these instructions, it is important to think through the lesson yourself and decide how you can most effectively teach the concepts presented.
- For more in-depth help on how to teach a lesson, please refer to the Introduction section in the Teacher's Guide.

Notes for Small Group Leaders

The small group leader is responsible for the application discussion that follows the lesson.

- In preparation, carefully review the entire lesson, focusing on the main themes and Scripture texts that will be presented.
- After reading the lesson, prayerfully consider the suggested application discussion questions and activities. Notice that you are not expected to cover every possible application point with the students. These are suggestions about how you might direct a conversation with the

- children. Realistically, you may only have time to cover one or two of these in a 10–15 minute session.
- Keep in mind that the goal of this time should be aimed at encouraging a right heart response to what has been taught, not providing additional teaching. However, especially with younger children, a short review of the main ideas may be helpful.
- If Student Workbooks are provided for your classroom, be prepared with any additional instructions or supplies that may be required.
- For more in-depth help on how to lead a small group application discussion, please refer to the Introduction section of the Teacher's Guide.

Additional Classroom Information Specific to My Church

(provided by class team leader, regular teacher, or small group leader)