



SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

Unit 1: Happiness

Lesson 1 – What is Happiness?

Essential Questions

- What is happiness?
- Does God want us to be happy?
- Are there different kinds of happiness?
- Are they all good?
- Are any bad?
- What are the four levels of happiness?

Understandings

- Know that “happiness” means to fulfill a desire, and is not just an action or a feeling.
- Understand that there are different kinds of happiness and that all are good.
- Recall the four levels of happiness in order (physical pleasure and material possessions, ego-gratification, love of others, and giving ourselves to God).
- Know that God wants us to be happy.
- Begin to suspect that some kinds of happiness are better than others.

Lesson 2 – The Four Levels of Happiness

Essential Questions

- What are the four levels of happiness?
- What are the basic characteristics of each level?
- What does it mean that they are “levels”?
- What is the best kind of happiness?

Understandings

- Recall that happiness is the fulfillment of a desire and that God wants us to be happy.
- Name the four levels of happiness and identify some basic characteristics of each.
- Connect with each level in a relevant setting.
- Examine why living only for Levels 1 or 2 is “not enough.”
- Identify some negative consequences of being stuck in Levels 1 and 2.
- Understand that we need the higher levels to resolve problems lower levels cause.
- Identify Levels 3 and 4 as better than 1 and 2.
- Cherish the goodness and value in people who are elderly, sick, and dying.

Lesson 3 – Making Good Choices

Essential Questions

- What is a choice?
- What makes a choice “good” or “bad”?
- What happens when we give up a higher level of happiness in order to get a lower level?
- What is unhappiness?
- How do bad choices lead to unhappiness?
- What is sin?
- How can we make good choices and avoid bad choices?

Understandings

- Recall the levels of happiness, and that all four levels are not equally fulfilling (3 and 4 are better than 1 and 2).
- Know that the more we focus on the lower levels, the more we experience negative consequences.
- Know that unhappiness is having an unfulfilled desire, and the higher up the levels the unfulfilled desire is, the more unhappy we will be.
- Know that a choice is being able to compare two things and select one over the other.
- Understand that bad choices place a lower level above a higher level of happiness, and that good choices keep the levels in the right order.
- Comprehend that sin is when we knowingly and willingly choose to place a lower level above a higher level.
- Know that sometimes we need to give up Level 1 or 2 to get to 3 and 4.
- Explain how choosing higher levels can help us avoid sin and understand some of the negative consequences of focusing only on the lower levels.
- Know concrete ways to make good choices by putting Levels 3 and 4 above 1 and 2.

Unit 2: Success

Lesson 1 – What is Success?

Essential Questions

- What is success and what is failure?
- What does it mean to be a successful person?
- What makes us important as human beings?
- Does God want us to be successful?
- What are the four kinds of success?
- Can we be successful even if we have to give up Level 1 or Level 2 happiness?

Understandings

- Know that success means achieving a goal.
- Define a goal as the object we are trying to get or the task we are trying to do.
- Understand that failure means “not achieving a goal,” and that “not being good at something” does not mean “YOU are a failure.”
- Recall the four levels of happiness and success.
- Know that success on Levels 1 and 2 is not what makes us important as human beings
- Understand that God wants us to be successful on Levels 3 and 4 because they bring us the most happiness and they help us to share that happiness with others.
- Identify the four different kinds of success.
- Understand that we are successful on Level 4 when we believe in, love, and serve God with all our whole heart.

Lesson 2 – The Successful Kingdom

Essential Questions

- What are the four levels of success?
- Can we be successful if we are not wealthy or strong?
- If other people know more or can do something we cannot, does that mean they are worth more?
- What does the devil want us to think makes us important?
- What does God want us to think makes us important?
- Who are the most successful people in the world?
- What is missing in a world that throws away all of its weak and poor people? What would that world look like?
- What does a kingdom that welcomes everyone look like?
- Which kingdom would we want to live in?
- Who is the Good King?

Understandings

- Recall the four levels of happiness and four kinds of success.
- Understand that wealth, strength, knowledge, and talent are good, but they’re not enough to be truly successful in life.
- Identify ways the devil tricks us about what makes us successful and important.
- Reject the idea that some people are more important than others because of the kinds of jobs or talents they have.
- Understand that every human being was made by God for an important reason, and is called to be successful on Levels 3 and 4.
- Know that we are most successful when we are most like God, and that the most successful people are those who know how to love and serve God.
- Know that the Good King represents Jesus.

- Understand that what makes God's Kingdom complete is when every human being is welcome and loved.

Lesson 3 – Everyone is Important and Valuable

Essential Questions

- What are the four levels of success?
- What does it mean to be important?
- What does it mean to be valuable?
- Are some people more important or valuable than others?
- How are these people important: babies, unborn children, the elderly, the disabled, poor people, pregnant mothers
- If someone chooses to give up success in Levels 1 and 2 in order to be successful in Levels 3 or 4, is he or she more successful or less?

Understandings

- Recall and rank the four levels of success.
- Know that being important means to matter a lot, and being valuable means to be worth a lot.
- Understand that what makes us important to God is that we can all succeed at Happiness Levels 3 and 4.
- Demonstrate how every human being can succeed at Levels 3 and 4, even if they cannot succeed at Levels 1 or 2.
- Understand that people who need our help in order to survive are important to God because He made them in His image and loves them, and because they too can be successful on Levels 3 and 4.
- Understand that vulnerable people are important to the world because they can bring love and goodness into the world and they teach us how to care about others more than we care about ourselves.
- Be able to list ways in which we need vulnerable people.
- Understand that when we choose to sacrifice Levels 1 and 2 in order to be good at Levels 3 and 4, we are more successful than when we choose to sacrifice Levels 3 and 4 in order to be good at Levels 1 and 2.

Unit 3: Contradictions

Lesson 1 – What is Truth?

Essential Questions

- What is "truth"?
- What does it mean when something is "false"?

- Can people be happy when they are not telling the truth? Why or why not?

Understandings

- Understand the definitions of true and false and the difference between them.
- Know that making false claims is wrong and will not make us happy.
- Understand the meaning of contradictions and identify contradictory statements.
- Understand why contradictions are invalid.
- Explain why contradictions cannot happen in real life.

Lesson 2 – What are Contradictions?

Essential Questions

- What is a contradiction?
- Can contradictions occur in the real world?
- Can an unborn child be “a baby” and “not a baby” at the same time? Why or why not?

Understandings

- Understand the meaning of contradictions and identify contradictory statements.
- Understand why contradictions are invalid
- Explain why contradictions cannot happen in real life.
- Learn to appreciate the unique gifts and special intrinsic dignity of people.
- Understand that trying to be something you are not is a form of contradiction.
- Know that an unborn baby is a baby at even the earliest stages.
- Gain a sense of awe and respect for unborn children.