Care-Full

Lesson Introduction

Too see our mistakes after they are done is easy. Hindsight is better than foresight. Yet all of us can improve our walk if will try.

One young child was abandoned since birth in a hospital. The patients and nurses took a liking to the active little boy and though he was nearly blind and could neither speak nor hear, there was a system of communication taking place.

When we met the child, we too were captivated by his obvious strong personality. One year later it came time for the five year old child to be transferred to an orphanage. We became concerned that he not be buried by bureaucracy. This was a child at risk. Giving him eye glasses dramatically cut down on his accidents.

All children and adults need to be *care-full*. The word play is part of today's lesson. We need to be *careful* of the dangers around us. This may involve the assistance of someone to be *careful in being care-full*. The child able to see can avoid many obstacles which the blind may fall into. The god of this world has blinded many eyes. Who will help them see?

Flash Point

Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.

LESSON TWENTY-FOUR

Flash Point

Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.

PREPARATION LIST

Prepare all songs and story pictures. Trace and color the songs and pictures onto transparencies or larger pieces of paper. If any items are not available, attempt to locate acceptable substitutions.

Welcome: Mad Scientist (MS) costume
National Anthem: National flag
Game #1: Posterboards
Game #2: Lists, prizes
Special Emphasis:
Offering: Containers for offering
Announcements: Flyers for next meeting
Lesson Introduction: Table, wooden blocks
Memory Verse: Transparency or posterboard
Bible Story: Construction tools
Object Lesson #1: Posterboard, paints
Object Lesson #2: Toy Bee
Object Lesson #3: Peanuts in the shell
Object Lesson #4: Heart, string and weights and rubberbands

Kids Club Rally

Welcome:
KIDS Rules
Prayer _____
National Anthem _____
Theme Song _____
Praise Songs _____
Review Questions #1 _____
Game #1 Fill in The Blanks
Review Questions #2 _____
Game #2 Acting Up
Special Emphasis
Offering _____

Worship _____
Special Ministry _____
Announcements _____
Lesson Introduction Stack It High
Flash Point: Care-Full:
Memory Verse Luke 21:34
Bible Story Too Busy
Object lesson #1 Look Carefully
Object lesson #2 Bee Carefull
Object lesson #3 Inside ‘d’ Shell
Object lesson #4 Heavy/Light Hearted
Story Time Just A Bum?
Ending Prayer

CARE-FULL

Welcome

Props: Mad Scientist (MS) costume. Toy cars. (The more the better, all sizes.)
Preparation: Dress a volunteer to look like a mad scientist. (Be creative.) Fill his pockets, and perhaps a backpack full of toy cars. Paper with the lesson title **"CARE-FUL"** written on it.
Presentation: Leader welcomes the children. **Mad Scientist** comes out, interrupting takes over. He's laughing with noises, announces to the leader and audience. Ha, ha! I read your lesson notes and I already know it all.
Leader: Interrupts the Mad Scientist. "Thank you **MS** for coming today, but you are confusing me. What is our lesson about? **MS:** It is about being *car full*. So I took all my toy cars out of the house and brought them with me today. See I am *car full*! Opens his pockets and begins showing all his toy cars. **Leader:** Shouts to a helper for them to bring today's lesson notes. As he examines today's lesson he says to the MS. Wait a minute. You misread the lesson. (Hold up the paper with the lesson title **"CAREFUL"** written on it. It is not about being **car full**. It is about being **careful**. You missed the **"e"**. **MS:** Looks at the lesson, gives an embarrassed cough and says, Oops guess I prepared for the wrong lesson. By. I'd better go now. **MS** exits. **Leader:** Kids the **MS** just showed us how important it is to be **careful**. He made a mistake because he didn't really read the lesson. We all need to practice being **careful**. That is what today's lesson is about. Let's learn more about being careful. First let's pray.

Kids Rules
Opening Prayer

Suggested prayer:

Dear Jesus,

You see our problems and you care so much for us. Please help us to be careful to be full of caring actions just like you were for us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

National Anthem
Praise Songs
Review Questions

If possible distribute a list of the Flash Points to the children in advance of today's lesson.

1. (With actions) Character: It's not there. It's not there. It's there!
2. Patience: Hard 2 find. Important 2 have.
3. Generosity gives us velocity to grow and go.
4. Tenderhearted with an open hand not a fist!
5. Faithfulness: Never leave home without Him.
6. Joy-Full: The saddest time's with Jesus, are better than the happiest time's without Him.
7. Dreamers wanted: God wants to talk to us. Young and old, boy's and girls.
8. Good: Be good, there's no law against it.
9. Determined? I am determined to follow Jesus!
10. Devoted? I am devoted to -- my best friend Jesus!
11. Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.

Game #1
Fill in the Blanks

Props: Poster board.
Preparation: Write the first word of each of the eleven Flash Points on a poster board (Include today's Flash Point). Prepare prizes. On separate sheets of paper write out the remainder of each Flash Point. Place tape to help the Flash Points stick to the poster board.
Participants: Audience participation.
Game Rules: Call out the first word of the **Flash Point** to the audience. If they know the **Flash Point** they are to raise their hand. Call on one to come forward and select the answer (printed on poster paper backed with tape.) Have them stick it on the poster next to the proper Flash Point.

LESSON TWENTY-FOUR

For additional excitement match the Flash Point numbers with individual prizes. Suggested prizes could be a banana, basketball, toy, etc. Not all prizes need to be of equal value. Have fun!
[As with any games, feel free to replace or modify at your discretion.]

FLASH POINTS

1. Character: _____
2. Patience: _____
3. Generosity _____
4. Tenderhearted _____
5. Faithfulness: _____
6. Joy-Full: _____
7. Dreamers _____
8. Good: _____
9.Determined: _____
10.Devoted? _____
11. Care-Full: _____

Review Questions

Complete the Memory Verses

14. Do not be fooled: Bad company corrupts good character. I Corinthians 15:33
15. To obey the Lord is better than sacrifice, and to pay attention is better than the fat of rams. I Samuel 15:22 with an open hand not a fist.
16. There was a disciple named Dorcas, who was always doing good and helping the poor. Acts 9:36
17. Be kind and tenderhearted to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ. Ephesians 4:32
18. I saw heaven open, and there was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. Revelation 19:11.
19. A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 17:22
20. In the last days, God says, "I will pour out My spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams." Acts 2:17
21. Well done good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things." Matthew 25:23
22. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show others about the Lord's death until he returns. I Corinthians 11:26
23. Now devote your heart and soul to seeking the Lord your God. II Chronicles 22:19

Game #2
Acting Up

Props: List, prizes.
Preparation: A list of objects (can be modified). We had each item on the list (in pairs) and gave them to the contestant and the one in the audience who guessed the answer properly.
Players: Eight or more players depending on the number of items.
Playing: Reveal the item only to the child who is to act it out for the audience. As they dramatically act out the object, no words are allowed. When one in the audience guesses the object the one acting and the one who successfully guesses are to receive the prizes.

Sample list:

1. Ball.	6. Crayons.
2. Glass.	7. Lock.
3. Pen.	8. Toy car.
4. Notebook or paper.	9. Ring.
5. Eraser.	10. Marble.

Offering
Children in Special Ministry
Worship
Announcements

CARE-FULL

Lesson Introduction
Stack It High

Props: Table, wooden blocks, or appropriate substitute. An fun award certificate titled, "Super Stacker."

Presentation: Either select or ask for a volunteer from the audience. Make it a competition. Announcing that the winner will receive a certificate. Together as quickly and carefully as possible both of you start stacking the blocks one at a time. Stack them as high as possible until one of the stacks fall. Give applause and the simple award certificate to the one whose stack remains standing. Encourage audience participation by their cheering.

Point to the standing pile of blocks. Kids, life is a lot like this. We each are given a wonderful gift from God. If we abandon Jesus we will crash (point to fallen pile) and end up in hell, there will be no acceptable excuse. If we are **careful** we will follow Jesus. At the end of this life, if we live our lives **carefully** following Jesus our lives will stand tall. Point to the stack that stands.

Today's **Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

Memory Verse

Be careful or your hearts will be weighed down. Luke 21:34

Props: Transparency or poster of today's scripture verse. It can be used as a coloring page for the class or as a take home item.

Preparation: Practice and become familiar with today's memory verse. Recommend using the music provided on the Kids Praise and Worship tape.

Presentation: Practice the Scripture verse. God created us with hearts that are strong. Our heart is the part of us where the "real us" is. It isn't just the physical part of us that we call a heart. How long will our real hearts last? Encourage a response. Forever is how long our hearts will live. Forever is a long time. No matter how old we are today we are very young when you think about eternity. God has a special plan for our lives. He wants us to be careful so that we do not allow things in this world to destroy the special future He has planned for us. Practice the **Memory Verse: Be careful or your hearts will be weighed down. Luke 21:34 Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

Quiet Seat Time

Bible Story
Too Busy
Nehemiah 2

Props: Construction tools & clothing.

Preparation: Read the first couple of chapters of Nehemiah to familiarize yourself with today's Bible story .

Participants: Leader and helper.

Introduction: Leader comes out dressed as a construction worker. Hold a tool, such as a saw or hammer. These are tools that are good for building. However any building that I can build with these tools will eventually fall down.

All buildings on this planet will one day become old and will be destroyed. In New York City the World Trade Center's twin towers were beautiful and tall. Thousands of people went there everyday. On September 11, 2001 in a tragic act of destruction the towers came crashing to the ground. Pointing the hammer at the audience. How many of us have a guarantee that our bodies will still be living in one hundred years?

(Encourage audience participation). Not one of us have the promise that we will live another one hundred years. Instead we have the guarantee that one day we will all die. However we do have God's promise that if we believe in His son Jesus, and have ask Him to forgive our sins, that even if our bodies die, we will live forever.

There were enemies at work when the New York WTC twin towers were destroyed. (Briefly remind the audience of what happened). Today there is an enemy at work to destroy all that you work to build in our lives.

Bible Story: In the Bible there is recorded a story about a man named Nehemiah. He was a godly man with a plan to rebuild the destroyed walls around Jerusalem.

Why would Jerusalem need a wall around it? (Give time for audience participation.) There were several reasons. When there was no walls the people were not safe. In the countryside around Jerusalem, there were bandits, and even animals who could sneak in to rob and to steal. Also there were enemy soldiers who would like to come in and take over.

It is the same reason we need to build walls around our heart and lives. If we are not careful to build a wall around our heart when we are young bad things WILL happen to us.

Imagine what happens to a mother carrying her child into the grocery store. The child sees a bottle of bleach for doing the laundry on the store shelves The child thinks it is a soda, and immediately grabs a bottle and is going to open and drink it. The mother has several choices.

She can:

1. Let the child open and drink the bleach, which is strong poison. How many think that is a wise choice?
2. Quickly go to the front and pay for the bleach then drink it once it's paid for. How many think that is wise choice?
3. She can put the bottle back on the shelf and tell her child that it is a no-no and that it will hurt them. How many think that is a wise choice?

You do not have to be a college graduate to figure out the best thing to do is to protect the child.

Nehemiah was right in wanting to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. BUT there were some people who did not want him to do it. In our next lesson we will learn more about what he did.

Take your hands and extend them up and down at your sides. Imagine with me, having a strong wall all around yourself. This wall needs to be strong enough to stop AIDS and even Drug addiction. You can build this wall if you will work with Jesus and decide to live for Him.

This wall you need to build will stop someone from talking you into taking drugs...

Teachers note: You are familiar with the problems that face your children. Use this opportunity to speak into their lives about potential (future and present) problems that they need to be prepared for. Speak from your heart, but remember, KISS - Keep it short & simple.

Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.

Object Lesson #1

Look Carefully

Props: Posterboard, paints, and colored cellophane.

Preparation: Draw a heart on a large piece of poster paper. Inside the heart write two messages in different colored ink. The words "God loves u" needs to be in red and the words, "He says $$$ will always make you happy." Written in blue ink. Depending on the color of cellophane available will determine what color of ink you choose. Make simple colored glasses out of two colors of cellophane which match the two colors of ink or paint you used on the poster.

Presentation: Ask two volunteers to assist you. Place the colored glasses on them. Hold the two colored poster in front of them. Have each of them read what they see on the hearts to the audience.

The two will read different messages. Explain to your audience that this is true of people in the world. Many of us chose what we want to see.

The enemy of our soul, he has many names, would like for us to believe that money will make us happy. Yes, there is some truth to what the Devil would tell us. For a little while money may make us happy but then we go back to being sad again. Yet the message from God, that He loves us is a message that can change our lives for eternity. Thank the two volunteers. Hold up the two glasses with colored cellophane. How we look at our world is very important. We need to be careful to wear the right glasses. If we are careful we will look through eyes that trust God. His message of love can be seen all around us. For example the world that He has made for us. (Teachers note: Expand this depending on your time. Some are careless and look to boyfriends for their happiness, etc.) **Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

Object Lesson #2
Bee Care-Full

Props: Toy bee (or acceptable substitute).
Preparation: For additional emphasis, dress someone up in a bee costume. Add to it a bag of sweets.
Participants: Leader and audience.
Presentation: Hold up a drawing or toy bee. Bees or wasps that have stingers in them can be very poisonous, especially if a person is allergic to them. A person who is allergic to them can die if they do not get medical treatment.
But what about the bee? Wave the toy bee around making appropriate sounds. Some bees can only sting once. If their stinger comes off then they will die. (For extra emphasis bring out someone dressed as a bee. They should be lively and dramatic). If you were a bee you would want to be careful that you did not sting something and lose your stinger. Bee's are very helpful. They make honey which is sweet and good for us. If the bee is quick on the sting - they die. If the bee is careful to be care-full (making honey) it will live longer as God created it to live.
The Bible tells us that we are all like the bee. Remember if they lose their stinger they will die. We only have one life, like the bee has one stinger. One day our life will end. Will we be known for our stinger which means we caused pain? Or will we be known for how careful we were to be care-full? What will you have done with your life? Distribute from the bag of sweets. (If prepared). **Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

Object Lesson #3
Inside 'd' Shell

Props: Peanuts in the shell. Draw or glue eyes and a mouth onto the shell.
Preparation: Optional, if practical secure enough peanuts for all in your audience to have at least one.
Presentation: (Distribute and hold up the specially prepared peanut). How many of you like peanuts? I like peanuts. Have you ever cracked open a peanut and found it was rotten inside? I have, several times. What do you do with the peanut if it is rotten? Can you tell what is inside the shell before it is cracked open? (Encourage audience response). People are like these nuts. Inside some people they are rotten and bad. God says that all of us were like that. Full of sin and bad things. However if we decide to follow Jesus, He comes inside and removes the bad and replaces it with His goodness.
When we go to heaven what we have inside (crack open the nut) will be visible for all to see. Right now others cannot see inside. It is our choice what will be in out heart. (Depending on your time this may be expanded). Take the peanut home with you. Later you can open it if you want and enjoy the nut. Or if you'd rather you can keep it as a reminder. What is on the outside of a person, the brand of clothes they wear, etc. is not as important as who they have on the inside. The best is to have Jesus inside. Then follow today's **Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

LESSON TWENTY-FOUR

Object Lesson #4
Heavy/Light Hearted
Luke 21:34

Props: Heart, string and weights, and rubberbands. (Optional: Helium heart shaped balloon).

Preparation: Place the heart at the front of the class. If a paper or cloth heart, attach it with rubberbands so that it is hanging visible to all. If a helium filled one secure it with a string so that if hovers in the air.

Presentation: Some people are naturally light-hearted. They find a smile on their face first thing in the morning. Some babies are that way. They seem to come smiling into the world. Other babies... well let's say, "They are not smiling. In fact some babies find it hard to smile.

I think the reason we never read in the Bible that Jesus laughed or smiled was because He smiled so much. The Bible records when He cried, I think that it was because crying was not something He did very often. Today's Memory Verse, teaches us to not **Be careful** or your hearts will be weighed down. Luke 21:34 Jesus' knew He was going to win. He knew what He came to do. He was busy obeying His father, 'God.'

Many things can cause us to be heavy hearted. Take the weights and begin attaching them to the heart. Small weights first. Worry about your school work can cause you to have a heavy heart. (Attach a weight.) Then if your friend treats you badly (attach another weight with each worry you mention). How about if you don't have enough money for something you really want? (More weight). Do you see what is happening to your heart. It is getting weighed down. That is exactly what Jesus does not want to happen. He want you to learn to trust Him.

Pray about them then give them to Jesus. (Start taking off the weights, one at a time.) If you are heavy or light hearted it is a choice. When you trust and obey Jesus, you will find your heart is not weighed down. Being careful to care, or be full of caring for others will help you to be light hearted. **Flash Point: Care-Full: I am Careful to be Care-Full.**

Story Time
Just a Bum?

Based on a story emailed to us by a friend. Feel free to modify it to fit your area. The Bible truths are for everyone.

Picture 24:1 Sometimes when you are out and around town you may see someone begging for money, food, work or shelter. Your reaction may be disgust, pity or simply a desire to ignore. Some people give beggars money, and quickly (the quicker the better, are on their way. Keep in mind, the Bible says that there are angels out there, that we are not aware of. We are to treat all people carefully with a heart full of caring. For we never know when that stranger may be one of His angels.

Picture 24:2 I sat with some friends in a restaurant, next to the Mall. The french fries were hot just the way I like them. As we talked, my attention was drawn to a man across the street. Walking down the sidewalk, was a man who was obviously poor. Maybe even carrying all his belonging on his back. He was carrying a worn cardboard sign that read, "Will work 4 food." I pointed him out to my friends and noticed that others had stopped eating to watch him. Some looked in disgust others after one look continued eating. I continued with our meal, but he was on my mind.

Picture 24:3 We finished our burger's and fries. I had errands to do. I glanced toward the mall, looking to see if I could see the strange man. I really didn't plan on doing anything. I was just curious to see if anyone had hired him. I drove around and didn't see him. I picked up what I needed and got ready to head back to the office. Inside though, the Spirit of God kept speaking to me: "Don't go back to the office until you've at least driven once more past the mall." And so, I headed back. As I turned the in, I saw him across the street. He was standing around the corner from the hamburger shop, going through his backpack. I drove into the parking lot. I felt both drawn to speak to him, yet wanted to drive on. The empty parking space seemed to be a sign from God: an invitation to park. I parked and crossed the street to the man.

Picture 24:4 "Looking for the something?" I asked. "Not really," he replied, "Just resting." "Are you hungry?" "Oh, I ate something this morning." "Would you eat lunch with me? "Do you have some work I could do for you?" "No work," I replied." I just drove downtown for lunch, I'd like to take you to lunch." "Sure," he replied with a smile. As he began to gather his things. I asked him, "Where you headed?" Digos." "Where you from?" "Oh, all over; mostly Manila." "How long you been walking?" "Fourteen years," came the reply. I knew I had met someone unusual.

Picture 24:5 We sat across from each other in the same restaurant I had left earlier. His face was weathered beyond his 38 years. He removed his backpack to reveal a bright red T-shirt that said, "Four Rules of Life." Under it were four simple lines that told the message of God. Then he began to tell me his story. His eyes were dark yet clear, and he spoke very politely without scarcely an accent. As a young man he had lived a rough life. He'd made some wrong choices, involved with drugs and things he should not have done. Fourteen years earlier, while backpacking across the country, he had stopped on a street corner, and saw a big yellow truck, with pictures of clown on it, and people putting down chairs and preparing to distribute food. He joined and volunteered to help the man who was putting out some sound equipment. A circus performance, he thought. He ate the free meal, but the meeting was not a circus, but a kids Gospel service, and in that service he saw his life clearly. That night he gave his life to God.

Picture 24:6 Nothing's been the same since", he said, "I felt the Lord telling me to keep walking, and so I did, 14 years now." "Ever think of stopping?" I asked. "Oh, once in a while, when it seems to get the best of me. But God has given me something to do. I give out Bibles. That's what's in my sack. I work to buy food and Bibles, and I give them out wherever His Spirit leads." I was amazed. This homeless man was not homeless.

He was on a mission and lived this way by choice. I had to ask: "What's it like?" "What?" "To walk into a town carrying all your things on your back and to show your sign?" "Oh, it was embarrassing at first. People would stare and make comments. Someone once tossed me a piece of half-eaten bread and when some read my T-shirt they made a gesture that certainly didn't make me feel good. But it become more important to know that God is using me to touch lives and it even changes people's ideas of other people like me."

Picture 24:7 My concept was changing, too. We finished our burger's and gathered his backpack. Just outside the door, he paused. He turned to me and said, "Come ye blessed of my Father and inherit the kingdom I've prepared for you. For when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, a stranger and you took me in." I felt as if we were on holy ground. "Could you use another Bible?" I asked. He said he preferred a certain translation. It fit easily in his bag and was not too heavy. It was also his personal favorite. "I've read through it 14 times," he said. "I'm not sure we've got one of those, but let's to my office and see." I was able to find my new friend some Cebuano N.T. Bible's that would do well, and he seemed very grateful. "Where you headed from here?" "Well, I found this little map on the back of this crocodile Water park coupon."

Picture 24:8 "Are you hoping to get a job there for awhile?" "No, I just figure I should go there. I figure someone there needs a Bible, so that's where I'm going next." He smiled, and the warmth of his spirit radiated the sincerity of his mission. We parked and he prepared to go. "Would you sign my autograph book?" he asked.

"I like to keep messages from folks I meet."
I wrote in his little book that his commitment to God had touched my life. I encouraged him to stay strong. And I left him with a verse of scripture, in Jeremiah, "I know the plans I have for you," declared the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you a future and a hope."

Picture 24:9 I drove him back to the mall where we'd met two hours earlier, and as we drove, it started raining. "Thanks, man," he said. "I know we just met and we're really just strangers, but I love you." "I know," I said, "I love you, too." "The Lord is good." "Yes. He is. How long has it been since someone hugged you?" I asked. "A long time," he replied. And so on the busy street corner in the drizzling rain, my new friend and I embraced, and I felt deep inside that I had been changed. He put his things on his back, smiled his winning smile and said, "See you in the New Jerusalem." "I'll be there!" was my reply. He began his journey again. He headed away with his sign dangling from his backpack of Bibles. He stopped turned and said, "When you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?" "Yes I will," I shouted back, "God bless you." "God bless you two." And that was the last time I saw him.

Picture 24:10 Later that evening as I left my office, the wind blew strong. The rain was coming down hard. I hurried to the jeepney. As I sat back and reached key, I saw it... an invitation to the water park. I picked the map up and thought of my friend hoping he found his way to the park without the map. I remembered his words: "If you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?" Today his map is on the wall of my office. It helps me to see the world and its people in a new way, and they help me remember those few hours with my unique friend and to pray for his ministry. "See you in the New Jerusalem," he said. Yes, Friend, I know I will...

Wrap Up & Closing Prayer

Sample Prayer

"Lord, let me be careful to open my eyes see your "hidden angels." Please help me to stop and share with them. Help to learn to be caring like you. Please forgive me Lord when I fail to look beyond their appearances and am blinded by what I see. Lord, let me be a missionary - every day - to speak your word and to reach others who need your touch. Thank you, in Your Son Jesus' Name I pray." Amen.

Leader's Notes