Day One Basic Skit "You Can Be A Butterfly"

Several Caterpillars come in crawling and moaning and miserable. They are singing the "Muddy Glums" song. They express that they are tired of being on the ground and getting dirty all of the time. They wish there was another way to live. They are arguing and complaining and overall just frustrated with life.

<u>Possible Caterpillar Dialog</u>: "I'm so tired of crawling. I feel so dirty all of the time. Quit bumping me!" Etc..

After a while several butterflies fly into the room and fly around the caterpillars. They look happy and free and full of life. Then they exit the room.

<u>Caterpillars</u>: "What was that! I never saw anything so beautiful! Could you image living like that, moving with wings far above the earth? They looked so peaceful and joyful. Where did they come from and how did they get that way? I wish we could talk with them and find out more!"

Then the butterflies fly back into the room and begin to share with the caterpillars. They say things like:

<u>Butterflies</u>: "We used to be crawlers just like you! Then we discovered new Life that transformed us! A Life that changed us from the inside out!"

<u>Caterpillars</u>: "Where can we get this new Life? We want to discover it just like you did. We want to grow wings and fly."

Butterflies: "This new Life is Jesus."

<u>Caterpillars</u>: (looking confused and depressed) "But we already have Jesus. I asked Jesus into my heart a long time ago and I am still crawling. Maybe we are just hopeless cases.'

Day One Basic Skit Continued... "You Can Be A Butterfly"

<u>Butterflies</u>: "Oh, don't be sad caterpillars! There is much more to discover about Jesus, and you have only just begun! We simply found out that Jesus came to give us His Life in such a big way that we could grow wings! When we first received Him He was still small. He wants to grow bigger and bigger in each one of us until His wonderful Life changes us from the inside out!"

Now the Butterflies fly away

<u>Caterpillars</u>: "Wow. I can hardly believe it! This is such Good News! There is actually hope for us desperate crawlers. Let's grow wings and learn to fly just like those butterflies."

All the caterpillars agree to try to start growing wings, and they walk off stage.

Teacher's Note: A tool to help teach this information is to have the children make-up puppet shows that demonstrate what was taught that

day. You can make caterpillar and butterfly puppets for your crafts or just use puppets that you already have there. When the kids have an opportunity to creatively express what they learned it helps to establish that information in them.



Day Two Basic Skit

"It's Time For The Cocoon!"

You will need some people in caterpillar suits and others in butterfly suits. You can use as many caterpillars and butterflies as you want for each part.

<u>Caterpillars</u>: (The Caterpillars are lifting weights, doing jumping jacks, reciting bible verses and praying real hard. They are all trying to grow their wings).

<u>First Caterpillar</u>: "Hey, growing wings is real hard work! I am getting exhausted! It's amazing those butterflies ever got off the ground!"

<u>Next Caterpillar</u>: "I've got an idea! Let's see if we can jump off these chairs and take off into flight. Maybe we've worked hard enough now and we can fly!"

The Caterpillars then proceed to jump off the chair and fall onto the ground repeatedly. Each time they try to fly harder, flapping their arms and shouting!

<u>Butterfly</u>: A Butterfly flies in and looks at the caterpillars in a funny way, shaking his head.

<u>Caterpillar</u>: "I wonder why that butterfly was looking at us that way?" He shrugs it off and continues practicing trying to fly by jumping off a chair and flapping his arms.

Another Caterpillar: This caterpillar decides that jumping off the chair isn't the right way to proceed. He decides that they need to pray harder. All the caterpillars start praying and then some of the caterpillars decide to fast until their wings grow. After a while they are all laying on the ground tired and hungry.

Butterflies: At this point the butterflies come in again and are startled at all the caterpillars laying on the ground moaning.

<u>Butterfly</u>: "What has happened to you? Are you sick? Why are you so exhausted?

<u>Caterpillar</u>: "Me and all of the other caterpillars are getting better for Jesus. We are trying to become real strong so that our wings will grow. Someday we will fly and do great things for God, but first we need to pray more and fast harder."

<u>Butterflies</u>: The butterflies then explain to the caterpillars, "It is not about us getter better but Jesus growing bigger. God wants His Son to grow in us and change us from the inside out! It's not about us becoming special, but about Jesus shining forth as our Life. God doesn't want us to improve ourselves, He wants us to be like treasure chests so that people will see that Jesus is the treasure within."

<u>Caterpillars</u>: "Whoa,...we never thought about it that way. We were just trying to be on fire for God. We were trying harder than all the other caterpillars, and we actually felt pretty proud about that. But we want Jesus to be seen. How do we allow that to happen?

<u>Butterflies</u>: "It's time for you to wrap up in your cocoons. Rather than focusing on yourself you need to concentrate on letting Jesus grow. Your outward caterpillar body needs to be put away. That was why Jesus died on the Cross, and so now you can hold onto the work that He did on the Cross! And as you are putting off your old caterpillar ways you can let your faith and the Word of God fill your heart so that the Holy Spirit can form Christ in you. As Jesus gets bigger, He will change you by giving you His wings of Life. It takes time for Him to grow and only God can do this work in us. It is our place to believe and become a happy home for Jesus to grow in!

At this time the caterpillars start wrapping up in cocoons. They can crawl into potato sacks or wrap up in cloths, or get into nets, etc. Be creative. This will be the end of day two's drama, for on Day three they will emerge with their wings!

Day Three Basic Skit

At the beginning of skit, the caterpillars are in their cocoons. That can be shown by using potato sacks, nets, or just having then squatting in a hunched over position, or any other way you can think of.

As the caterpillars are positioned in their cocoons, the butterflies come in to look at them and begin talking:

One Butterfly: "These caterpillars have been in their cocoons for a long time! I know that their wings have been growing and getting real big inside of those cocoons! Some day soon they will fly!"

Another Butterfly: "But how can you be sure? Look, all I see is an ugly brown little shell. They should be out here with us, working hard and helping people."

Other Butterfly: "When they get their wings they will be able to help so many people and work harder then ever for their wings will carry them. Just give them time to let Jesus grow inside of them and you will see the difference!"

At this time the caterpillars start moving and squirming in the cocoons. Each caterpillar should have on a set of wings under his cocoon. They now begin to emerge from their cocoons and reveal their beautiful new wings. They start to fly around the room rejoicing!!!

Caterpillars: "Praise God! Jesus has given us His wings! What we could not do, Jesus in us can do! Now that He has grown in us, we can fly!!! We don't have to crawl around on the earth in our own strength any more! Now we can dwell in the heavens and be carried by our wings! Look at the view from up here, everything looks different! We can fly to so many caterpillars now and share how beautiful the heavens are and let them know that they too can fly! Soon the sky will be filled with butterflies!"

More In Depth SKIT

"Self Effort Verses Life"

(This is the same Caterpillar - Butterfly theme with a specific emphasis of self effort verses Life)

Two Day Bible Club with the additional characters: Larry Law, Suzy the Cleaning Lady, Gallorpathorp the frog, Prisoner of the Earth, Father Abraham, & Heart Man

***Caterpillars and puppets come in, moaning groaning, miserable and complaining. They are singing the "Muddy Glums" song.

They are acting silly. Each caterpillar is carrying a puppet with them; either "Prisoner of the earth" (animal the muppet puppet that was a drummer) or "Gallorpathorp" (an ugly frog puppet). All together these caterpillar actors with puppets show forth the misery of leading a crawling lifestyle. They interact with each other and the puppets and the kids. Gallorpathorp feels too ugly and hopeless to ever change, and "Prisoner of the Earth" puppet has chains on his hands and feet that symbolize his bondage to the gravity of the earth and his inability to fly above it.

***Larry Law (a police man puppet) *Larry represents legalism and the law that demands you to do things in your own strength apart from the Life of Christ in you. His attitude is much like a drill sergeant demanding good attitudes from everyone. Larry comes in and releases depressing legalistic negativism on the caterpillars!!! He commands them to try harder, act nicer, be a better Christian. He might say things such as, "Can't you be more loving... give me a hundred push-ups and try again". He is shouting and making the caterpillars feel hopeless and more depressed.

The caterpillars moan and groan feeling condemned and hopeless from Larry Law's unending demands and their failures.

Next enters Suzy the Cleaning Lady:

***Suzy the Cleaning Lady: Suzy represents the attitude of "cleaning yourself up" apart from Christ in you being your righteousness and Life. She might say things such as, "cleanliness is next to godliness, etc).

Suzy comes in and tells them to clean themselves up, wipe off the dirt and start acting like butterflies.

The Caterpillars are completely discouraged after Larry and Suzy are done with them. They are laying on the ground in depression and defeat.

***Butterflies come in and fly around and tell them that they can grow wings.

The Caterpillars are amazed and want to believe that someday they could be like them. They are still more aware of their failures and hopeless crawling, but they want to believe that they were made to fly.

***Heart man (A big heart puppet)

Heart man comes in and tells the children that what those caterpillars are feeling deep in their hearts is faith. Deep inside they know they were meant to be butterflies. That is what God wants to happen! Deep inside they know that Jesus is in them and He wants to grow!

***Father Abraham (A Patriarchal looking puppet or costume) comes in and asks if we want to be caterpillars or butterflies? He is also explaining how Jesus is in us and wants to grow in us and give us His wings.

SONG "You Can Be A Butterfly!"

MEMORY VERSE TIME!!!

John 3:30 "Jesus must get bigger and I must get smaller."

Col. 1:27 "Jesus living in us is our hope of making God happy."

***Caterpillars come in again trying to fly. First the caterpillars try to fly by going to "flight school" and try to fly by using flight school techniques, (jumping off of chairs, etc...) This doesn't work so then they act holy and try to earn wings by their self righteous behavior! They are praying harder, reading their bible more, fasting...etc. etc. etc.!! By the end of this they are so exhausted and hungry that they end up on the floor worn out.



Larry Law enters and starts shouting at them like a drill sergeant, "Get up and pray louder, fast longer, try harder"

The caterpillars do their best to follow Larry's commands... but they are completely worn down and burnt out, and no matter how hard they try they continue to fall back to the ground.

They realize that all this doesn't work so they roll around in the mud again, feeling hopeless, like they can never grow wings.

***Super Boy puppet (A boy puppet in a superman cape)

Super Boy puppet flies in with his cape and begins to boast in his good works and how much better he is than everyone else. He is full of arrogance and is completely condescending to the caterpillars.



***Animal puppets tells boy puppet that butterflies don't act like he is acting. They always come down and try to protect and encourage the caterpillars. They don't act better, they use their wings to cover and help the caterpillars. Boy puppet's cape is not wings!!! He is just a proud caterpillar boasting in all the good things he is doing rather than letting Jesus grow bigger in him. He is a caterpillar too, and his cape is not wings.

***Super boy puppet bows down his head and says that he forgot about Jesus and was trying to fly in his own strength, and by his own works. His heart was full of pride and not love and relationship with Jesus. He was treating his brothers and sisters badly. He starts to cry confessing that He needs Jesus to grow in him.



***The butterflies come in and comfort Boy puppet, then the caterpillars and the puppets come and pray for super boy puppet together. As they pray they all confess that only Jesus in us gives us the ability to grow wings, and that we all need Him. They pray to love each other and trust God while they are believing for Jesus to grow in them.

*** Father Abraham comes in and shares that they all can grow wings and their time is now!! They can stop working on trying to act better and start letting Jesus grow bigger. Father Abraham tells them that they need to build a cocoon where they can let Jesus grow and put off their old caterpillar ways.



DAY TWO

Two Caterpillars come in. One is a hungry for Jesus caterpillar and the other is a questioning caterpillar.

The hungry caterpillar is singing: "Jesus draw me close" with all her heart.

"Jesus Draw Me Close
Closer Lord To You
Let The World Around Me Fade Away
Jesus Draw Me Close
Closer Lord To You
For I Desire To See You Face To Face"

<u>Questioning Caterpillar</u>: After she is done singing the questioning caterpillar asks the other, "Why are you singing that? Jesus already lives in our hearts. We don't have to think about Jesus anymore, right?"

The Hungry caterpillar says, "I can't help it... now that Jesus is in my heart I want Him more than ever!!!"

Questioning caterpillar: "But you already have Him!"

Hungry Caterpillar: But I want to know Him more, and I want Him to fill my heart, not just be in it! I want Jesus to grow and grow in me until He fills me to overflowing. I want to know Him better than I know my best friend. I want to fly and not crawl anymore. I want to love and not fight! I feel like Jesus in me will give me His wings to do these things!

(Additional hungry caterpillar statements...) "I'm ready to let Jesus live in me. He must get bigger and I must be smaller. Jesus is the Life that my Father God wants to grow in me. Pretending to be a good Christian does not make my Father happy. I want to stop my pretending. I am tired of struggling to try and make myself better. I am separating my heart to know Jesus everyday in every way. Knowing Jesus makes my wings grow. God my Father has given me His Son Jesus so that He can live through me.

Heart Man: WOW! That is so right! Your heart loves Jesus and wants to know Him as much and as deep and as full as possible! Some people just pray a prayer and then forget about Him, but He wants us to be so close to Him that we are filled with His love!!! If we let that happen then we will no longer crawl, we will fly with Him. (Heart man then leads the kids in a prayer to be closer to Jesus and to know Him and to let His life grow in them until they are filled with His life and love and flying. It is a prayer for Christ to be formed in them.)

Questions and Answers time with Father Abraham!

Father Abraham can ask the children... "What is the difference between these two caterpillars? (One is hungry and the other is not. One caterpillar's heart is towards the Lord and the other doesn't really seem to care about knowing the Lord more.)

Another question: Which caterpillar do you think is ready to grow wings?

***Rap Puppet Raps His Day Two Poem!

***Sing the Hungering Song

***MEMORY VERSE TIME.!!!

Galatians 4:19 "My little children, I really want Jesus to grow in you!

Romans 7:24 "Who will deliver me from this body that crawls and cannot fly?"

SECOND PART OF SKIT

*** In this section you will have the two caterpillars standing before the class. Each caterpillar is gradually entering it's cocoon. Romans 7 / Questioning caterpillar is struggling like an animal caught in a net. Larry Law and Suzy are shouting commands to try harder, causing this caterpillar to struggle more. You can even add a devil puppet that is also standing there heaping condemnation upon this caterpillar.

Hungry caterpillar is just delighting herself in knowing the Lord and wanting for His Life to grow in her. As she continues to seek Him the heart puppet encourages her while pulling the cocoon net gradually over her until she is covered.



Caterpillars: The Caterpillars are now positioned before the children. Questioning Caterpillar is now also called "Romans 7 struggling" caterpillar because he is struggling under the law to be free from the law of sin and death. This caterpillar is bound up in a big net that represents a cocoon. He is squirming and wiggling trying to do enough good works to break free from the bondage of the cocoon. Larry Law is right along side of him shouting demands and reprimanding him for not trying hard enough. Suzy the cleaning lady is also there commanding him to clean up his act. A devil puppet is heaping condemnation on him.

The hungry caterpillar is separating her heart to seek and know the Lord in oneness. This caterpillar is no longer seeking self improvement but has turned her entire focus onto the Lord Himself. She is reading her bible to know His heart. She is praying to commune with the Lord and spend time with Him. She is embracing the work of the Cross by receiving and believing that the Cross has removed the old creation so that the new creation life of Jesus might grow and manifest through her. As she speaks of these things, her cocoon forms around her until she is completely hid inside of it. All this time Heart Man is right beside her, encouraging her to keep her heart towards the Lord.

<u>Father Abraham</u> walks up to Romans seven caterpillar, bound in his cocoon net, and asks, "What is going on?" The caterpillar answers, "I have been trying to be nicer to my sister and more obedient to my parents. I have been trying not to get mad at my friends and be mean, but I just can't!!! The harder I try the more tied up I feel in this net!!

Have Heart Man Sing "The Way to become a Butterfly" Song to the kids and questioning caterpillar



<u>Father Abraham</u>: "Oh little caterpillar, you are looking in the wrong place!!! God knows that you can't do those things, that is why He put Jesus in you. Stop trying to get stronger and let Jesus get bigger. Don't do things to get better or earn something, but read your bible and pray to know Jesus so that He can grow bigger.

Heart Man Puppet begins to talk about relationship and not works. He tells Roman's seven puppet that he needs to stop squirming and let the outward man perish while the inward man is being renewed. He shares that reading your bible is like searching the heart of Jesus to know Him, and prayer is like spending time with Him. These things happen because of a love relationship. They will not earn you wings. Only as we come to know Jesus in a real relationship will His wings grow in us. He shares that this is what the other caterpillar has done, and she is being transformed from the inside out by the life of Jesus.

**** While the caterpillars remain in their cocoons we all sing

"The Cocoon Song" and do the little dance!

*** Rap Puppet Raps His Day Three Poem!

We can also sing, "Read your bible pray everyday and Jesus will grow grow grow!!"

Roman's 7 Caterpillar: After the song this caterpillar begins to realize that it is a relationship with a person (Jesus) not a work to do that earns things. "I am tired of struggling to make myself better, I am ready to let Jesus grow!!! We're not getting better, Jesus is growing bigger. He must get bigger but I must get smaller." He begins to stop struggling and starts seeking to know the Lord.

Hungery WOW!!! Just like Heart Puppet said, I have been getting closer to Jesus here in my cocoon! I have been talking to Him (praying) and searching the Bible to know His heart!!! My heart is becoming more and more full of His love. I even think I am growing wings.. Wait a minute.... Woah What is happening???!!!

(At this point the caterpillar comes out from the cocoon bearing beautiful brand new butterfly wings! Right after that Romans 7 caterpillar comes out from his cocoon with wings too!)





Caterpillars start flying around the room praising Jesus!

***We all sing "Hallehlujah... your life give us wings"

Father Abraham: The more we come to know Jesus, the more His life grows in us, and eventually He gives us

wings. What we cannot do, Jesus in us --- HE can do! When we let Him live in us we can fly!

Caterpillar hugs other caterpillars and butterflies. Everyone rejoices and praises God!

^{*}Now all the teachers and puppets perform the "final skit" song together.

Salvation Version Of Bible Club

In this skit the caterpillars will represent the unsaved children rather than the child who is already born again but has not yet had Christ formed within.

This script can serve as an example of how you can put together your own script and schedule and be lead of Lord for the specific elements that are important for the children you are ministering to.)

Two Miserable Caterpillars: These two caterpillars come in from the back of the room (or yard) squabbling and complaining and fighting. They are mad at each other and acting just plain naughty! They may moan and roll around in the dirt acting tired of crawling all the time. They are demonstrating what we are like (in little kid ways) without Jesus in us! They may be picking on each other over small things while acting miserable and irritable.



<u>Father Abraham</u>: After doing this for a while the caterpillars freeze and Father Abraham comes in and talks about what we all are like without Jesus and how sad it is to live in the dirt with a sad and empty heart. He talks about being caterpillars with no wings, no love, and no joy.

<u>Butterflies</u>: The butterflies come in flying and laughing and being nice to each other. They are praising God, hugging and caring one for another, helping a little ant, checking on a turtle... etc. They are just generally loving and caring and flying about.

(As the butterflies are flying about the caterpillars "unfreeze" and marvel at the love, beauty and freedom of the butterflies, doubting that they could ever be like that.)

<u>Father Abraham</u>: After the butterflies do this for a while they freeze and Father Abraham begins to teach about the joy and hope of having Jesus living in our hearts, how His life gives us wings and the ability to love and be nice when we could never be that way in ourselves.

Then, like a dance, the butterflies and the caterpillars unfreeze. The butterflies fly and sing and praise God and the caterpillars cry and squirm and complain. (The children will see the contrast through this!)

<u>Father Abraham</u>: After this goes on for a while Father Abraham asks the kids if they would rather be a caterpillar or a butterfly. Then he tells the kids that they can be a butterfly because Jesus wants to make them a butterfly. Jesus died so that all caterpillars could be butterflies that have Jesus in their hearts!!!

Gallorpathorp (ugly frog puppet) and Father Abraham:

At this time Gallorpathorp comes in, sad and depressed, feeling so blue and horrible. He tells Father Abraham that someone as bad and naughty and ugly as he is could never be a butterfly. He then sings "The Muddy Glums" song to Father Abraham and to the kids. Father Abraham just listens... but while he is listening he puts on glasses, the "Father's eyes" glasses.



Rapper puppet: A puppet dressed up as a rap musician comes in and does the day one poem as a rap.

<u>Gallorpathorp</u>: When Gallorpathorp is done singing and Rapper puppet is done rapping, they both ask Father Abraham why he has those silly glasses on?

Father Abraham: Father tells them they are like the eyes of God the Father, and can show us the way the Father's eyes see us. That no matter



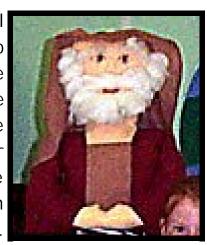
how bad we feel or naughty we act, God always loves us and sees us people who were created to be a part of His family. The Father sent His very own Son to die so we could have Jesus in our heart and be a part of God's loving family forever.

SECOND PART OF SKIT

<u>Caterpillars</u>: The caterpillars come in loudly calling out for Father Abraham. They are crying out to become butterflies, they want Jesus to be in them, but they don't know how!

One caterpillar says that he will do anything, pray all day... try to never sin again... fast... sing and shout... whatever it takes to become a butterfly.

Father Abraham: Father Abraham says that all they need to do is simply as Jesus to come into their heart and live in them. Jesus is a love gift from the heart of the Father and all we have to do is receive Him! Jesus is dying to live in our hearts!!! We were made to fly by our hearts being full of Jesus! Jesus is the Father's gift to us, and Jesus wants more than anything to make His home in our hearts.



*** At this point Father Abraham leads a salvation prayer. You may have someone playing the guitar to the song, "Come into my Heart, Lord Jesus."

Now you want to affirm with each child that prayed that Jesus is truly in them and will never leave them no matter what. They are part of the family of God! Rejoice with them!

SING "Come Into My Heart Lord Jesus" and "You Can Be A Butterfly"

*** A possible alternative craft for this class is "Father's eye's glasses" Take plastic 3d glasses and have the children put butterfly stickers on them. Afterwards have the children put the glasses on look at each other saying, "God sees that Jesus is in you!"

(Note: It is always so important to be led by the Holy Spirit and not restricted by your script and lines. Trust the Lord to fill your heart with a sensitivity to what these children need in order for their hearts to truly embrace Christ within. Take the time to answer questions and go over any detail that you sense the Lord wants to shine into their hearts by His Spirit and Presence among them.)

From this point you may want to proceed using the other scripts. You can clarify that now the caterpillars represent children that have already asked Jesus into their hearts,... but are hungry for more of Him.



Day One Additional Skit

"A Butterfly With The Wrong Attitude"

A Butterfly dressed up like a superhero walks in the room and comes up to some caterpillars:

"Here I am to save the day!" I'll crush those evil-doers! All they do is crawl around and cause trouble!"

Another normal butterfly walks in and asks the superhero butterfly: "What are you doing?"

Superhero Butterfly:

"Now that I have the power of God, I am going to stop all the yucky, icky, bad and disgusting caterpillar stuff!"

Normal Butterfly:

"But you don't beat caterpillars! You show them that they can turn into butterflies, just like happened to you. You were once a caterpillar just like them. Look! I have pictures." (Normal butterfly shows superhero butterflies old pictures from before he had wings.)

Superhero Butterfly:

"Oh, wow! I almost forgot. Jesus is what changed me! His grace and love helped me to understand that His Life was my only hope!"

Normal Butterfly:"

"You really shouldn't be walking down here, you should be flying above and seeing things from up there. Down here things are discouraging, but as we view things from above we see others the way that Jesus sees them. We are to love the caterpillars and help them learn how to grow their wings. They belong to Jesus and He loves them very much!"

Day Two Supplemental Teaching Ideas

The Seed Example:

A good example to use at this time may be the principle of planting a seed in the ground. Plant a seed in front of the children so that they can see you have buried it into the dirt. Then ask the children where the seed is. They will tell you that it is in the dirt. Point out that they cannot see the seed, and there is nothing growing yet to prove it is in the dirt. Explain to them that when they were born again Jesus was planted into their hearts, just like the seed they just saw. Let them know that it will take time, water, and sunlight to help the tiny seed become a beautiful flower. Explain that it the same principle with the caterpillars. Deep inside they have a butterfly waiting to grow wings, but before that change can happen they must become hidden away in a cocoon where the new life can grow. In the cocoon the changes are happening deep inside of the caterpillar where Christ is growing and one day He will blossom forth in wings for all to see!

*Just like the seed needs water, sunlight, and time to grow, we need faith, the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to help Jesus grow inside of us!

The Cocoon is like an incubator of Faith:



The cocoon is like the incubators that they put little babies in. Our heart must be like an incubator that Jesus can grow in. We keep our incubator warm with faith and love. We can't let our faith grow cold for this is the time period where faith and hope must fill our hearts

so the life of Jesus that is in us can start forming. It is a special time. Jesus said that if we would believe then we will see the glory of God.

<u>Lazarus in his Grave</u>, <u>An Example of the C</u>ocoon:

Lazarus was stuck in a stinky old grave. He was bound up tight in grave cloths and hid away from all his friends. Everyone was crying and no one had hope for Lazarus... except Jesus. He knew that resurrection life was going to bring Lazarus out of his grave. Jesus understood what was happening and wanted everyone else to understand too. The caterpillar in its cocoon could feel just like



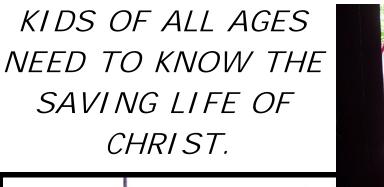
Lazarus did in his grave... stinky, hopeless, and stuck in a dark, cold, and tight place all alone. But now we can learn the secret! New life is coming soon and all we have to do is believe and let the Resurrection life of Jesus grown in us, fill us and change us!

One More Example:

Noah in the Ark, An example of the Cocoon:

Our cocoon time where Christ is growing deep inside of us could feel like Noah with all the animals in the stinky ark for so long. Noah was not going to be in the ark forever because God had a whole new creation outside the ark for him to live in. Some days Noah may have felt stuck and depressed because it was so stuffy inside that ark with nowhere to go. But just outside the ark was the fresh breeze and blue skies that God had prepared for him to live in. And it the same for us; we must remember that as the Life of Jesus grows in us we will be liberated from crawling and confinement to experience the wings of His Resurrection Life carrying us!

Teachers Note: These examples can help show us how many ways we can communicate these lessons. I know the Lord will fill your heart with examples from the Word of God to ignite young hearts with the truth of the Gospel. Develop your own curriculum and be free to let His living waters pour out of you to others!





Day Two Additional Drama

"What It Really Means To Be A Crawler"

Teacher's note: The goal of this drama is to define what it means to not yet have wings. We want the children to comprehend that crawling represents the attitudes of the old nature and our inability to change them apart from the Life of Jesus. You can demonstrate this in many areas such as unforgiveness, anger, selfishness, and any of the other fruit of the Adamic nature. This will prepare the kids to understand that resurrection wings are made manifest when these attitudes are overcome by the Life of Jesus. Where there once was unforgiveness, Christ flows forth in forgiveness and love. The impatient become longsuffering and the insensitive become tender towards others all because that is how Jesus is and He has grown within.

Remember! You always have the option of using puppets instead of people when performing these dramas!

In this drama we have one angry caterpillar and one unforgiving caterpillar.

<u>Angry Caterpillar</u>: "I am so mad at you! You hurt my feelings when you were mean to me and now I feel angry all the time. I just want to get back at you so that you will feel bad too!"

<u>Unforgiving Caterpillar</u>: "Well I was mean to you because you weren't fair to me when we were playing with our toys. You took my best toy and never gave it back. I will never forgive you for doing that to me, and I have the right to be mean to you because of it!"

Angry Caterpillar: "Fine, I hope we are never friends again."

Unforgiving Caterpillar: "Yeah, me too."

They both stomp away from each other and exit the room.

*** this drama is continued on day three

Day Three Additional Drama Part Two "What It Really Means To Be A Flyer"

Teachers Note: This is a continuation of "Day Two Additional Drama; What It Really Means To Be A Crawler." Our goal is to show the kids what wings are really made of! The Life of Christ being formed in us is what gives us our wings. His Life is most clearly displayed through His nature. the children may think the wings are there to give them power and make them special, but the true power of God was most powerfully seen when Jesus would not get off the Cross but died because of His love for us. We want the kids to understand what an increase of Christ really means. This can be illustrated by first showing the caterpillar who cannot forgive or be kind, etc. After the transformation into a butterfly that same caterpillar now forgives and loves freely, for Jesus in Him has brought newness of Life... wings! Many skits can be written, and you might even have improvisation sessions where you have the children make up their own skits. You can have them first be caterpillars that show that they need more of Jesus, and afterwards they can show how the Life of Christ gave them their wings and how those wings changed their attitudes, etc.

Angry caterpillar and unforgiving caterpillar have on their caterpillar costumes covered with brown cloth, or something that could represent a cocoon Hidden underneath these costumes are wings. They should have an easy method prepared of shedding their cocoons and displaying their wings.

Angry Caterpillar: "Hey how are you doing? I haven't seen you in a long time. What have you been doing?"

Unforgiving Caterpillar: "I have been spending time with the Lord, crying out for more of Jesus to live in me! I felt sad after we had our fight, but every time I would try to forgive you in my heart, all I would feel was hurt and anger. But I know Jesus loves us, and that He would help me to forgive you because He lives in me. Now He has put a new love in my heart for you!"

Angry Caterpillar: "Wow, I've felt the same way. I was so angry I couldn't even think about you. But Jesus began to soften my heart and fill it with His love. Now I have a new love for you too!"

The two caterpillars now hug each other and as they do, their wings come out from under the cocoon. They embrace each other with their new wings and then they fly around the room together praising God!