

Speak Jesus **WORKBOOK**



Public Speaking
AGES
8-12

Speak Jesus Workbook: Ages 8-12

This workbook is a part of the ***Empowering Kids Faith through Public Speaking*** initiative. It was created as an educational product to help children improve their public speaking skills and share their faith with others.

Text Copyright © 2024 Central California Conference
All rights reserved.

Second Edition

No part of this workbook may be reproduced, or stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without express written permission.

Author and Design by Lisa Plasencia, MA COMM

For additional copies email ChildMinDirector@cccsda.org



Table of Contents

Intro	What's this Workbook For? How to Use This Workbook	Pg. 2
Recitation - Ch 1	Introduction to Recitation	Pg. 4
Storytelling - Ch 2	Introduction to Storytelling	Pg. 10
Artistic Expression - Ch 3	Introduction to Artistic Expression	Pg. 16
Persuasive Speaking and Sermonettes - Ch 4	Introduction to Persuasive Speaking	Pg. 22
Additional Tips	General Public Speaking Tips	Pg. 29

Welcome to the Speak Jesus Workbook!

Hey there, we're so excited that you're here and ready to prepare for your public speaking adventure! This workbook is made just for you to help you get ready to share an awesome speech or story when you come to camp. But here's the thing—you don't have to do everything in this book! Let's talk about how you can use it to get ready in your own way.

What's This Workbook For?

The goal of this workbook is to help you prepare for your speech. It's full of ideas, tips, and examples to get you started, but you get to decide what works best for you. Think of it like a toolbox. You don't need to use every tool, just the ones that help you build the best speech possible!

Choose Your Speaking Category!

Before you start, think about which category you'd like to speak in. Each one is different and special in its own way!

Here are the four categories you can choose from:

1. **Recitation:** Do you love poems or Bible verses? In Recitation, you can pick a poem or verse that means something to you, memorize it, and perform it in a way that helps people understand and feel its message.
2. **Storytelling:** Do you enjoy telling stories? In Storytelling, you'll create a story that teaches a lesson or shares an important message about "The Gift of Salvation." You can use your voice and expressions to make your story come alive!
3. **Artistic Expression:** Do you like creating art? In Artistic Expression, you'll make a piece of art—like a drawing, painting, or sculpture—that shows a message about "The Gift of Salvation." You'll get to explain your art and what it means to you!
4. **Persuasion and Sermonettes:** Do you like to speak and inspire others? In this category, you'll give a speech or short sermon that encourages others to think about "The Gift of Salvation" and maybe even take action.

How to Use This Workbook

1. **Pick Your Category:** First, choose which category you want to speak in: Recitation, Storytelling, Artistic Expression, or Persuasion and Sermonettes.
2. **Go to Your Section:** Find the section for your chosen category in the workbook. You'll see tips, activities, and examples that can help you get started.
3. **Choose What Helps You Most:** You don't have to do everything! Look through the activities and pick the ones that interest you or that you think will help you the most. Maybe you want to practice a story you already have in mind, or you need some ideas for how to start your speech—use what you need!
4. **Prepare Your Outline:** Use the tips and exercises to help you create an outline for your speech or presentation. An outline is like a map that shows the beginning, middle, and end of what you want to say. Bring this outline with you to camp so you're ready to go!

Have Fun and Be Creative!

This is your chance to be creative, share what's important to you, and maybe even inspire others. We're here to help you, but the most important thing is that you have fun and feel proud of what you create. We can't wait to hear what you have to share.



Introduction to Recitation

Recitation is an art form where we perform a poem, Bible verse, or any short piece of text out loud, **conveying** its meaning with emotion and clarity. It's a powerful way to share messages, feelings, and stories that **resonate** with the heart. Recitation can be done with an original poem you write or by selecting a piece that inspires you, such as a favorite Bible verse or a well-loved Christian poem.

In this category, you will learn how to:

- Understand the meaning and emotion behind the words.
- Use your voice, rhythm, and pauses to bring the words to life.
- Connect with your audience by expressing what the poem or scripture means to you.

Theme Connection: *The Gift of Salvation*

Our speaking theme, "The Gift of Salvation," invites you to think deeply about what **salvation** means to you and how it can be shared through recitation. Salvation is a powerful concept found throughout the Bible, and many verses and poems capture its significance, such as Psalms 62:1, "Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him."

Key words

Conveying: Sharing or showing an idea or feeling clearly so that others can understand it.

Resonate: When something feels true, important, or special to you, like when a song or story really connects with your heart.

Salvation: Being saved by God's love and forgiveness, through believing in Jesus, what He has done for us, and asking God to take our sins away.

When choosing or writing a piece for recitation, consider these questions:

- How does this piece reflect the idea of salvation?
- What emotions or imagery does it use to convey this theme?
- How can your delivery make the message more meaningful to your audience?

Think of recitation as a way to become a storyteller who uses voice and expression to paint a picture of God's love and salvation. Whether you're writing a poem or selecting a verse, your goal is to move the audience and help them feel the beauty and power of "The Gift of Salvation."

Activities and Exercises

Recitation

These activities aim to make recitation fun and engaging while building confidence in speaking abilities and understanding the power of words.

1. Emotion Match Game

- Write down different emotions on cards (e.g., happy, sad, excited, serious).
- Choose a simple poem or Bible verse and read it out loud using the emotion on the card. Practice switching emotions to see how they change the way the poem or verse feels.
- **Objective:** To learn how voice tone and emotion can change the message's impact.

2. Rhythm and Clap Exercise

- Pick a short verse or poem and break it into small parts (lines or phrases).
- Read each part out loud while clapping or tapping along to the natural rhythm of the words.
- **Objective:** To understand the natural rhythm in poetry and how to use it in recitation.

3. Mirror Practice

- Practice reciting your chosen piece in front of a mirror. Watch how your mouth moves and how your facial expressions change.
- Ask yourself: Does my face match the emotion of the words? Am I using my hands or body to help tell the story?
- **Objective:** To build self-awareness and confidence in using expressions during recitation.

4. Recitation Circle

- Gather with friends or family in a circle. Each person takes a turn reciting a well-known verse or nursery rhyme while the others listen.
- After each recitation, share positive feedback about what you liked and one suggestion for making it even better.
- **Objective:** To practice public speaking with familiar pieces in a supportive environment and learn from each other.

Reflection on Recitation

Before starting this section pick which poem or verses you will recite. Once you have your piece picked the following reflection prompts and preparation activities will help you think about your recitation piece more deeply and prepare you to present confidently.

1. Reflection Prompts:

- **What Made You Choose This Piece?** Think about why this poem or Bible verse is special to you. Is there a particular line or message that stands out? Write a few sentences or draw a picture about what drew you to this piece.



2. How Does This Piece Make You Feel?:

- Write down two or three emotions that you feel when you read this piece. Does it make you feel happy, hopeful, or comforted?
- Why?

3. What Do You Want the Audience to Learn or Feel?

- Imagine someone listening to your poem or verse for the first time. What do you hope they will learn or feel after hearing your performance?

Preparation for Recitation

1. Preparation Activities:

- **Recitation Journal:** Keep a small journal where you write down thoughts about your recitation practice sessions. Note what went well and what you'd like to improve next time.
- **Voice and Breathing Warm-Ups:** Start each practice session with a few minutes of voice and breathing exercises to help warm up your voice and calm any nerves. (coaches to lead exercises)
- **Mini Audience Practice:** Gather a few family members or friends and perform a shorter version of your recitation. Ask them what they felt or thought during your performance, and use their feedback to make changes.

CHECKLIST



Have you practiced your recitation enough to feel comfortable with it?



Are you ready to explain why you chose this piece and what it means to you?



Did you check that your recitation and comments on your piece lasts between 3-5 minutes?

Recitation Section: Speech Outline Guidance

The goal is to keep the structure simple and easy to follow. This outline will help you organize your thoughts and practice how to deliver your recitation with confidence and emotion.

Speech Outline

- **Introduction: Why I Chose This Piece**

- Start by introducing the poem or Bible verse you have chosen or created.
- Explain in a few sentences why you picked it. For example, "I chose this poem because it talks about how God's love is like a big, safe shelter."

- **Body: The Recitation Itself**

- This is where you perform the poem or scripture. Focus on speaking clearly, using your voice to show the emotions (like happiness, sadness, or excitement) that the words express.
- Practice using different tones and rhythms to make the recitation more interesting. Remember, this part is all about sharing the piece with your audience!

- **Conclusion: What It Means to Me**

- End by telling the audience what the poem or verse means to you.
- Think about how it connects to the theme, "The Gift of Salvation." For example, "This poem reminds me that God's gift of salvation is like a light that never goes out, even on the darkest days."

TIPS

- Use pauses to let important words sink in.
- Don't rush! Take your time to let the audience feel the meaning.

Recitation: Sample Outlines

Sample Outline

To help you get started, here is a sample outline for a recitation of a Bible verse or a longer poem. Your total speaking time should be between 3-5 minutes. This means you may need to recite several verses or stanzas or repeat some parts with emphasis to fill the time.

1. Introduction: Why I Chose This Piece

- "Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I chose this poem because it reminds me of how God's love is always with us. I will be reciting a few stanzas from a poem that speaks about God's light and protection."

2. Body: The Recitation Itself

- [Recite multiple verses or stanzas. Remember to use your voice to show the emotion of the words. Speak clearly, and don't rush.]
- Example: If reciting Psalm 23, include several verses: "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing..." (Recite up to verse 4 or 5 to help fill the full 3-5 minute performance, adding emphasis on different parts).

3. Conclusion: What It Means to Me

- "This poem and these verses mean a lot to me because they talk about God's love as a light that guides us, which is like the gift of salvation God gives us. I hope this message helps you feel God's light today."

- 
- **Use Your Hands and Face:** Your hands, face, and body can help tell the story! Don't be afraid to use them to show feelings.
 - **Take Deep Breaths:** Don't forget to breathe. Deep breaths help you speak clearly and confidently.

Introduction to Storytelling

Storytelling is a way to share a message or lesson by telling a story that has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Stories can make people feel happy, sad, excited, or even inspired. When you tell a story, you're not just saying words—you're painting pictures in the minds of your listeners and taking them on a journey.

Why Storytelling is Powerful:

- **People Remember Stories:** A good story sticks in people's minds. They might forget facts or details, but they'll remember how your story made them feel.
- **Stories Teach Lessons:** Jesus used stories called parables to teach people important lessons about God and how to live.
- **You Can Be Creative:** You can make your story funny, serious, or adventurous—whatever you think will best share the message you want to tell.

Theme Connection: *"The Gift of Salvation"*

Our theme, "The Gift of Salvation," is a message about how God saves us and shows us His love. When you create your story, think about how this theme can be part of your storytelling. Here are some ways to connect your story to "The Gift of Salvation":

- **Think About a Lesson:** What lesson about salvation do you want your story to teach? Maybe it's about forgiveness, love, or how God helps us when we are lost.
- **Create Characters with a Purpose:** Make your characters go through something that shows the audience what salvation means. For example, a lost sheep that finds its way back to the shepherd or a friend who forgives another friend.
- **End with a Message:** Just like Jesus' parables, your story should end with a clear message. What do you want your listeners to learn about God's gift of salvation from your story?

Think of storytelling as being a guide. You're leading your audience through a world that you create. Your job is to make them see, hear, and feel everything that happens in your story. And when your story ends, they should feel like they've learned something important about "The Gift of Salvation."

When you're planning your story, ask yourself:

- What lesson or message about salvation do I want to share?
- Who will be the characters in my story, and what will happen to them?
- How can I make my story exciting and meaningful from start to finish?

Activities and Exercises for Storytelling

These activities will help you build your storytelling skills and prepare a meaningful story that connects to "The Gift of Salvation." Get ready to be creative, think deeply, and have fun!

1. Story Starters

- Use these story starters to spark your imagination. Pick one and continue the story in your own words:
 - "Once upon a time, there was a small, lost lamb who was searching for its way back home..."
 - "A kind girl found a mysterious letter that told her about a great gift waiting for her..."
- **Objective:** Practice starting a story with an interesting beginning that grabs attention. Think about how you can build the story around the theme of salvation.

2. Character Creation Challenge

- Create a character who learns about "The Gift of Salvation." Draw a picture of your character and answer these questions:
 - What is your character's name?
 - What problem do they face?
 - How do they learn about God's love and salvation?
- **Objective:** Understand that characters are key to telling a good story and that their journey can teach a lesson.

3. Act It Out!

- Choose a part of your story and act it out in front of a family member or friend. Use your voice, face, and body to make it come alive.
- **Objective:** Learn how to use expressions and body language to make your storytelling more engaging and exciting.

4. Story Map Adventure

- Draw a map that shows the journey your characters will take in your story. Mark important places where things happen and where your character learns something new.
- **Objective:** Visualize the story's progression and understand the beginning, middle, and end.

Reflection for Storytelling

Use these questions and activities to think more about your story and get ready to tell it at camp!



Reflection Prompts:

1. What is Your Story About?

- Write one or two sentences about what happens in your story. What is the main thing you want people to know or learn?

2. Who is Your Main Character, and What Do They Learn?

- Think about your main character. Who are they at the beginning of the story?
- What do they learn by the end?
- Write down how they change or what they discover.

3. How Does Your Story End?

- Write down how your story ends.
- Does it have a happy ending, a surprise, or a lesson?
- Make sure the ending shows what your story is trying to teach about "The Gift of Salvation."

4. What Feelings Do You Want Your Audience to Have?

- Think about how you want your listeners to feel when they hear your story. Do you want them to feel happy, excited, or maybe thoughtful? Write down what you hope they feel and why.

Preparation for Storytelling

Preparation Activities:

1. Make a Mini Story Book

- Create a small book with one page for the Beginning, Middle, and End of your story. Draw pictures and write a few words on each page. Practice reading it out loud to someone.
- **Objective:** Keep your storytelling simple and clear, while remembering the important parts.

2. Story Card Game

- Make three cards using your story board: one for the Beginning, one for the Middle, and one for the End of your story. On each card, write or draw what happens in that part. Mix them up and practice putting them in order to tell your story.
- **Objective:** Practice remembering the order of events and telling your story smoothly from start to finish.

3. Character Talk Time

- Pretend to be your main character and talk about what they have learned in your story. Speak in front of a mirror or with a friend. Use your character's voice and expressions.
- **Objective:** Understand your character better and practice showing their emotions and personality.

4. Describe Your Setting

- Draw a picture of where your story takes place. Write three things about this place that make it important to your story.
- **Objective:** Help you think about how the setting helps tell your story and make it more interesting.

5. Five-Second Freeze

- Practice telling a part of your story. Have someone clap their hands and say "Freeze!" Then, hold your pose and think about how you're feeling in that moment. After five seconds, continue.
- **Objective:** Learn to control your body and expressions to make your storytelling more powerful.

Final Checklist
Before Camp:



Is your story ready to tell from beginning to end?



Do you know what the main message of your story is?



Have you practiced using your voice, face, and body to make your story exciting?



Are you ready to share your story about "The Gift of Salvation"?

Speech Outline Guidance for Storytelling

Outlining your story is like creating a map that shows where your story starts, what happens in the middle, and how it ends. A good outline helps you make sure your story is exciting, clear, and meaningful.

Use this simple outline guide to organize your story. Remember, a good story has three main parts: the Beginning, the Middle, and the End.

1. Beginning: Set the Scene

- Who are the characters? Start by introducing the main characters. Who is the hero of your story?
- Where does it take place? Describe where your story happens. Is it a field, a city, or a special place like a church or school?
- What is the problem? Tell what problem the character faces that starts the story. This problem should be related to learning about or understanding "The Gift of Salvation."
- **Example:** "Once upon a time, there was a kind boy named David who lived in a small village. One day, he felt lost because he didn't know what God's love meant."

2. Middle: The Journey

- What happens to the characters? Write about the events that happen as your character tries to solve their problem. What do they do? Who do they meet?
- How do they learn about salvation? Make sure something happens in the middle that helps your character learn about God's gift of salvation.
- **Example:** "David met an old wise man who told him a story about a lost sheep that was found by a caring shepherd. David realized that God's love is like the shepherd—always finding and saving us."

3. End: The Resolution

- How does the story end? Share how the problem is solved. What does the character learn?
- What is the lesson? Make sure the ending shows what your story teaches about "The Gift of Salvation."
- **Example:** "David felt happy and safe knowing that God was always with him, just like the shepherd with his sheep. He decided to share this story with others so they could also feel God's love."

Sample Outlines and Tips for Storytelling

This sample outline is here to give you an idea of what a story could look like. It is not meant to be copied. Your story should be unique, with your own details, characters, and message. Use this sample as a guide to help you think about how to create your own story. Remember, you have many tools to make your story exciting, like using different voices for each character, changing the speed of your speaking, or adding expressions and body movements. Make it your own!

Sample Outline

Here's a sample outline to show you how to put together a simple but powerful story. Think of this as a starting point—you will need to add more details, make your characters come to life, and use your own creativity!

1. Beginning: Set the Scene

- Example: "In a peaceful little village, there was a boy named Sam who loved exploring. One day, he got lost in the woods while looking for a hidden treasure."

2. Middle: The Journey

- Example: "Sam met an old man who told him a story about a great gift. The old man explained that the real treasure was not gold, but the gift of God's love and salvation. As they talked, Sam realized he needed to find his way home, not just in the woods, but also in his heart."

3. End: The Resolution

- Example: "With the old man's help, Sam found his way back to the village and decided to share the story of God's gift with his friends. He learned that God's love was the greatest treasure of all."

Tips to make this and your story come to life:

- Add Your Own Details to This Story: What does Sam see, hear, or feel? What kind of treasure does he think he's looking for? Make your story full of details!
- Use Different Voices: Give each character a different voice. Make the old man sound wise and calm, and make Sam sound young and curious.
- Show Emotions with Your Face and Body: If Sam is scared, show it in your face. If he is excited, let it show in how you move!



Introduction to Artistic Expression

Artistic expression is about using your creativity to share a message or tell a story. This could be through drawing, painting, sculpture, collage, or other types of visual art. The goal is to use your artwork to express a message in a way that words alone might not be able to. Your artistic expression should connect to the theme, "The Gift of Salvation," and help people see and feel that message in a new way.

Why Artistic Expression is Powerful:

- **Art Speaks in Different Ways:** Art can touch people's hearts, make them think, and help them see things in new ways.
- **You Can Be Unique:** Your artwork is a reflection of you! You can use your favorite colors, shapes, and styles to create something that only you can make.
- **Art Can Teach and Inspire:** Just like how stained glass windows tell Bible stories in a church, your artwork can help others understand "The Gift of Salvation" better.

Theme Connection: *"The Gift of Salvation"*

Our theme, "The Gift of Salvation," is about how God saves us and offers us His love. When you create your art, think about how this theme can be shown in a creative way.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- **Think About Symbols:** How can you show salvation through colors, shapes, or symbols? For example, a cross can represent Jesus' sacrifice, a light can symbolize hope, or a heart can show God's love.
- **Use a Story or Scene:** Create a piece that tells a story from the Bible or your life that shows God's gift of salvation. You could paint, draw, or even make a small sculpture of a scene that means a lot to you.
- **Combine Different Art Techniques:** Consider combining techniques like painting and collage or drawing and sculpture to create a layered, meaningful piece that conveys the depth of your message.

Think of artistic expression like painting a picture with your feelings and thoughts. You want your audience to not only see your art but to feel what you are trying to share about "The Gift of Salvation."

When planning your art, ask yourself:

- What message about salvation do I want to share through my art?
- What materials and tools can I use to create something unique?
- How can I make my art meaningful and help others understand what I'm trying to say?

Activities and Exercises for Artistic Expression



These activities will help you explore your creativity and think about how you can use different art forms to share a meaningful message about "The Gift of Salvation." Remember, there are no limits to your creativity—let your imagination lead the way!

1. Symbol Hunt and Sketch

- Think of symbols that could represent "The Gift of Salvation." For example, a cross for Jesus' sacrifice, a dove for peace, or a heart for God's love. Go on a "symbol hunt" around your home, school, or church and look for these symbols in real life. Then, sketch them in a notebook.
- **Objective:** Understand how simple symbols can carry big meanings and start thinking about which ones to include in your own artwork.

2. Color Emotion Experiment

- Draw three pictures using only colors to show three different emotions: joy, peace, and hope. Think about what colors match each emotion (e.g., yellow for joy, blue for peace). Show them to a friend or family member and see if they can guess which emotion each picture represents.
- **Objective:** Learn how colors can express feelings and ideas without using words.

3. Story in a Scene

- Draw or paint a scene from a Bible story that shows God's love and salvation. Think about what happens in the story and what moment you want to capture. Include as many details as you can to help people understand what is happening and why it's important.
- **Objective:** Practice storytelling through art by focusing on details that convey the theme.

4. Collage of Kindness

- Create a collage using pictures, magazine cutouts, or drawings that show what "The Gift of Salvation" means to you. Think about what images or colors best represent salvation and how you can put them together to create a powerful message.
- **Objective:** Explore mixed media to convey a complex idea visually.

Reflection and Preparation for Artistic Expression

Reflecting on your artwork and preparing to present it can help you make it even more meaningful. Use these questions and activities to think about what you want your art to say and how you can help others understand its message.



Reflection Prompts:

1. What is the Message of Your Art?

- Write down in one or two sentences what your artwork is about. What do you want people to feel or think when they see it? How does it connect to "The Gift of Salvation"?

2. Why Did You Choose These Materials and Colors?

- Think about the materials and colors you used. Why did you choose them? How do they help to share your message about salvation? Write a few sentences explaining your choices.

3. How Does Your Art Tell a Story?

- Look at your artwork and think about what story it tells. What is happening in the scene or with the symbols you used? Write down the story your art is telling and how it helps people understand "The Gift of Salvation."

4. What Would You Change or Add?

- Think about your artwork and ask yourself if there is anything you would change or add to make the message clearer or stronger. Write down one or two ideas for how you could improve your piece.

A Note About Art 🎨

Art is a powerful way to express your thoughts, feelings, and ideas—even when words are hard to find. Sometimes, people might see something in your art that you didn't plan or even expect. That's okay! In fact, that's one of the beautiful things about art, it can speak to people in different ways.

Your art might make someone smile, think, or even start a conversation. So don't worry if someone sees something different than what you meant. That doesn't mean you did it wrong, it means your art is doing something wonderful.

Be proud of what you create. Every brushstroke, color choice, or symbol is part of your story.

Preparation Activities Continues:

1. Art Story Practice

- Practice explaining your artwork to a friend or family member. Start with the basics: what you made, why you made it, and how it connects to "The Gift of Salvation." Then, add more details about the colors, symbols, and choices you made. Ask them if your explanation makes sense and if they have any questions.
- **Objective:** Learn to clearly explain the meaning behind your art and prepare for presenting it at camp.

2. Mini Gallery Walk

- Set up your artwork in your home, classroom, or Pathfinder/Adventurers Club and invite people to walk around and see it like in a gallery. Stand by your art and explain it to each person as they come by. Pay attention to their reactions and questions to see if your message is coming through clearly.
- **Objective:** Practice presenting your art to different people and getting comfortable talking about it.

3. Art Critique Session

- Gather with a few friends or family members and take turns sharing your artwork. Each person explains their piece and then gets feedback. Listen to what others say and think about how you can use their ideas to make your art even better.
- **Objective:** Learn to accept constructive criticism and use it to improve your work.

4. Create an Artist's Statement

- Write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) about your artwork. This is called an "artist's statement." Explain what your art is about, why you chose to make it, and what message you hope people will take away from it. Practice reading it out loud.
- **Objective:** Develop a clear and concise way to share the meaning and purpose behind your artwork.

Final Checklist:

- Is your artwork finished and ready to be shown?
- Can you clearly explain the message of your art and how it connects to "The Gift of Salvation"?
- Have you practiced talking about your art so you feel confident sharing it with others?
- Are you prepared to answer questions about your creative choices and what your art means?

Speech Outline Guidance for Artistic Expression

Presenting your artwork is just as important as creating it. When you present your art, you help people understand what you made, why you made it, and how it connects to "The Gift of Salvation." Use this outline to prepare your presentation so you can clearly share your message and engage your audience.

Outline for Art Presentation:

1. Introduction: What I Made

- Start by introducing yourself and your artwork. Give it a title if you have one.

Describe what type of art it is (a drawing, painting, collage, or sculpture).

- **Example:** "Hi, my name is [Your Name], and this is my painting called 'The Light of Salvation.' It shows a bright light shining down from the sky to guide someone home."

2. Body: How I Made It and Why

- Talk about how you created your artwork. What materials did you use? What techniques did you try? Why did you choose these materials and colors?

Explain how they help share the message of "The Gift of Salvation."

- **Example:** "I used watercolors for the light because they blend and make it look like it's glowing. I used darker colors around the edges to show that without God, things can feel dark and lost."

3. Conclusion: What It Means to Me

- End by sharing what your artwork means to you and why you chose to make it. What do you want people to feel or think when they see your art? How does it connect to "The Gift of Salvation"?

- **Example:** "To me, this painting shows that no matter how lost we feel, God's love is like a light that will always guide us back to Him. I hope when people see it, they remember that God is always there to save us."

Sample Outlines and Tips for Artistic Expression

These sample outlines give you an idea of how to present your artwork. Remember, these are just examples to help you think about how to explain your own unique piece. Your presentation should reflect your creative choices, personal story, and the message you want to share about "The Gift of Salvation."

Sample Outline: Here's an example of how you could present your artwork

1. Introduction: What I Made

- "Hi, my name is Lily, and this is my artwork called 'The Path to Peace.' It's a drawing of a winding path leading to a bright, shining cross."

2. Body: How I Made It and Why

- "I used colored pencils to make the path look like it's glowing, and I chose green and blue colors because they remind me of calmness and peace. I also added some dark clouds around the path to show that life can be tough, but God's love is like the bright light that guides us."

3. Conclusion: What Means to Me?

- "This drawing shows that even when things seem hard, God's salvation is always there to lead us. I hope people see that God's love can bring them peace, no matter what path they are on."



- **Be Clear and Simple:** Use simple words to describe your art and why you made it. Make sure your audience understands what you're saying.
- **Show Your Art While You Speak:** Hold up your artwork or point to different parts as you talk about them. This helps people see what you're describing.
- **Practice Your Presentation:** Practice explaining your artwork to a friend or family member before camp. This will help you feel more comfortable when you present.
- **Practice Speaking Slowly:** When you practice, speak slowly and clearly. Take your time so everyone can understand you.
- **Smile and Make Eye Contact:** Smile at your audience and look at them when you talk. This shows that you're confident and helps keep their attention.

Introduction to Persuasion and Sermonettes

Persuasion is about convincing people to think or feel a certain way, while a sermonette is a short message that teaches or inspires others about God and faith. Both types of speaking are powerful tools for sharing important ideas and messages.

Why Persuasion and Sermonettes Are Powerful:

- They Can Change Hearts and Minds: A good persuasive speech or sermonette can inspire people to think differently, feel deeply, or take action.
- They Share Important Messages: By sharing your own experiences and understanding, you can help others see and feel the importance of "The Gift of Salvation."
- They Connect Us to Each Other and to God: Speaking about your faith and beliefs helps build a sense of community and encourages others in their spiritual journey.

Theme Connection: *"The Gift of Salvation"*

The theme, "The Gift of Salvation," is about how God saves us and offers us His love and forgiveness. When you create your persuasive speech or sermonette, think about how this theme can be presented in a way that moves and inspires others. Here are some ways to connect your message to the theme:

- Focus on a Bible Story or Verse: Choose a story or verse from the Bible that speaks to you about salvation. Explain why it's important and how it shows God's love and saving power.
- Share a Personal Experience: Think about a time in your life when you felt God's love or saw His saving grace. How did it change you? Sharing personal stories can help your audience connect to your message.
- Call to Action: End your speech or sermonette by encouraging your audience to think, pray, or take a specific action that helps them understand or share "The Gift of Salvation."

Think of persuasive speaking and sermonettes as ways to share a piece of your heart. You want your audience to not only understand your message but also feel inspired to think, believe, or act differently because of what you've shared.

When planning your speech or sermonette for camp, ask yourself:

- What message about salvation do I want to share?
- How can I use a story, example, or Bible verse to make my point stronger?
- What do I want my audience to feel, think, or do after they hear my message?

Activities for Persuasion and Sermonettes

These activities will help you learn how to create a persuasive speech or sermonette that is clear, powerful, and connected to "The Gift of Salvation." Get ready to practice, think deeply, and learn how to inspire others!

1. Pick a Verse and Explain

- Choose a Bible verse that talks about salvation or God's love. Think about what it means to you and why it's important. Practice explaining the verse to a friend or family member in one minute. Make sure to include why it matters and how it connects to salvation.
- **Objective:** Learn to explain a verse clearly and show its importance in a way that is easy to understand.

2. Persuasion Pairs

- Pair up with a friend or family member and choose a simple topic to persuade them about (e.g., why kindness is important or why reading the Bible every day is helpful). Take turns giving a short, 1-minute speech. After each speech, share one thing you liked and one thing that could be improved.
- **Objective:** Practice speaking clearly and confidently while learning to listen and give helpful feedback.

3. Story Circle

- Think of a story from your own life that shows God's love or salvation. Sit in a circle with friends or family and share your story. Focus on explaining how it connects to "The Gift of Salvation" and why it matters.
- **Objective:** Learn how to share personal stories that connect to a theme and keep the audience engaged.

4. Emotion Challenge

- Practice giving a short, persuasive message using different emotions. Start by speaking with excitement, then try speaking softly and calmly, and finally, try being very serious. See how each emotion changes the way your message feels.
- **Objective:** Understand how emotions can change the impact of a speech and learn to use them to make a message stronger.

Reflection on Persuasion and Sermonettes

Reflecting on your message and preparing carefully can help make your speech or sermonette even more powerful. Use these questions and activities to think about your message and how you can deliver it in the best way possible. For the reflection portion, you will need a separate piece of paper.



Reflection Prompts:

1. What is the Main Message of Your Speech?

- Write down in one or two sentences the key message you want to share.
- How does it connect to "The Gift of Salvation"?
- What do you want your audience to remember after they hear you speak?

2. Why Does This Message Matter to You?

- Think about why you chose this topic. Why is it important to you? How have you experienced God's love or salvation in a way that makes you want to share this message? Write down your thoughts to help you speak from the heart.

3. What Bible Verse or Story Supports Your Message?

- Consider which Bible verse or story best illustrates your message. How does it help explain "The Gift of Salvation"? Write down how you will use this verse or story in your speech to make your point clearer.

4. What Action Do You Want Your Audience to Take?

- Think about what you want your audience to do after hearing your speech or sermonette. Do you want them to pray, reflect, share, or act in some way? Write down a clear call to action that fits your message.

Preparation for Persuasion and Sermonettes

Preparation Activities:

1. Mirror Practice

- Practice giving your speech or sermonette in front of a mirror. Pay attention to your facial expressions, hand gestures, and posture. Do they match the message you are sharing? Make adjustments to make sure your body language supports your words.
- **Objective:** Build confidence in your delivery and make sure your body language is clear and engaging.

2. Feedback from a Mentor

- Share your speech with a trusted adult or mentor (like a parent, teacher, or pastor). Ask them for feedback on your content, clarity, and delivery. Listen carefully and use their advice to improve your speech.
- **Objective:** Learn from others who have experience in speaking and refine your message to make it stronger.

3. Practice with Different Audiences

- Practice delivering your speech to different audiences, like a small group of friends, family, or even stuffed animals! Notice how you feel speaking to different groups and adjust your tone and style to match your audience.
- **Objective:** Gain experience speaking to different types of audiences and learn how to adjust your delivery to keep them engaged.

4. Record and Review

- Record yourself giving your speech or sermonette. Watch it back and take notes on what you did well and what could be improved. Focus on your pace, clarity, and how well you're connecting to the theme.
- **Objective:** Self-evaluate your performance and make improvements to enhance your message and delivery.

checklist

- ✓ Is your speech or sermonette clear and easy to understand?
- ✓ Have you practiced enough to feel confident speaking in front of others?
- ✓ Do you know your main message and how it connects to "The Gift of Salvation"?
- ✓ Are you ready to deliver a strong call to action that encourages your audience to think or act?

Speech Outline Guidance for Persuasion and Sermonettes

Creating an outline for your speech or sermonette will help you organize your thoughts and ensure your message is clear and powerful. Use this outline to help you build a strong and engaging speech that connects to "The Gift of Salvation."

1. Introduction: Start Strong

- Begin by introducing yourself and your topic. Start with a question, a short story, or a Bible verse to grab the audience's attention.
- **Example:** "Hi, my name is [Your Name], and today I want to talk to you about how God's love is like a lighthouse guiding us to safety."

2. Body: Share Your Main Points

- **Point 1:** The Importance of Salvation: Explain what salvation means in simple terms and why it is a special gift from God.
- **Point 2:** A Story or Bible Verse: Share a short Bible story or a verse that helps explain salvation. Explain why this story or verse is meaningful to you.
- **Example:** "In the story of the lost sheep, Jesus shows us that God cares for each of us like a shepherd looking for his lost sheep. This is a beautiful picture of salvation."
- **Point 3:** What We Can Do: Give a simple call to action, like praying, being kind, or sharing God's love with others.
- **Example:** "We can remember God's love by showing kindness to our friends and family, just like the shepherd takes care of his sheep."

3. Conclusion: End with a Message and a Callback

- Wrap up your speech by repeating your main message and encouraging your audience to think about it or take action. Also, try to connect back to your introduction to tie the whole speech together.
- **Example:** "Remember, when we feel lost, God's love is like a lighthouse that always guides us home. Just as I shared in the beginning, we can all be like that light, guiding others toward God's love and salvation."

Sample Speeches: Persuasion and Sermonettes

These sample outlines are here to help you understand how to structure your speech or sermonette. The first is written word-for-word and is called a transcript. It's important to write a transcript to get all of your thoughts and arguments down. You should not speak using a one. Rather, you would use the second sample outline, which is called an extemporaneous outline. Remember, these are just examples to give you ideas—your speech should reflect your own thoughts, experiences, and message about "The Gift of Salvation."

Transcript Speech Sample (3-5 Minutes)

Title: "God's Love is Like a Warm Blanket"

Introduction: "Hi, my name is Sarah, and today I want to talk to you about how God's love is like a warm blanket that keeps us safe and loved. Have you ever felt cold, maybe during a storm or when you were sick, and then felt better when someone gave you a soft, cozy blanket? That's what God's love does for us. It wraps around us and keeps us safe, even when we feel scared or lost."

Body:

Point 1: "First, let's think about what it means to be saved. Salvation means that God saves us from being lost or alone. Just like when we're cold and need a blanket to keep us warm, when we feel lost, we need God to help us find our way. God's love is like a shepherd's care for his sheep. The Bible tells us that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. In John 10:11, it says, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.' This means that Jesus loves us so much that He would do anything to keep us safe.

Point 2: Now, I want to tell you a story from the Bible that shows this love. It's the story of the lost sheep. One day, a shepherd was counting his sheep and realized one was missing. Instead of staying with the 99 sheep that were safe, he left them and went to look for the one that was lost. He searched and searched until he found it and brought it back safely. That's what God does for us. When we feel lost, scared, or alone, He searches for us and brings us back to His love.

Point 3: And it's not just stories in the Bible. I remember one time when I felt really scared. I was lost in a big store, and I didn't know where my parents were. I felt so alone. But then, I remembered a Bible verse my mom taught me: 'The Lord is my shepherd; I lack nothing.' I prayed quietly, and soon after, a store worker helped me find my parents. I felt like God had wrapped me in His warm, comforting blanket of love, just like in the Bible.

Sample Speeches: Persuasion and Sermonettes

Point 4 (CAL TO ACTION): So, what can we do with this gift of salvation? We can share God's love with others, just like the shepherd cared for his lost sheep. Maybe today, you can think about someone who might feel lost or alone and be a warm blanket for them. It could be a friend who needs help, a family member who is sad, or even a new kid at school who doesn't know anyone."

Conclusion: "Just like I said at the beginning, God's love is like a warm blanket that keeps us safe and loved. When we feel scared, alone, or lost, we can trust that God is there, wrapping us up in His love. Let's remember to share that warmth with others, just like God does with us. Thank you."

Extemporaneous SPEAKING Outline: For Delivery (3-5 Minutes)

1. Introduction:

- Introduce yourself and the topic.
- Hook: Compare God's love to a warm blanket.
- Personal question: "Have you ever felt cold or scared and then felt better with a blanket?"

2. Body:

- **Point 1:** What is Salvation?
 - Salvation as being saved by God's love.
 - Example: The Good Shepherd's care for His sheep (John 10:11).
- **Point 2:** Story from the Bible – The Lost Sheep
 - Summarize the parable of the lost sheep.
 - Explain the shepherd's love and how it relates to God's love.
- **Point 3:** Personal Story
 - Share a personal experience of feeling lost and finding comfort in God's love.
- **Point 4:** Call to Action
 - Encourage being "a warm blanket" for someone who needs it.

3. Conclusion:

- Call back to the introduction.
- Reinforce the main message.
- Closing thought: "Let's share God's warmth with others."

General Tips for Any Speaking Category

1. Practice Out Loud

- The more you practice out loud, the more comfortable you'll feel when it's time to speak. Say your speech, story, or explanation in front of a mirror, with friends, or family members.

2. Use Your Voice Effectively

- Change the speed, volume, and tone of your voice to keep your audience interested. Speak slowly when sharing something important, and a little louder when you want to show excitement or make a point.

3. Make Eye Contact

- Look at your audience while you speak. If you feel nervous, try looking at different people in the room, or choose one friendly face to focus on.

4. Use Body Language

- Your hands, face, and body can help tell your story or make your message stronger. Use hand gestures to emphasize key points and smile or show emotion when it fits your speech.

5. Take Deep Breaths

- It's normal to feel nervous before speaking. Taking slow, deep breaths before you begin and during your speech can help calm your nerves and keep your voice steady.

6. Speak Clearly and at a Steady Pace

- Speak clearly so that everyone can understand you. Try not to rush—go at a steady pace so your audience can follow along with what you're saying.

General Tips: Continued

7. Be Yourself

- Your speech or presentation should reflect who you are. Don't be afraid to share personal stories, use humor, or speak in a way that feels natural to you.

8. Be Prepared for Mistakes

- It's okay if you forget a word or stumble over a sentence—everyone makes mistakes! Just take a breath and keep going. Your audience won't mind, and they'll be rooting for you.

9. Engage with the Audience

- Ask a question, tell a story, or use an example to help the audience connect with what you're saying. The more you involve them, the more they'll be interested in your message.

10. Start and End Strong

- Begin with something that grabs attention, like a powerful statement or question. End by repeating your main message or giving a clear call to action to leave a lasting impression.

11. Use Visual Aids (If Applicable)

- If you're using artwork or props, practice showing them to the audience while you speak. Make sure everyone can see what you're sharing, and explain why it's important to your message.

12. Stay Positive and Have Fun

- Remember, this is your chance to share something important! Stay positive and focus on enjoying the experience. The more fun you have, the more your audience will enjoy listening to you.