LET IT SHINE
1. This Little Light of Mine

OBJECTIVES
Introduce the topic of "Let it Shine," and explain what it means.

PREPARATION
If you are teaching 2s and 3s, you may not want to use all of the activities. I would suggest leaving out the dot-to-dot page. Older students should be able to complete them all. Print the match the light activity and the dot-to-dot page on regular weight copy paper. For the cut and paste activity, it would be better to use heavier paper, such as cover stock. If you are printing from the CD with a color printer, you could use white cover stock and print from the document 07MACP. If you are printing from the book or using black and white with the CD, use document 08CP. Print one set of bulbs on white cover stock, and one set on yellow. If you don't have yellow, you could color them. Put two white (not shining) lights, four yellow (shining) lights, and one watch in each baggie (one per child).

BIBLE STUDY: Matthew 5:14-16

LESSON
Explain to the class what it means to let their lights shine, and how God is happy when we are kind and when we obey. Show them the flashlights and talk about the type of lights they had when Jesus was here on earth. For this first class, you may want to sing the song now and again after the activities. For future classes, only let them use the flashlights after all of the activities are completed. Talk about how Jesus told a parable about letting our lights shine. We would not light a candle and put it under a bucket [or bushel basket]. Describe how Satan is happy when he can blow our light out because we **choose** to act naughty. Talk like an angry child would to depict this bad behavior. Then show how a child who is acting nicely would talk in a similar situation, such as when it is time to pick up toys or go to bed. Remember to say the memory verse, too.

ACTIVITIES
Do the gluing activity first. Give each child the song page and the baggie. Tell them to put the lights that are not shining on the Ls, the lights that are shining on the Ss, and the watch on the T for Time. Then let them do the match activity and/or the dot-to-dot page.

SONGS AND PRAYER
When you lead the prayer, you may want to have the class repeat short phrases after you say them. If so, follow this pattern each week. Ask God to help you let your lights shine. Sing "This Little Light of Mine," whether or not you are using flashlights. Another good choice is "Be Careful Little Eyes What You See."