

Let the Little Children Come

Lesson 23. **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

- Purpose:
- To reinforce the concept that “It’s what’s inside that makes the difference.”
 - To introduce the concept that eyes are the windows of the soul.
 - To teach that each of us has a light inside of us that needs to shine forth.
 - To introduce the idea that Jesus, in the form of a man, is no longer with us.

Materials: A handkerchief or scarf.

A bulletin board with many different houses, one for each child, plus one additional house. (Make sure there’s a variety of houses.)

The doors and windows are capable of being opened, but are closed at the beginning of the lesson.

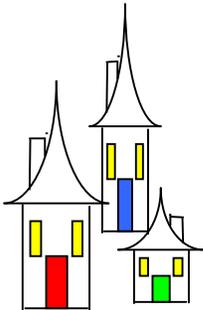
Behind each opening is yellow paper, so that it looks as if lights are turned on inside when the doors or windows are opened.

On each house is a sign with each child’s name (e.g., “Susan lives inside).

The additional house is unmarked.

(In one of the following lessons—Number 25—called “In My Father’s House,” there will be a clear acetate, cut into the shape of a very large house, that will cover all of these houses, so it would be prudent to (1) group the houses together, instead of spreading them all around on the bulletin board and (2) to carefully save the houses after the lesson is over.)

Presentation:



- 1) Remind the children that Jesus is the Light of the World; and while He lived on earth, His light made God’s love visible...so that everyone could see it.
- 2) But there came a time when He had to go Home to God, our Father.
- 3) But, He didn’t leave us in the dark. He left a part of Himself...His light...inside of us.
- 4) Point to the houses, and tell the children that there are many shapes and sizes of houses, just like there are many shapes and sizes of people.

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But, it doesn't matter what a house looks like. It's what's inside that makes the difference.

- 5) Ask the children if they would like to see what's inside of these houses.
- 6) Have each child that wants to, come up and open a door or window.
- 7) Tell them that there is light inside of these houses...but we wouldn't have been able to see it if we hadn't opened the doors and windows.
- 8) Tell them that we have light inside of us! And this is the light that Jesus left us.
- 9) Laughingly, ask them if the light inside of us looks like a light bulb...Of course not! It's the light of Jesus, so it makes God's love visible for everyone to see...just like Jesus did.
- 10) But others can't see this special light that's inside of us unless we open up our "windows."
- 11) Tell them that one way someone can see the light in us is by looking into our eyes...because eyes are like windows.
- 12) If someone sees love in us, it's because we've opened those window and the light inside of us makes that love visible.

(Teacher: Cover the lower part of you face with a handkerchief so that only your eyes are visible...then, smile at the children.)
- 13) Ask them if they can see the love shining out from your eyes.
- 14) Tell them that love can shine from their eyes, too; and the light that lets others see that love can help to brighten up the whole world!

Activity: Have each child cover all by his/her eyes and give the biggest, loving

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smile that the child can give. As each one does this, exclaim (with a great deal of excitement)

“Did you see the light?!”...or...

What a beautiful light inside of you. I see it in your eyes!”...or...

“She certainly opened her windows, didn’t she?!”

Song: **Open all Your Windows**

1. C Em
Open all your windows
A D
Open all your doors.
G C D A
Let the light inside you light the whole outdoors.
C Em
Push aside the curtains.
A Em
Open all the blinds.
A D F A
Let the light inside you be the love one finds.
- F A
For you’re a child of God,
 F A
And as a child of God,
F A
Let your light shine!

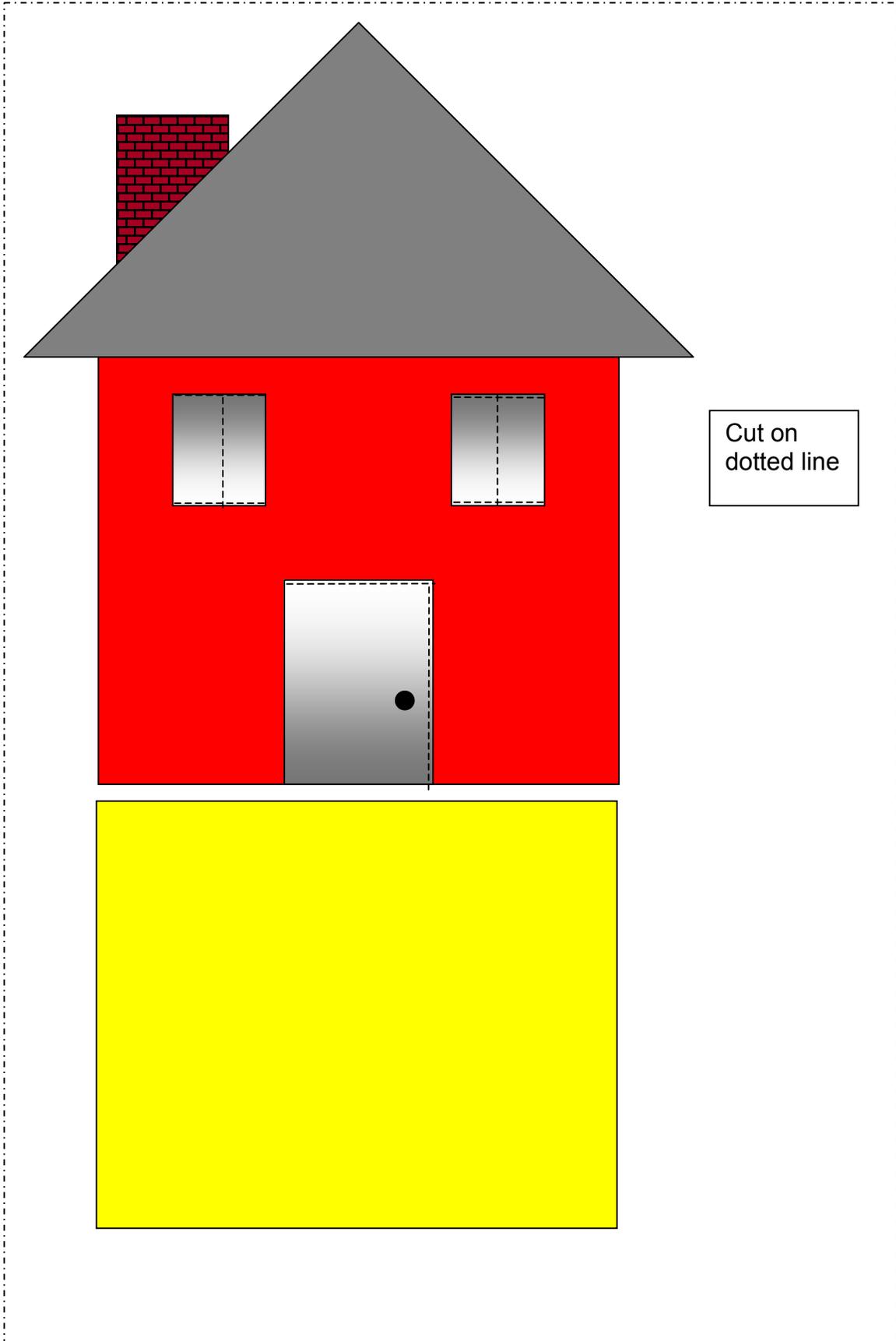
2. Tell someone you like him.
 Give someone a smile.
 Take the lonely to your heart and walk with them awhile.
 Find someone who needs you,
 The lost who must be found.
 Pretty soon your light will light each “house” in town.

For you’re a child of God,
And as a child of God
Spread your light “round!

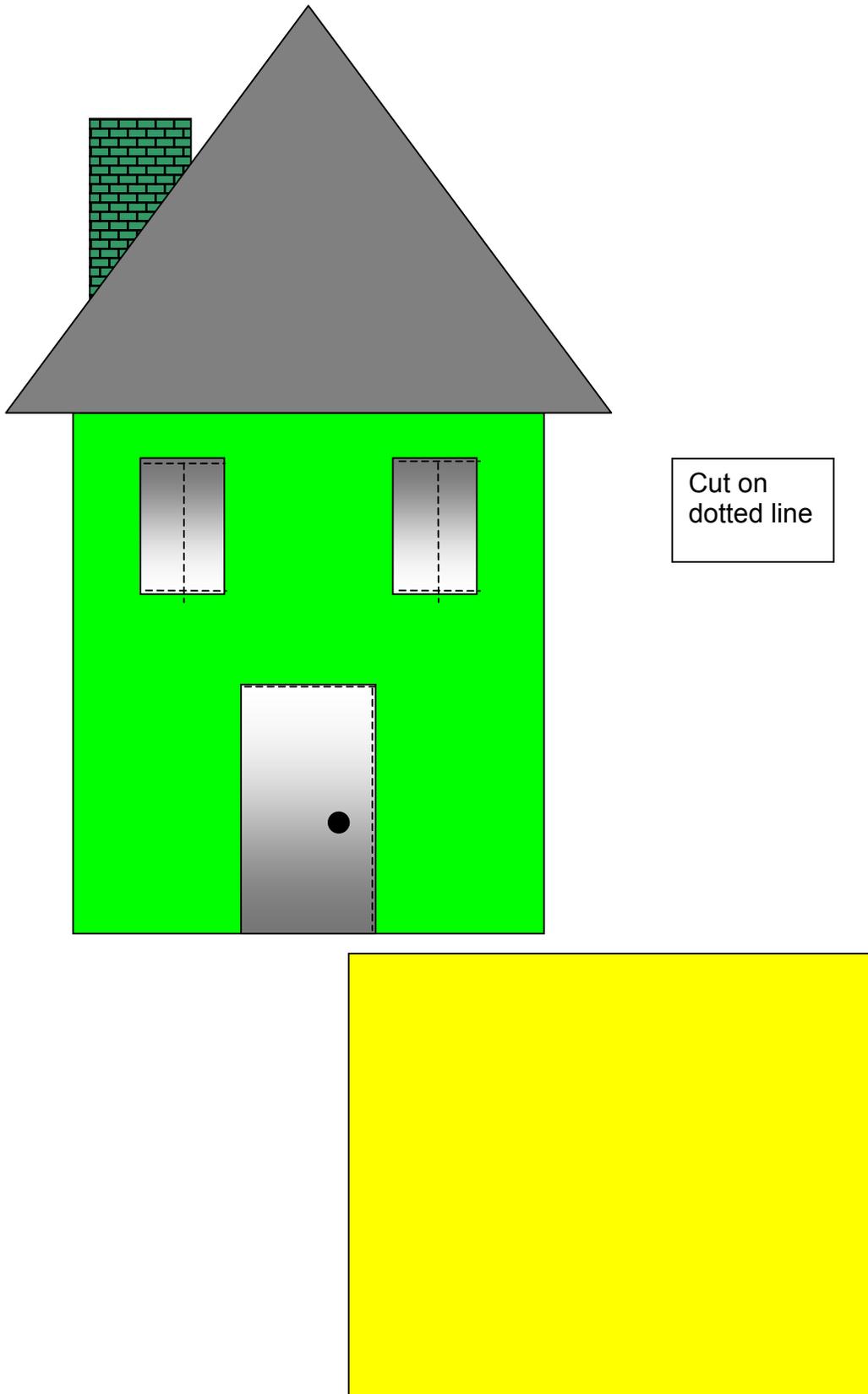
REPEAT VERSE 1.

Let your light shine!....Let your light shine.

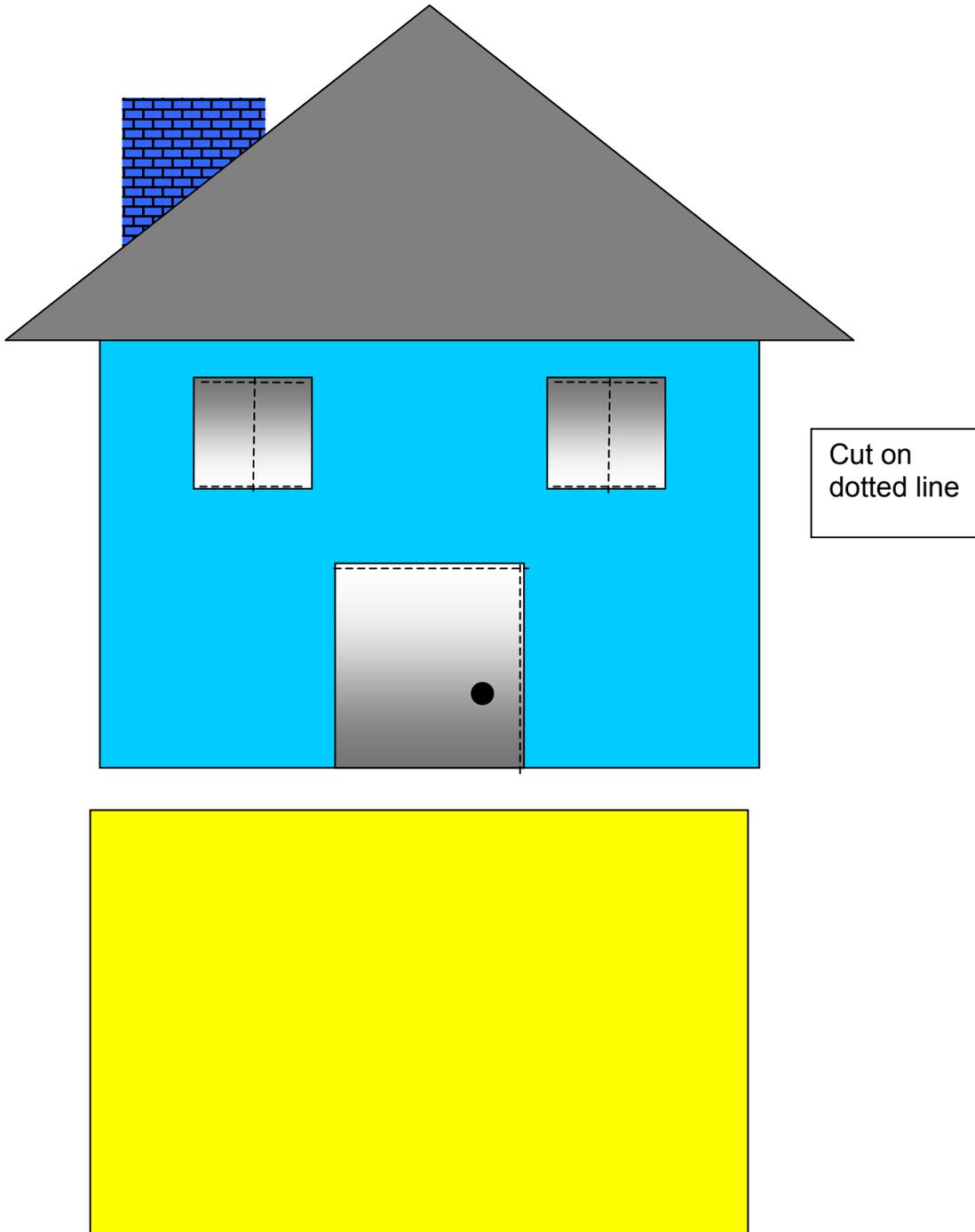
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