

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

By Tamarie Tigh

Beginner Lesson Forty: Joseph, a Picture of Jesus

Overview

Bible Songs

Bible Reading & Discussion: (See "Bible Reading" section)

Memorization & Art Activity: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Question 33

Opening

Get students' attention by using a pre-planned silence signal.

Have students sit in rows or a semi-circle facing you.

Open in prayer asking God's blessing upon the time.

Bible Songs

5-10 minutes

Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed

Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate

Instructions: Lead students to sing songs about the Bible. Spend some time discussing the meaning of new songs. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Be very careful to choose songs that only speak truth about the Word of God.

Bible Reading

15 minutes

Materials: Pictures of common objects

Strategies: Leader Read Aloud

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Show students the pictures of common objects and discuss how the picture is a representation of the object, but isn't the actual object. Example: A picture of food cannot be eaten, it just represents the food. Tell students that Joseph is a representation or picture of Jesus Christ. For smooth, quick reading, print verses or mark in Bible prior to lesson. Be sure to read the title before each Scripture.

Scripture: (Gleanings in Genesis, Arthur W Pink, ISBN 1-59986-929-2)
Joseph was obedient to his father: Genesis 37:12-14; Jesus was obedient His Father: John 6:38, 40; Joseph was hated: Genesis 37:8; Jesus was hated: John 5:18; Joseph was sold: Genesis 37:28; Jesus was sold: Matthew 26:14; Joseph was innocent but sent to prison: Genesis 39:9-10, 20; Jesus was innocent but crucified: Luke 23:4, 22-24; Joseph was delivered from prison: Genesis 41:14; Jesus was delivered from death: John 20:6-8; Joseph gave bread so people would not die: Genesis 41:55-57; Jesus became the Bread of Life so people would not be spiritually dead: John 6:47-51

Bible Discussion

10 minutes

Materials: Word poster

Strategy: Hand Action

Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Instead of students raising their hands to share, they perform another pre-determined action. Example: Touch your nose. Pat your head. Etc.

Questions: God placed "pictures" of Jesus Christ throughout the Old Testament so that people would look forward to his coming to earth as the Savior. Joseph obeyed his father to go and find his brothers. Jesus obeyed His Father when he sent him to do what? (To be born on earth to become the Savior) What bad things happened to Joseph that also happened to Jesus? (He was hated, sold, and punished even though innocent.) Joseph was delivered from prison. Jesus was delivered from death after he was crucified. What is the word we use to describe Jesus' coming back to life? (The resurrection) How did Joseph

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"save" people during the famine? (He gave them bread so they would not die.) How is Jesus the Savior of people? (He gave his body as a sacrifice for sins so they will not be spiritually dead.)

Show students the word poster and have them act out the words: Creator = maker (use hands to make a ball), Omnipotent = all powerful (make a muscle), Omniscient = all knowing (tap head), Merciful = doesn't punish as deserved (make "safe on base" sign with two arms), Righteous = perfect (with right hand make circular motion), Just = right (thumbs up), Creator of Nations (sweep arm from left to right), God is in control (salute with hand to head) Long-suffering = patient (fold hands together as though waiting patiently), Glory = shining light (spread fingers of both hands like light rays), Deliverer (move wrists as though breaking rope), Savior (spread arms wide then draw together), All-seeing (put hand above eyes as though looking around), Faithful (shake hands with another person), Judge (drop fist as though striking with a gavel), Provider (cup hands and move arms from self as though giving to someone), Prayer Answerer (fold hands and bow head), Sovereign = Ultimate Authority (hold out fist as though holding a king's scepter), Grace = unearned favor (thumbs down then rotate to thumbs up), Way to Heaven (walk in place), Protector (raise hands as though shielding head), Promise Keeper (with fore-finger cross heart), Success maker (raise arms as though winning a race), King of kings (place hands on head like a crown)

Group Prayer

Through prayer, praise God for Jesus' free gift of salvation from sin.

Bible Memory

10-15 minutes

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Picture It

Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following written on it:

Question 30: "Do we know what God requires of us?"

Answer: "Yes he has given us his law both in our hearts and in writing"

Verse: "...the law is written on their hearts..." Romans 2:15

Students read the passage in unison a few times. Pictures are then used to replace some of the words in the passage. Students repeat the passage "reading" the pictures in place of the words. Gradually, the words are erased or covered until only the pictures remain. Students repeat the passage using only the pictures as a guide.

Bible Art Activity

As time allows

Materials: Yarn, paper, scissors, tape, markers, sample project

Activity: Heart Hanging

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students cut out a large heart shape and write on it, "God's law." Use tape to attach a loop of yarn to the heart for hanging it up. Encourage students to decorate their hangings. Remind students that we must obey God or we are sinning.

Closing

Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.