

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Beginner Lesson One Hundred Eight: Eli and His Sons

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Leviticus 7:31-32; I Samuel 2:12-22a, 23-27a, 29-30, 34-35
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about the Holy Spirit
Learning Objectives: (1) Eli's sons were worthless men that did not know the Lord. (2) Eli's sons scorned the sacrifices that were the Lord's. (3) God sent a messenger to tell Eli that he and his sons would be judged. (4) God said that He would raise up for Himself a faithful priest. (5) Samuel ministered before the Lord and grew in favor with the Lord and man. (6) The Holy Spirit convicts men of their sins.
- 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 Facts** Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed
5-10 minutes Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate
Instructions: Ask students to help lead songs about the Bible & the Judges. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Include actions and visuals as appropriate.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Leader Read Aloud & Picturing
Scripture: Leviticus 7:31-32; I Samuel 2:12-22a, 23-27a, 29-30, 34-35
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Tell students to close their eyes as they listen and try to picture what they hear. Read passage expressively using different voices for the different characters. Stop occasionally to allow students an opportunity to describe what they pictured.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster #3 "Work of the Holy Spirit," add "Convictor of Sin"
10 minutes Strategy: Hot Potato
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. A bean bag is passed around the circle while music is played. When the music stops, the person holding the object answers the question.
Questions:
- The sons of Eli the priest were worthless men who did not know the blank. (Lord)
 - According to the law, the fat was to be burned on the altar as an offering to the Lord. Then some meat would be given to the priests. Did Eli's sons wait for the Lord's sacrifice before taking their portion of meat? (No)
 - Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, treated the blank's offering with contempt. (Lord's)
 - Eli spoke to his sons about their sins. Did Hophni and Phinehas listen to their father? (No)
 - God sent a messenger to Eli to tell him what was going to happen because of his sons' sins. God said that Hophni and Phinehas would both blank on the same day. (Die)
 - God said, "I will raise up for myself a faithful blank, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind." (Priest)
 - At this same time, Samuel was ministering before the Lord. What did Samuel's mother do for him each year? (Made him a robe)
 - When did Hannah give Samuel his new robe? (When the family offered their yearly sacrifice)
 - "Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the blank and also with blank." (Lord, man)
- Transitional Thought: Eli's sons they sinned against the Lord. When Eli confronted them, they did not listen to him and the Lord promised that they would die. The wages of sin is death. The Holy Spirit convicts men of their sin, making them realize their guilt, so that they will turn from unbelief to belief in Jesus Christ & His blood payment on the cross for sin.

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Show students word poster #3 and have them act out the words – Work of the Holy Spirit: Prayer Interpreter (place hands at heart and then extend toward heaven); Convictor of Sin (turn two thumbs down and then point emphatically)

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is and for the work of Jesus Christ the Messiah and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Materials: White board with markers and eraser
Strategy: Clap, snap, tap
Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following passage written on it:

Question: What work does the Holy Spirit do concerning sin?

Answer: The Holy Spirit convicts people of their sin.

Verse: "And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin...because they do not believe in me." John 16:8-9

Students read the passage in unison a couple of times. Then sounds are used to replace some of the words and the passage is read using the sounds instead of the words. Example: Holy Spirit = clap, clap; sin = snap fingers; convict(s) = tap one foot, etc.

Bible Craft As time allows Materials: Paper, scissors, markers, glue/tape/stapler, sample project
Activity: Sin Chain of Death
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give students paper that has been cut into strips. Have students copy or glue on each strip of paper various sins and statements about sins. Examples: All have sinned; Guilty of sin; Wages of sin is death; Lie; Steal; Unbelief; Convicted, etc. (Words can be handwritten with black marker or printed from a computer for students to cut out and glue.) Assist students to roll the strips of paper and link them together into a chain. Discuss the fact that all people are sinners and are chained by their sin and deserving of death. Explain that when the Holy Spirit convicts people of their sin and they put their faith in Jesus Christ and His blood payment on the cross for their sin, they are freed from the death penalty. They are no longer shackled by the sin chain of death.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.
Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.
Close in prayer & dismiss.