

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Beginner Lesson Eighty-three: Fall of Ai

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible & the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Genesis 12:7-8; Joshua 8:1-22, 30-35
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) God fulfilled His promise to give the land to Abram's offspring. (2) God gave Israel the victory over Ai. (3) Israel obeyed the Lord. (4) Jesus obeyed God the Father.
- 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: Lead students to sing songs about the Bible & the Judges. 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. Ask students to help lead songs, including actions and visuals as appropriate.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Draw it!
Scripture: Genesis 12:7-8; Joshua 8:1-22, 30-35
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper and pencil. Have students fold paper in half so that there are two rectangles when the paper is opened. As leader reads aloud, students draw two different scenes from the Joshua Scripture reading, each in a different rectangle. The first scene students will draw is the capture of Ai. The second scene that students will draw is the building of the altar. Tell students to draw simple pictures that will not take a lot of time – like cartoons &/or stick figures.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Popcorn
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. The leader asks a question and students that want to answer the question "pop" up, share their answer, and then sit down. Set a limit of pops per person.
Questions:
- The Lord said that He had given what city into Joshua's hand? (Ai)
 - The Lord originally promised the land at Ai to Abram's offspring. The people of Israel are descendants of Abram, so did the Lord fulfill His promise to Abram? (Yes)
 - Joshua might fear to go up against Ai because Ai had defeated Israel because of Achan. The Lord told Joshua, "Do not blank and do not be dismayed." (Fear)
 - God said, "Stretch out the blank that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." (Javelin)
 - What did Joshua build on Mount Ebal? (An altar)
 - Who had given instructions about the altar? (Moses)
 - The altar was to be made of blank stones. (Uncut)
 - What did Joshua write on the altar? (A copy of the Law of Moses)
 - What was sacrificed on the altar? (Burnt offerings, Peace offerings)
 - To whom did Joshua read the Book of the Law? (All the assembly of Israel, the women, and little ones)
 - The people of Israel did according to word of the blank. (Lord)

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Show students word poster #1 and have them act out the words: God is...Creator, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Merciful, Righteous, Just, Creator of Nations, God is in control, Long-suffering, Glorious, Deliverer, Savior, All-seeing, Faithful, Judge, Provider, Prayer Answerer, Sovereign, Gracious, Way to Heaven, Protector, Promise Keeper, Success maker, King of kings, Holy, Law maker, Skill instiller, Guide, Victory giver, Truth

Ask students which words on poster #1 describe God in this lesson. (Answers: In control, Promise keeper, Victory giver, etc.)

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is, listing His attributes.

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: The Israelites obeyed God when they went up against Ai and when they built the altar on Mount Ebal. Jesus obeyed God the Father when He became man and died as the perfect sacrifice for sins.

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Erase-a-Word

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

Question: Being the Son of God, why did Christ become man?

Answer: Christ became man to fulfill the will of God the Father.

Verse: "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me." John 6:38

Read in unison pointing at each word. Have students cover their eyes. Erase random words from the board. Ask students to open their eyes and tell you what words were erased. Read again, saying the missing words from memory. Repeat several times until quoting rather than reading. (Students that are unable to read will associate the location on the board with the word.)

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers

As time allows Activity: Pointillism Mural

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper. Have students draw a mural that includes the manger, the cross, and the tomb. Have students glue or copy the words "Jesus was obedient." on the mural. Have students color the mural by making marker dots of different colors. Show students that mixing dots of more than one color can make other colors. Example: red and yellow dots together will look orange at a distance.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.