

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Beginner Lesson Eighty-five: The Lord Fights for Israel

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Joshua 10:1-15, 40-43
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) The Lord fought for Israel. (2) Joshua did as the Lord God of Israel commanded. (3) When Christ resurrected, He overcame the power of death.
- 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: Leader Read Aloud & Action Reading
Scripture: Joshua 10:1-15, 40-43
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Whenever students hear the word "Lord," they point toward heaven. Leader should mark the passage ahead of time and pause to give students time to respond.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word posters #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 city of Gibeon was a great city like a royal city; all its men were *blank*. (Warriors)
 - When Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem, heard that Israel defeated Ai and that the Gibeonites made peace with Israel, how did he feel? (Afraid)
 - How many kings gathered their forces to go to war with Gibeon? (Five)
 - When the kings went to war against Gibeon, Gibeon sent word to whom? (Joshua)
 - God told Joshua, "Do not *blank* them, for I have given them into your hands." (Fear)
 - When Joshua and the Israelites suddenly appeared, who threw the enemy into a panic? (The Lord)
 - What did the Lord throw down from heaven? (Large hailstones)
 - Did more people die from the hailstones or from the Israelites' sword? (Hailstones)
 - What stood still in the midst of the heaven? (The sun)
 - Who fought for Israel? (The Lord)
 - Joshua struck the whole land, left none remaining, but devoted all to destruction "just as the *blank blank* of Israel commanded." (Lord God)
- Show students the word poster 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

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

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

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: The Lord showed His power over His creation when He fought for Israel by making large hailstones fall from heaven and by making the sun stand still. Jesus Christ showed his power over death when He resurrected from the dead.

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Hand Motions

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

Question: How did Christ conquer death?

Answer: When Christ resurrected from the dead he overcame the power of death.

Verse: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him." Romans 6:9

Simple hand motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students read the passage a few times using words and hand motions. Students then read the passage leaving out the words that have hand motions. Next students repeat the passage using hand motions and words from memory, without looking at the words.

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers, straws, tape or stapler, sample project

As time allows Activity: Jesus is alive! Flag

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper and a straw. On one side of the paper have students glue the words "Christ conquered death." On the other side of the paper have students glue the words "Jesus is alive." Assist each student to make a flag by attaching the paper to the straw with tape or staples. The straw will be a handle that can be used to wave the flag. Encourage students to decorate their flags with borders and symbols.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.