

## Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

### Beginner Lesson Ninety-Two: Gideon Destroys the Altar of Baal

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges  
Bible Reading & Discussion: Exodus 20: 3; Judges 6:1-32  
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation  
Learning Objectives: (1) Israel did not obey God to worship Him only. (2) The Lord gave Israel into the hand of Midian. (3) Israel cried out for help to the Lord. (4) God sent a prophet with the message that Israel had not obeyed the Lord. (5) The Lord called Gideon to destroy the altar of Baal. (6) Repentance means turning from sin.
- 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. Ask students to help lead songs, including actions and visuals as appropriate.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use  
15 minutes Strategies: Impromptu Retelling  
Scripture: Exodus 20: 3; Judges 6:1-32  
Instructions: After Scripture has been read, students perform roles by pantomiming actions and repeating lines from the reading. Leader prompts students as needed. (Scene 1: People of Israel, Midianites, & Prophet; Scene 2: Angel of the Lord & Gideon; Scene 3: Gideon & the servants; Scene 4: Men of the town & Joash)
- 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 Israelites had rest for forty years and then they again did blank in the sight of the Lord. (Evil)
  - The Lord gave them into the hand of blank for seven years? (Midian)
  - The Midianites ate all that Israel produced. Because of Midian the Israelites made what in the mountains? (Dens and caves)
  - When Israel cried out to the Lord for help, the Lord sent a prophet with a message from God, "You have not blank my voice." (Obeyed)
  - What commandment had the Israelites disobeyed? ("You shall have no other gods before me.")
  - What food did Gideon prepare for the angel of the Lord? (Meat, broth, unleavened cakes)
  - What did the angel of the Lord do to the food? (Touched it with his staff and it caught fire)
  - When Gideon realized that he had seen the angel of the Lord, what did he build? (An altar)
  - The symbol for Baal was the bull. What did the angel of the Lord tell Gideon to do with his father's bull? (Pull down the altar of Baal)
  - What was Gideon to do with the second bull? (Offer it as a burnt offering)
  - Gideon obeyed God, but because he was afraid he did it when? (At night)
  - What did the men of town want to do to Gideon when they found what he had done? (Kill him)
  - Joash, Gideon's father, said to the men about Baal, "If he is a blank, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been broken down." (god)
  - After this, Gideon was called Jerubbaal, which means, "Let blank contend against him." (Baal)

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### Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

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, Rest provider

Ask students which words on poster #1 describe God in this lesson. (Answers: Omnipotent, Omniscient, Judge, etc.)

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

**Bible Memory** 10-15 minutes  
Transitional Thought: The Israelites were given into the hand of Midian because they had not obeyed God to worship Him only. The Israelites worshiped Baal instead of God. The Israelites needed to repent, to turn from their sin.  
Materials: White board with markers  
Strategy: Body Motions  
Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following passage written on it:  
*Question: What is repentance?*  
*Answer: Repentance is turning from sin.*  
*Verse: "...Are we to continue in sin...? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?"*  
*Romans 6:1-2*  
Students read the passage in unison a few times. Exaggerated body motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students read the passage a few times using words and motions. Students then repeat the passage using motions and words from memory, without looking at the words.

**Bible Craft** As time allows  
Materials: Markers, paper, sample project  
Activity: Cartoon Strip  
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students fold a piece of paper two times so that when they open it there are four squares. Have students draw one or more cartoons of someone repenting, turning from sin. Example: Stealing candy, returning the candy, asking forgiveness...

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