

Bible Lessons for Children
Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Beginner Lesson Ninety-four: Gideon's Death

Overview	<p><u>Bible Facts & Songs:</u> Songs about the Bible and the Judges <u>Bible Reading & Discussion:</u> Judges 7:24-25; 8:4, 10-12, 18-32 <u>Bible Memory & Craft:</u> Questions about Salvation <u>Learning Objectives:</u> (1) The Lord gave Zebah and Zalmunna into the hand of Gideon. (2) Gideon made an ephod that became a snare. (3) The land had rest for 40 years in the days of Gideon. (4) Justification is the act of God counting a person righteous. (5) Repentance is turning from sin. (6) Sanctification is the act of God making his people holy.</p>
Opening	<p>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.</p>
Bible Facts 5-10 minutes	<p><u>Materials:</u> Song visuals &/or props as needed <u>Strategies:</u> Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate <u>Instructions:</u> 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.</p>
Bible Reading 15 minutes	<p><u>Materials:</u> Bibles for students to use, paper, pencils <u>Strategies:</u> Number It! <u>Scripture:</u> Judges 7:24-25; 8:4, 10-12, 18-32 <u>Instructions:</u> As the Scripture is read, students listen for numbers. When a number is read, students write the number down on their paper. Leader should pause to give students time to respond. If needed, leader should also be prepared to write the number for students to copy.</p>
Bible Discussion 10 minutes	<p><u>Materials:</u> Word poster #1 <u>Strategy:</u> Popcorn <u>Instructions:</u> 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. <u>Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Gideon called Ephraim to capture what? (The waters of the Jordan)➤ What happened to the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb? (They were captured and killed?)➤ How many men crossed the Jordan with Gideon? (300)➤ Zebah and Zalmunna were the kings of what? (Midian)➤ How many were left of the Eastern army? (15,000 men)➤ How many men of the Eastern army had fallen? (120,000 men)➤ Who killed Zebah and Zalmunna? (Gideon)➤ What did Gideon answer when the men of Israel wanted him to rule over Israel? (The Lord will rule over you.)➤ What did Gideon make? (An ephod)➤ What did the ephod become? (A snare)➤ How long did the land have rest in the days of Gideon? (40 years)➤ How old was Gideon when he died? (A good old age)➤ Where was Gideon buried? (The tomb of Joash)

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,

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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: Deliverer, Victory giver, Rest provider, etc.)

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

Bible Memory Transitional Thought: God delivered Israel from their enemies and gave Israel rest for 40 years. However, Gideon made an ephod, which God had not told him to make. The ephod became a snare and Israel sinned by whoring after it. God delivers his people and justifies them through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. However, God's chosen people still sin, must repent, and need God to sanctify them.

Materials: Bean Bag

Strategy: Bean Bag Stand-up/Sit-down Review

Instructions: Have students stand in a circle. Ask a question then toss the bean bag to someone to share the answer &/or verse. If the answer is correct, student sits. Continue until everyone is sitting.

Question: What is justification?

Answer: Justification is the act of God counting a person righteous.

Verse: "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through...Christ Jesus...to be received by faith." Romans 3:23-25

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

Question: What is sanctification?

Answer: It is the act of God making his people holy in heart and conduct.

Verse: "Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless..." I Thessalonians 5:23

Bible Craft Materials: Index cards, glue, scissors, questions, answers, & verses

Activity: Memory Game

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student 9 index cards. Have students cut and glue each question on one card, each answer on another card, and each verse on another card. Continue this process until all three questions, answers, and verses have been glued to the cards. (Leader must prepare the questions, answers, and verses ahead of time for students to use.) Backs of index cards must remain blank. Have students play memory with adults or older students to read aloud for them. Spread out all index cards upside down on table. Take turns turning over 3 cards. Try to remember where various cards are located. When a person turns over a question, answer, and verse that all match the person can keep the 3 cards and take another turn.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.