

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Preschool Lesson One Hundred Three: Ruth Turns to God

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Ruth 1:1-10, 13c-18, 22
Bible Memory & Craft: Verses about Christ's Work
Learning Objectives: (1) Elimelech and his family moved from Bethlehem to Moab due to a famine in Judah. (2) Elimelech's sons married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth. (3) Elimelech and his sons died. (4) As a Moabite, Ruth served other gods. (5) When Ruth vowed to go with Naomi back to Bethlehem, Ruth turned from the Moabite gods to follow the one true God, the Lord, the God of Israel. (6) Christ reveals God the Father to us.
- 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. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Ask students to help lead songs, including actions and visuals.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Emotion Motions
Scripture: Ruth 1:1-10, 13c-18, 22
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads aloud, students make motions that portray the emotions depicted in the passage (sadness, kindness, love, bitterness, etc.). Leader guides students by introducing the emotion motions that will be used and by stopping occasionally to discuss the probable emotion and to allow students time to respond.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster #2; add "prophet"
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:
- Where did Elimelech originally live? (Bethlehem)
 - Why did Elimelech move to the country of Moab with his family? (There was a famine.)
 - Elimelech died; his sons married Moabite women. Their names were Orpah and blank. (Ruth)
 - Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Naomi told her daughters-in-law to return to their mothers' homes instead of going to Bethlehem with her. Which daughter-in-law returned to her mother's home, Orpah or Ruth? (Orpah)
 - Naomi said to Ruth, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her blank..." (gods)
 - The people of Moab did not serve the true God, the God of Israel. When Ruth declared that she would go with Naomi, she said, "Your people shall be my people, and your God my blank..." (God)
- Transitional Thought: As a Moabite, Ruth served other gods. When she vowed to go with Naomi back to Bethlehem, Ruth turned from these gods to follow the one true God, the Lord, the God of Israel. Hundreds of years later, Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. Through His perfect life as the God-man, Jesus revealed the God of Israel, the true God, to mankind.

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Tell students that in this lesson we see that Jesus Christ is a "Prophet," one who reveals God. Have students repeat the word and cup hands around mouth as though calling loudly.

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

Bible Memory Materials: White board with markers and eraser

10-15 minutes Strategy: Hand Motions

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

*Verse: "...I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works."
John 14:10*

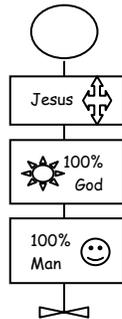
Simple hand motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students repeat the passage a few times using words and hand motions. Students then repeat the passage leaving out the words that have hand motions. Next, students repeat the passage using hand motions and words from memory.

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers, yarn, glue/tape/stapler, sample project

As time allows Activity: Doorknob hanging

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give students three pre-cut shapes. On each shape have students glue one of the following: "Jesus" "100% God" "100% Man." (Words can be handwritten with black marker or printed from a computer and then cut out in strips for students to glue.) Give each student a length of yarn and assist students to attach their shapes vertically onto the yarn. Leave enough room at the top of the yarn to make a loop that will slip over a doorknob. Encourage students to decorate their hanging. Discuss with students that because Christ Jesus is God the Son, He can reveal God the Father; because Christ Jesus is man, He can assist man to see the Father.

Example



Closing

Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.

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Verses About Christ's Work

Verse: "...After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high." Hebrews 1:3c

Verse: "... Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all..." 1 Timothy 2:5c-6a