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

Preschool Lesson One Hundred Thirty-four: The Ark of God

Overview

Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Kings
Bible Reading & Discussion: Deuteronomy 10:8; Numbers 4:15; I Chronicles 13:1-14; 15:1-4,11-16
Bible Memory & Craft: The Armor of God
Learning Objectives: (1) During the time of Moses, the Lord set aside the Levites to serve Him. They were to carry the Ark of the Covenant with poles; they were not to touch it or they would die. (2) When David and the Israelites went to get the Ark of God, they put it on a cart pulled by oxen. (3) When the oxen stumbled, Uzzah touched the ark and died. (4) David left the ark at the home of Obed-edom while he prepared a place for the ark. (5) When David and all Israel returned to get the ark, the Levites carried it on poles as the Lord had directed. (6) There is only one way of salvation. Only faith in Jesus Christ can save a person from eternal 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
5-10 minutes

Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed
Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate
Instructions: Lead songs about the Bible & the Kings, including visuals and motions as appropriate. For free songs sung to familiar hymn tunes, use the following link.
http://gardenofpraise.com/biblsong.htm

Bible Reading
15 minutes

Materials: Bibles for students to use
Strategies: Missing Word Reading
Scripture: Deuteronomy 10:8; Numbers 4:15; I Chronicles 13:1-14; 15:1-4, 11-16
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Leader reads aloud expressively. Whenever leader pauses students say, "Levites." Leader should mark passage ahead of time.

Bible Discussion
10 minutes

Materials: Beanbag
Strategy: Beanbag Toss
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. The leader asks a question and then tosses a beanbag to someone who must answer and then toss the beanbag back to the leader.
Questions:

- What tribe of Israel did the Lord set apart to carry the Ark of the Covenant? (The Levites)
- God gave instructions about moving the tabernacle. God said, "They must not touch the holy things, lest they *blank*." (Die)
- When David and the Israelites first went to get the Ark of God, it was carried on what? (A cart)
- The oxen pulling the cart stumbled, so Uzzah put out his hand and touched the ark. What happened to Uzzah? (He died)
- David left the ark at the home of Obed-edom. After David had prepared a place for the ark, he again prepared to move the ark. This time David said that "no one but the *blank* may carry the ark of God, for the Lord had chosen them to carry the ark of the Lord." (Levites)
- David said to the Levites, "Because you did not carry it the first time, the Lord our *blank* broke out against us, because we did not seek him according to the rule." (God)
- The Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the *blank*, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord. (Poles)

Transitional Thought: There was only one way that the Ark of the Covenant was to be moved. It was to be carried on poles by Levites, who were set aside by God for the purpose of serving Him. David and the Israelites did not obey the Lord about the way that they moved the Ark of the Covenant, so Uzzah touched the Holy Ark of God and died. There is only one way that a person

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can be saved and go to heaven. The person must put his/her faith in Jesus Christ and His payment for sin on the cross. Any other way will result in eternal death rather than eternal life.

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is and for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Bible Memory
10-15 minutes

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:

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;" Ephesians 6:16

Simple hand motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students repeat the passage a few times using words and hand motions from memory.

Bible Craft
As time allows

Materials: Construction paper, scissors, markers, tape, safety pins, sample project
Activity: Shield of Faith Badge
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of construction paper that has been cut into the shape of a small shield the size of a badge. Have student decorate the shield with a cross and tape a safety pin onto the back so that it can be worn. Discuss the fact that only faith in Jesus Christ and His death on the cross can save a person from the consequences of sin, which is death. (Note: Flaming darts were burning arrows that were meant to destroy wooden shields, leaving a person defenseless against attack and death.)

Practice the armor of God Scripture passage that has been learned to this point: *"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one…" Ephesians 6:10-11, 14-16*

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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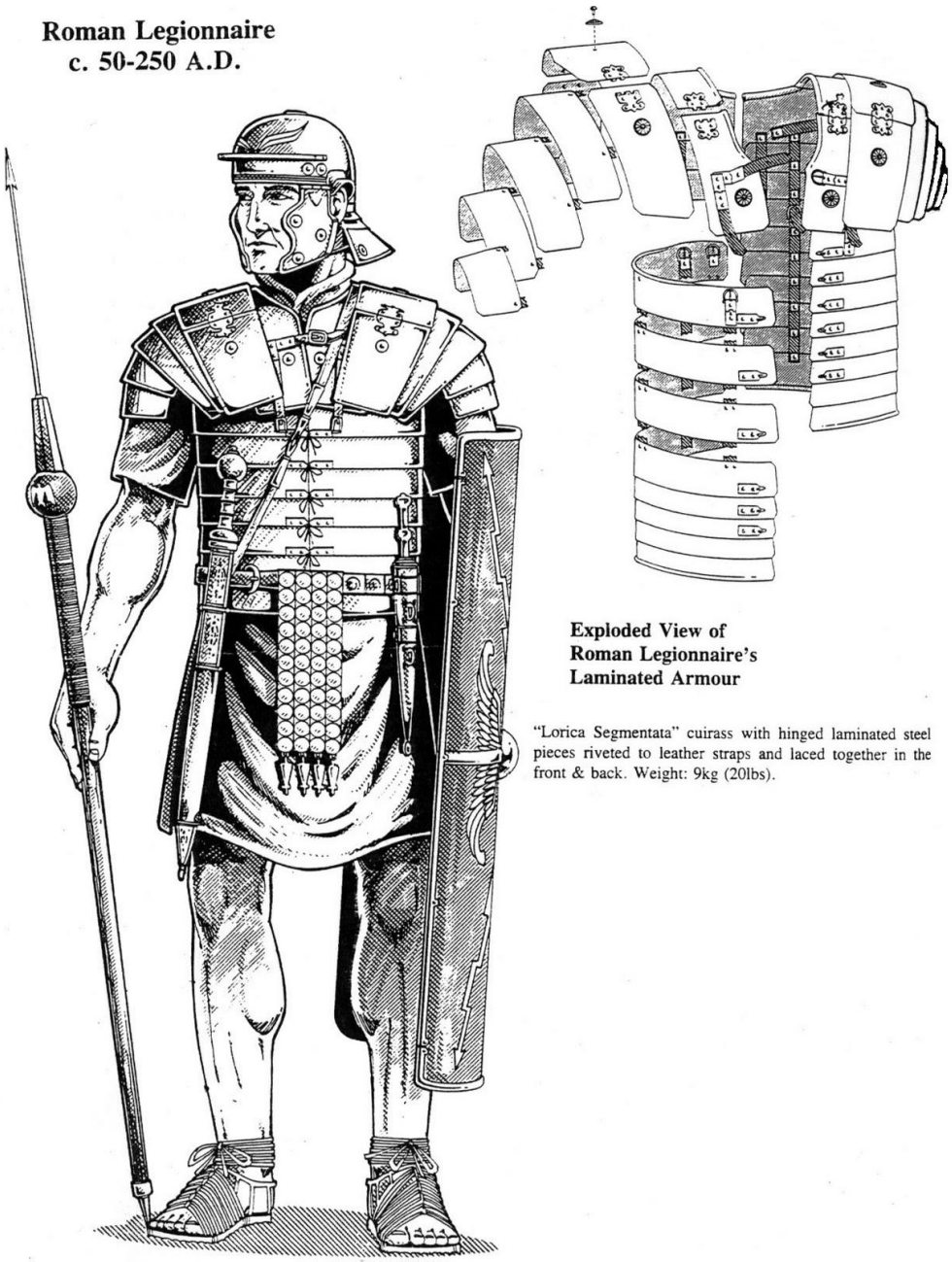
Ephesians 6
"The Armor of God"

Verse 10: "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."
Verse 11: "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."
Verse 14a: "Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth,"
Verse 14b: "and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,"
Verse 15: "and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace."
Verse 16: "In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;"
Verse 17a: "and take the helmet of salvation,"
Verse 17b: "and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God,"
Verse 18a: "praying at all times in the Spirit…"