

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Preschool Lesson Eighty-nine: Disobedience & Judgment

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Judges 1:28; 2:1-5, 10-23
Bible Memory & Craft: Verses about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) The Israelites did not obey God and drive out all of the other nations; so their children grew up and served the gods of the other nations. (2) God sold the Israelites into the hand of their enemies. (3) God raised up judges to save the Israelites from their enemies. (4) God used the other nations to test Israel to see if they would walk in the way of the Lord. (5) Man does not have his own righteousness. (6) Man can only have righteousness through faith in Christ.
- 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: Judges 1:28; 2:1-5, 10-23
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Leader reads aloud. Whenever the Lord is speaking, students stand up. When students hear that the Israelites did something wrong/sinful (evil, abandoned the Lord, went after other gods, etc.), students make the thumbs down sign. Leader should prepare ahead by marking the passage with students' required response. Leader can guide students by asking, "Was that good or bad, right or wrong? Was that sin?" Leader should pause to allow students time to respond.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Bean bag, music, word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Hot Potato
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. A bean bag is passed around the circle while music is played. When the music stops, the person holding the object answers the question.
Questions:
- Did the Israelites drive out all of the other nations from the Promised Land? (No)
 - Since the Israelites did not obey God, God said, "I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their blank shall be a snare to you." (gods)
 - When the generation that had conquered the land died, did their children serve the Lord? (No)
 - The Israelites went after and bowed down to the gods of the peoples who were around them. The Lord's blank was kindled against Israel. (Anger)
 - God allowed Israel's enemies to plunder them until Israel was in distress, afflicted, and oppressed. When God heard Israel's groaning, He was moved to pity. To save Israel from their enemies, God raised up what? (Judges)
 - When the judge died, did the Israelites serve the Lord? (No)
 - "They did not drop any of their practices or their blank ways." (Stubborn)
 - God used the other nations to test Israel to know whether Israel would walk in the way of the blank." (Lord)

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Tell students that in this lesson we see God as the “judge.” Have students repeat the word and drop fist as though striking with a gavel.

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

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: Because God is righteous, He cannot allow sin to go unpunished. So, God punished the Israelites for their sin when they disobeyed His commandments. However, God is also merciful; so He had pity on the Israelites and sent judges to save them. We also deserve punishment for our sin. However, God is merciful to us and sent Christ to take our punishment so that we can be saved through faith in Him.

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 written on it:

Verse: “...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ...” Philippians 3:10

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, sample project

As time allows Activity: “God is...” Poster

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students make their own “God is...” poster, gluing the words “God is righteous!” at the top of the page. Have students draw or glue pictures representing God’s righteousness: White heart = holy, Smiling face = good, Gavel = judge, etc. Encourage students to add a colorful border. (Words & pictures can be handwritten with black marker or printed from a computer for students to cut out and glue.)

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