

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Preschool 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 6:1-2, 6-10, 11, 19-32
Bible Memory & Craft: Verses 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.
- 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 6:1-2, 6-10, 11, 19-32
Instructions: After Scripture has been read, students perform roles by pantomiming actions from the reading. Leader prompts students as needed. (Scene 1: People of Israel & 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 again did blank in the sight of the Lord. (Evil)
 - The Lord gave Israel into the hand of Midian. Because of Midian the Israelites made what in the mountains? (Dens & 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)
 - The Israelites had disobeyed the commandment, "You shall have no other blank before me." (gods)
 - What food did Gideon prepare for the angel of the Lord? (Meat, broth, unleavened cakes)
 - When the angel of the Lord touched the food with his staff, what happened? (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 pull down with his father's bull? (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)

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Tell students that in this lesson we see God as the “judge.” Have students repeat word and lower hand as though using a judge’s gavel.

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 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:

Verse: “...Are we to continue in sin...? By no means!” Romans 6:1-2

Students say the passage in unison a few times. Exaggerated body motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students say the passage a few times using words and motions. Students then repeat the passage using motions and words from memory.

Bible Craft Materials: Markers, paper, sample project

As time allows Activity: Cartoon Strip

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students fold a piece of paper in half so that when they open it there are two squares. Have students draw a cartoon 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.