

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson One Hundred Seventeen: Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Bible Drill
Bible Reading & Discussion: Numbers 18:6-7; I Samuel 14:47-52; 13:5-15
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Prayer
Learning Objectives: (1) God chose the Levites as priests to serve in the tabernacle and to offer sacrifices to Him. (2) Instead of trusting God to save him from the Philistines, Saul sought God's favor by breaking God's command and offering a burnt sacrifice. (3) Because Saul did not keep God's command, Samuel said that Saul's kingdom would not continue. (4) Samuel said that God sought someone after His own heart to be prince over His people. (5) Sinners cannot be saved by doing things their own way. Sinners must obey the will of God by putting their faith in Jesus Christ as their only means of salvation.
- 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: Bibles for students to use
5-10 minutes Strategies: Bible Drill
Instructions: Students hold closed Bibles up over head. The leader then calls out a Scripture reference – the book, the chapter and the verse. When the leader says, "Charge," the students look for the reference in their Bibles. When the reference is found, students stand and read it.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Emotion Motions
Scripture: Numbers 18:6-7; I Samuel 14:47-52; 13:5-15
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads aloud the Scriptures in the order listed above, students make motions/actions that portray the emotions depicted in the passage. Leader guides students by introducing the emotion motions that will be used, by stopping occasionally to discuss the probable emotion, and to allow students time to respond. (Examples: Numbers passage – reverence or gratefulness; I Samuel 14 – bravery, valiance; I Samuel 13 – fear, impatience, self-excusing, displeasure, etc.)
- Bible Discussion** Materials: None
10 minutes Strategy: Stand up/Sit down
Instructions: Have students stand in a fellowship circle. After sharing correctly, student sits. Repeat until all questions have been answered and/or all students are sitting.
Questions:
- When Saul had taken kingship over Israel, what did he do? (Fought against Israel's enemies)
 - All the days of Saul there was hard fighting against which particular enemy? (The Philistines)
 - When the Philistines encamped at Michmash to fight Israel, the people were afraid and hid themselves where? (Caves, holes, rocks, tombs, cisterns)
 - Some of the people forded the Jordan River to the land of Gad. Those that stayed with Saul followed him *blank*." (Trembling)
 - When the people started scattering from Saul, what did he do? (Offered a burnt offering)
 - Was Saul a priest? (No)
 - God chose the Levites from among the tribes of Israel to be the priests, to do the service of the tent of meeting. He told them "you shall guard your priesthood for all that concerns the altar..." Altars were used to offer sacrifices to God. So, who did God choose to offer sacrifices to Him? (The priests, the Levites)

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- When Samuel arrived and asked Saul what he had done, Saul said that the people were scattering; Samuel had not arrived on time; the Philistines were mustering to attack; so he offered a burnt offering because he had not yet “sought the favor of the blank.” (Lord)
- Samuel said to Saul, “You have done foolishly. You have not kept the blank of the Lord your God...” (Command)
- Saul should have trusted God to protect Israel instead of breaking God’s law by offering the sacrifice. Because Saul did not keep what the Lord commanded, his kingdom would not continue and the Lord “sought out a man after his own blank...to be prince over his people.” (Heart)

Transitional Thought: Saul did not trust God to save Israel from the Philistines. Instead, Saul sought the favor of the Lord by breaking his command, by disobeying the Lord. Sinners cannot be saved by doing things their own way, as Saul tried to do. They must obey the will of God by putting their faith in Jesus Christ as their only means of salvation. Sinners must trust Christ to save them from sin and death.

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

Bible Memory Materials: White board with markers and eraser

10-15 minutes Strategy: Picture It

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

Question: What is prayed for in the third petition of the Lord’s Prayer?

Answer: That men on earth may serve God as the angels do in heaven

Verse: “...your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Matthew 6:10b

Pictures are used to replace some of the words in the passage. Students repeat the passage “reading” the pictures in place of the words. Gradually, the words are erased or covered until only the pictures remain. Students repeat the passage using only the pictures as a guide.

Bible Craft Materials: Books from previous lesson, book material, markers, art supplies, sample project

As time allows Activity: The Lord’s Prayer Book

Note: Each student will make an eight page “Lord’s Prayer” book that will be completed during several lessons. A new page will be completed each lesson until the entire prayer is included in the book.

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Any students that are not up to date with this project should complete pages as described in previous lessons. On the fifth page, have students write, “...your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” and illustrate with pictures of people doing things that please God, such as praying, reading the Bible, going to church, helping others, obeying parents, etc. Have students recite the parts of the Lord’s Prayer that they have learned to this point: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

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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Questions about Prayer

Question: What is prayer?

Answer: Prayer is talking with God.

Verse: "Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven...'" Matthew 6:9a-b

Question: What is prayed for in the first petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That God may be honored.

Verse: "...hallowed be your name." Matthew 6:9c

Question: What is prayed for in the second petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That the gospel may be preached, believed, and obeyed in all the world.

Verse: "Your kingdom come..." Matthew 6:10a

Question: What is prayed for in the third petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That men on earth may serve God as the angels do in heaven.

Verse: "...your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10b

Question: What is prayed for in the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That God will provide our physical needs.

Verse: "Give us this day our daily bread," Matthew 6:11

Question: What is prayed for in the fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That God will pardon our sins.

Verse: "and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." Matthew 6:12

Question: What is prayed for in the sixth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: That God will keep us from sin.

Verse: "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." Matthew 6:13