

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson One Hundred Twenty-three: Saul Becomes David's Enemy

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Bible Drill
Bible Reading & Discussion: I Samuel 18:6-15, 19:1-7
Bible Memory & Craft: Psalm 23
Learning Objectives: (1) Saul became jealous of David and tried to kill him. (2) Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with David but the Lord had departed from Saul. (3) Jonathan interceded for David, pleading David's innocence to Saul. (4) Saul swore to allow David to live. (5) Just as a good shepherd provides a safe place for his sheep to eat and drink, the Lord Jesus Christ protects and cares for His children.
- 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, paper
15 minutes Strategies: Emotion Motions
Scripture: I Samuel 18:6-15, 19:1-7
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads aloud the Scriptures, 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: Joy, anger, jealousy, fear, love, delight, peace)
- Bible Discussion** Materials: None
10 minutes Strategy: Jeopardy Jump Up
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Give each answer and challenge students to produce the correct question. Have students jump up to share questions.
Questions:
- "Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands." (What did the women sing?)
 - Angry (How did Saul feel toward David?)
 - Saul hurled his spear at David. (How did Saul try to kill David?)
 - Twice (How many times did David evade Saul?)
 - Because the Lord was with David but had departed from Saul (Why was Saul afraid of David?)
 - Successful (What was David in all his undertakings?)
 - They should kill David. (What did Saul say to his servants and to Jonathan?)
 - "Stay in a secret place and hide yourself." (What did Jonathan tell David?)
 - "Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you...For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine...Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?" (What did Jonathan say to Saul?)
 - "As the Lord lives, he shall not be put to death." (What did Saul swear?)
- Transitional Thought: Although Saul tried to kill David, he could not do so because the Lord was with David. Again and again we will see that Saul tried to kill David, but the Lord continually protected David. As David wrote in Psalm 23, a good shepherd provides a safe place for his sheep to eat and drink. This is a picture of how the Lord Jesus Christ protects and cares for His children.

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Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is and for Jesus Christ who cares for His children as a good shepherd cares for his sheep.

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:

“He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters.” Psalm 23:2

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: Murals from past lesson, blue cellophane or paper, glue, markers, sample project
As time allows Activity: 3D Mural representing Psalm 23

Note: Each student will make his/her own 3D mural representing Psalm 23. It will be completed during several lessons. New images will be added each lesson until the mural is finished.

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Today students will add green grass and blue water. Give each student his/her mural. Have each student cut blue cellophane or other blue paper into the shape of a stream or pond and glue it onto the mural. Have students color the ground green, making it look like grass. Collect the murals for use during future lessons.

Have students repeat the parts of Psalm 23 that they have learned so far, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters.” Psalm 23:1-2

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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Psalm 23

Verse 1: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

3D Mural Craft: Cotton ball sheep

Verse 2: "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters."

3D Mural Craft: Green grass, blue cellophane water

Verse 3: "He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

3D Mural Craft: Brown dirt path

Verse 4: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

3D Mural Craft: Crumpled-paper mountain with lion, bear, &/or wolf cutouts

Verse 5: "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."

3D Mural Craft: Flat-rock table with rod & staff leaning against it and oil flask upon it

Verse 6: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

3D Mural Craft: Glitter sunburst at end of path