

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

Primary Lesson Fifty-nine: Golden Calf

- Overview** Bible Facts: Review
Bible Reading & Discussion: Exodus 32:1-35; Deuteronomy 9:13-21
Memorization & Art Activity: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Question 52
- 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: Bean bags
5-10 minutes Strategies: Bean Bag Toss & Stand up/Sit Down
Instructions: Review the books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments or the Catechism as needed. Students stand in a circle. The leader tosses the bean bag to someone and asks a question. The student that catches the bean bag answers the question. If the answer is correct the student gets to sit down. Play until everyone has answered correctly and is sitting. (Question examples: How many books are in the Bible? What book comes before Jeremiah? What is the third commandment? What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?)
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Pantomime Reading and Round Robin
Scripture: Exodus 32:1-35; Deuteronomy 9:13-21
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads the Exodus passage aloud, students pantomime actions described in the reading. Leader should read slowly and pause often to allow students time to respond. Leader may also prompt students or reread sections to assist students to make the actions accurate according to the passage. (Action examples: giving jewelry, fashioning calf, eating, drinking, playing, breaking tablets, etc.) Students should read Deuteronomy 9:13-21 as a "round robin." Each person reads two verses aloud around and around the table until the passage has been read.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster
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: From last lesson, how long was Moses up on the mountain with God? (40 days and nights) The people said they did not know what had become of Moses, so they told Aaron to do what? (Make them gods) What did Aaron collect to make the gods? (Gold jewelry) Aaron made a golden calf. What type of tool did he use? (A graving tool) The people said, "These are your *blank*, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of *blank*." (gods, Egypt) What did Aaron build? (An altar) The next day the people worshiped the golden calf and sacrificed to it. God said to Moses, "...let me alone, that my *blank* may burn hot against them and I may *blank* them..." (Wrath, consume) Through many miracles God had continually been teaching the people "I am the *blank*." (Lord) Now they were worshiping what as "the lord?" (The golden calf) To the idol made by Aaron the people were giving

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glory and worship that should have gone to Whom? (God) When Moses saw what the people were doing what did he do with the tablets of stone? (Threw them down and broke them) What did Moses do with the idol of gold? (Burned it, ground it into powder, and threw it in the water) Moses was afraid of God's anger and the fact that He wanted to destroy Israel. How long did Moses lay prostrate before God without eating or drinking? (40 days and nights) The Lord listened to Moses and did not destroy the people but what did He send? (A plague)

Show students the word poster and have them act out the words: God is...Creator, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Life-source, Just, Merciful, Righteous, Life-sustainer, Creator of Nations, In control, Long-suffering, Glorious, Providence, Deliverer, Savior, All-seeing, Faithful, Freer from law, Judge, Provider, Prayer answerer, Sovereign, Gracious, Way to Heaven, Protector, Promise keeper, Success maker, King of kings, Holy, Law maker (Act as though writing with index finger)

Ask students which of the words on the poster describe God's actions in this lesson. (Answers: Omniscient, All-seeing, Judge...)

Group Prayer

Through prayer, praise God for Who He is.

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 written on it:

Question: How should the Sabbath be kept?

Answer: In prayer and praise, in hearing and reading God's Word, and in doing good to our fellow men

Verse: "...call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable...you shall take delight in the Lord..." Isaiah 58:13-14

Students read the passage in unison a few times. 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 Art Activity

As time allows

Materials: Graph paper, pencils, sample project

Activity: Acrostic Puzzle

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Using the catechism words that are written on the white board, have students create their own acrostic puzzles, using one square per letter. See the example below.

PRAYER
R E
A A
I **DOING GOOD**
S I
E N
 GOD'S WORD

Closing

Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.