Primary Lesson Sixty-eight: Aaron’s Staff

Overview

Bible Facts: Review
Bible Reading & Discussion: Exodus 40:12-15; Numbers 16:3; 17:1-13; Hebrews 9:1-7, 11-12; 15
Memorization & Art Activity: “A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls” Question 59

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 sits down. Play until everyone has answered correctly and is sitting. (Question examples: How many books are in the Bible? What book comes before James? What is the sixth commandment?)

Bible Reading

Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes
Strategies: Impromptu Retelling
Scripture: Exodus 40:12-15; Numbers 16:3; 17:1-13; Hebrews 9:1-7, 11-12; 15
Instructions: After Scripture has been read, students perform roles by pantomiming actions and repeating lines from the reading. Leader prompts students as needed. (Scenes: 1. Priests purified 2. People rebelling 3. Staffs collected, named, & placed in tabernacle 4. Aaron’s sprouted staff shown to the people 5. Aaron’s staff placed in the Ark of the Covenant 6. People “undone”)

Bible Discussion

Materials: Answer cards, word poster #2 – “Roles of Jesus Christ: high priest, mediator”
10 minutes
Strategy: Answers First
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Answers to questions are written on index cards and handed out randomly to students. The leader asks a question and the student with the correct answer card stands up and reads the answer.

Questions: Who did God make to be priests to serve in the tabernacle? (Aaron and his sons) At the beginning of the rebellion led by Korah, the people said to Moses and Aaron, “…all in the congregation are blank, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you blank yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?” (Holy, exalt) The people were rebelling against the authority of Moses and Aaron to intercede for the people. By saying that they were all holy, they were saying that they did not need a priest. To make the people stop grumbling, God caused a miracle to show that He, God, chose Aaron as priest. What did God tell Moses to collect from each of the twelve tribes? (Staffs) What was to be written on the staffs? (The names of the chiefs) Where were the staffs to be placed? (In the tabernacle) On the next day, what had happened to Aaron’s staff? (It had sprouted)

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buds, produced blossoms, and born ripe almonds) After Moses showed Aaron’s staff to the people, God told him to place the staff in the tabernacle as a sign for the rebels, “that you may make an end of their blank against me, lest they blank.” (Grumblings, die) God had shown the people that they did need a priest, a mediator to intercede for them. The people understood this. They said, “Everyone...who comes near to the blank of the Lord, shall blank...” (Tabernacle, die) According to Hebrews, the high priest was a picture of WHOM? (Jesus Christ) The priests offered the blood of sacrificed animals for the sins of the people. What blood did Jesus Christ offer? (His own) Just as the people of Israel needed a mediator to intercede between them and God, we also need a mediator to intercede between us and God. WHO is our mediator, our high priest that paid for our sins once for all? (Jesus Christ)

Show students word poster #2 that says, "Roles of Jesus Christ: High Priest (move hand as though sprinkling blood), Mediator (move hand from self toward heaven).” Have students say the words and perform the actions.

**Group Prayer**

Through prayer, praise God for Who He is. Thank Him for Jesus Christ’s mediation, for his blood sacrifice that paid for our sins.

**Bible Memory**

**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:** What is the eighth commandment?  
**Answer & Verse:** The eighth commandment is, “You shall not steal.”  
*Exodus 20:15*

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 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.

**Bible Art Activity**

**Materials:** Paper plates, markers, tape, craft sticks, sample project  
**Activity:** Reversible sign  
**Instructions:** Have students sit at tables. Give each student a paper plate. On one side have students write, “You shall not steal” and color it red, similar to a stop sign. On the other side, have students write, “God loves a cheerful giver” and color it green, for go. Tape craft stick to the bottom of the paper plate as a handle. Teach students to play “Red light, green light” using their signs. (One student stands far from the other students and holds up the sign “God loves a cheerful giver.” The other students move forward until the sign is reversed showing “You shall not steal,” when students must stop moving. Those that don’t stop immediately must go back to the starting line. The process is repeated until someone reaches the sign holder.)

**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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