

## Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

### Primary Lesson Seventy-one: Bronze Serpent

- Overview** Bible Facts: Review  
Bible Reading & Discussion: Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-16; Romans 6:23; I John 1:9; I Corinthians 10:9-11  
Memorization & Art Activity: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Question 62
- 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: Leader Read Aloud, Action Reading, & Stories with Sound  
Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-16; Romans 6:23; I John 1:9; II Corinthians 10:9-11  
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Students are taught to do actions & make sounds when certain cue words are mentioned. When students hear the word "serpent," they make the sound "sssss." When students hear the word "believes," they raise both hands toward heaven. Leader should pause to give students time to respond.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Container, clothes clues written on paper, word poster #2  
10 minutes Strategy: Clothes Clues  
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Clothes clues are written on small pieces of paper, folded, and placed into a container. A clue is pulled out and read aloud. Only those that fit the clue can share. Examples: wearing black shoes, wearing red, wearing a watch, wearing NO hair accessory...  
Questions:
- The children of Israel are coming to the end of their wilderness wanderings. So far, who has died? (Miriam, Aaron, entire generation of the men of war)
  - When the people became impatient, what did they say against God and Moses? (Why did you bring us to this wilderness to die? There is no food and water. We loathe this worthless food.)
  - Instead of being grateful for the Lord's guidance, protection, and provision, the people were impatient and complained. How did God punish them? (He sent fiery serpents that bit the people so that they died.)
  - What are the wages of sin; what does sin earn? (Death)
  - How did the people respond to God's punishment? (They confessed that they had sinned against God and Moses and asked Moses to pray that God would take away the serpents.)
  - Do you think this was the correct response? (Yes, if we confess our sins, God will forgive us and cleanse us.)
  - What did God tell Moses to do? (Make a bronze serpent and set it on a pole.)
  - What did the people who were bitten have to do in order to live? (Look at the bronze serpent on the pole)
  - In the book of John, Who was compared to the bronze serpent? (The Son of Man/Son of God, Jesus Christ)

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- How was Jesus raised up like the serpent? (On the cross)
- What do we have to do to live and have eternal life? (Believe in Jesus Christ)
- In Romans, eternal life is called “the blank blank of God...in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Free gift)
- II Corinthians says that the story of the Israelites was written for our what? (Instruction)

Show students word poster #2 and have them act out the words – “Roles of Jesus Christ: High Priest (Move hand as though sprinkling blood), Mediator (Move hand from self toward heaven), Savior (Stretch arms out to the sides)”

**Group Prayer** Through prayer, praise God for Who He is. Thank him for sending Jesus Christ Who died on the cross to save us from the wages of our sin – death. Thank God for the free gift of eternal life through belief in Jesus Christ.

**Bible Memory** 10-15 minutes  
Materials: White board with markers and eraser  
Strategy: Body Motions  
Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following passage written on it:  
*Question: What does the ninth commandment teach us?*  
*Answer: To tell the truth and not to speak evil of others*  
*Verse: “Do not speak evil against one another, brothers.” James 4:11a*  
Exaggerated body motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students read the passage a few times using words and body motions, then leaving out the words that have body motions. Next students repeat the passage using body motions and words from memory, without looking at the words. Finally, students repeat the passage from memory using words only, no body motions.

**Bible Craft**  
Materials: Heavy paper, markers, scissors, craft sticks, tape, sample  
Activity: Mouth Guard  
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have each student cut heavy paper into a large “X” shape. On the “X” have each student write, “Do not speak evil.” Assist students to tape their “X” onto a craft stick. Show the students how to hold their “mouth guard” in front of their mouth as a reminder that they must not speak evil. If time allows, have students role play times when they might be tempted to speak evil. During the role play, have students hold up their mouth guard instead of giving in to the temptation to speak evil.

**Closing** Have students assist with clean-up.  
Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.  
Close in prayer & dismiss.