

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Seventy-four: Balaam's Oracles

- Overview** Bible Facts: Review
Bible Reading & Discussion: Numbers 22:36 – 24:25; Genesis 12:1-3
Memorization & Art Activity: Review catechism from lessons 68-73
- 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: Song visuals &/or props as needed
5-10 minutes Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate
Instructions: As a review, sing all of the songs from past lessons about the Bible, the Old Testament, the New Testament, & the Ten Commandments. Ask a different student to lead each song, including actions and visuals as appropriate.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Group Read Aloud & Picturing
Scripture: Numbers 22:36 – 24:25; Genesis 12:1-3
Instructions: Choose students as readers. Give each student a set of verses to read. Have students take turns standing to read their passage while the other students close their eyes and picture what they are hearing. Encourage readers to read very expressively. Allow listeners to share what they pictured.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Question cards, answer cards, word poster #1 add: "Truth = cannot lie," "Immutable = unchangeable"
10 minutes Strategy: Match Up
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Questions are written on one set of index cards and answers are written on another. Cards are randomly handed out to students who must find the person with the "match" for their question or answer. Partners then read their cards to the group to determine correctness of the match.
Questions:
- Balaam told Balak that he could only speak the words put into his mouth by whom? (God)
 - Before each prophecy, what was built? (Seven altars)
 - What was sacrificed on the altars? (Seven bulls and seven rams)
 - In Balaam's second oracle the Lord put the following words into his mouth: "God is not man that he should *blank*..." (Lie)
 - The Lord had Balaam say, "God is not...a son of man, that he should *blank* his mind." (Change)
 - To whom did God first promise "I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse..."? (Abram)
 - Since God had already blessed Israel, could Balaam revoke that blessing and curse Israel? (No)
 - How many times did Balaam bless Israel? (Three)
 - In Balaam's third oracle the Spirit of God came upon Balaam and had him say about Israel, "Blessed are those who *blank* you, and cursed are those who *blank* you." (Bless, curse)
 - When Balak became angry with Balaam for blessing the Israelites instead of cursing them, what did Balak do with his hands? (Struck them together)
 - Before Balaam returned to his home, the Lord had him share what Israel would do to Balak's people, Moab, in the latter days. He said, "...it shall *blank* the *blank* of Moab..." (Crush the forehead)
- Show students word poster #1 and have them act out the words: God is...Creator, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Life-source, Just, Merciful, Righteous, Life-sustainer, Creator of Nations, In control,

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

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, Skill instiller, Guide, Victory giver, Truth = cannot lie (Nod head and point to mouth), Immutable = unchangeable (Stand perfectly still for 3 seconds)

Ask students which of the words on the poster describe God's actions in this lesson. (Answers: Omniscient, In control, Promise keeper, Truth, Immutable, etc.)

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is. Thank God that He does not lie nor change His mind.

Bible Memory Materials: Bean Bag
10-15 minutes Strategy: Bean Bag Review
Instructions: Have students stand in a circle. Ask a catechism question then toss the bean bag to someone to share the answer &/or verse.

Question: What is the eighth commandment?

Answer & Verse: The eighth commandment is, "You shall not steal." Exodus 20:15

Question: What does the eighth commandment teach us?

Answer: To be honest and not to take the things of others

Verse: "The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a snare of death." Proverbs 21:6

Question: What is the ninth commandment?

Answer & Verse: The ninth commandment is, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Exodus 20:16

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

Question: What is the tenth commandment?

Answer & Verse: The tenth commandment is, "You shall not covet...anything that is your neighbor's." Exodus 20:17

Question: What does the tenth commandment teach us?

Answer: To be content with what we have

Verse: "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have..." Hebrews 13:5a

Bible Craft Materials: Index cards, pens or pencils, sample project

Activity: Flip-em Cards

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student 6 index cards. Students write one catechism question per card then flips each card over & writes the answer & verse. Students play "Flip-em." They partner up. One student holds a card for the partner to read. The student holding the card silently counts to 5 (7, 10) then flips the card over. The partner must say what's on the other side before it's flipped.

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