

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Seventy-six: War with Midian (Balaam Dies)

- Overview** Bible Facts: Review
Bible Reading & Discussion: Romans 12:19; Numbers 25:1-2, 6; 31:1-17, 25-31, 48-49; 32:1-23, 28
Memorization & Bible Craft: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Question 66
- 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 – first the book, then the chapter, finally 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. Leader should use verses from the catechism.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Popcorn Reading
Scripture: Romans 12:19; Numbers 25:1-2, 6; 31:1-17, 25-31 48-49; 32:1-23, 28
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. One person reads aloud, stopping at any point. As soon as one reader stops, another reader quickly takes over. There is no predetermined order of readers; however, Scriptures should be read in order.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Number cards, word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Count Down
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Numbers are written on small cards and handed out randomly to students. The leader asks questions and students answer in numerical order (1,2,3), reverse order (10,9,8), or by type (even, odd, divisible by three, etc.).
Questions:
- Romans says, "Never blank yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of blank..." (Avenge, God)
 - God told Moses to avenge the people of Israel on the Midianites. Avenge means to punish. How many men of Israel went out to war with Midian? (12,000)
 - How many men of Israel were missing after the war with Midian? (None)
 - Moses was angry that the women were captured instead of killed. From last lesson, do you remember what these women had done? (They invited the children of Israel to worship their gods.)
 - Who had advised this? (Balaam)
 - Five kings of Midian were killed. Who else was killed, "with the sword?" (Balaam)
 - The Midianites and Balaam were punished for leading the Israelites to break what commandments? (The first and second commandments – having and bowing down to other gods)
 - The plunder from winning the war was given to the warriors, the congregation, and to Whom? (The Lord through Eleazar the priest and the Levites that guard the tabernacle)
 - Why did the people of Reuben and Gad want to stay in the land of Gilead? (It was good land for their livestock.)
 - Moses said, "Shall your brothers go to the war while you sit here?" Moses reminded them that the last time the people refused to enter the land God had made the people wander for 40 years. What was the solution for the people of Reuben and Gad? (The men would go into the land to fight while their families and livestock stayed in Gilead.)
 - Moses said, "But if you do not do so, behold, you have blank against the blank, and be sure your blank will find you out." (Sinned, Lord, sin)

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

- Who did Moses tell about this arrangement? (Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the tribes of Israel)

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, 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, Immutable = unchangeable

Ask students which of the words on the poster describe God's actions in this lesson. (Answers: Judge, protector, victory giver, etc.)

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is; list some of His attributes and actions for which you are thankful.

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes
Materials: Yarn, tape, etc. to make patterns, sheets of paper containing memory phrases:
Question: Of what use are the ten commandments to us?
Answer: They teach us our duty, make clear our condemnation, and show us our need of a Savior
Verse: "...through the law comes knowledge of sin." Romans 3:20
Strategy: Hop Scotch
Instructions: Lay out a pattern on the ground with parts of the passage within areas of the pattern. Have students move through the pattern while reading and then reciting the passage. The pattern can be made with hula hoops, tape, chalk lines, yarn, etc. Have students move in different ways: hop, skip, jump...

Bible Craft As time allows
Materials: Construction paper, markers, scissors, tape, sample project
Activity: Judge's Gavel
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Have students make a paper gavel by tightly rolling and taping paper into a long thin roll for the handle and a short fat roll for the head. On the gavel have students write or glue the words, "Guilty of sin." Attach the handle to the head of the gavel. Discuss a judge's use of a gavel when declaring a verdict, such as "guilty." Discuss the fact that we are all guilty of sin and every time that we break the law of the ten commandments we prove our own guiltiness.

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