Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Eighty-two: The Sin of Achan

Overview

Bible Facts & Songs: Song of Jericho
Bible Reading & Discussion: Exodus 20:15-17; Joshua 6:17-19; 7:1-26; Romans 3:23; 6:23
Memory & Craft Activity: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) The deserved punishment for sin is death. (2) All people have sinned and deserve death. (3) When Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for sin. (4) Those that have faith in Jesus are saved from the punishment of death and given eternal life instead.

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
5-10 minutes

Materials: "Song of Jericho" Lyrics
Strategies: Sing It with Hand and Body Motions
Instructions: Review and Sing the "Song of Jericho" by Patsy Stevens sung to the tune of "When the Roll is Called up Yonder." (http://gardenofpraise.com)

Verse 1
God delivered Jericho to Joshua so long ago. (Point toward heaven.)
We will see just how the story came about. (Hold hands open like a book.)
And the city was shut up because the men were fearful, so (Act fearful.)
No one could come in and no one could go out. (Shake head.)

Chorus
March around the city one time (March and hold up one finger.)
On day one, day two and three, four (Hold up the correct number of fingers.)
Five and six, and then the next day (Hold up the correct number of fingers.)
March around the city seven times more. (March and hold up seven fingers.)

Verse 2
All the people followed Joshua and not a sound was heard (Hold finger to lips – shhh.)
But the trumpets blowing loud and long and clear. (Act like you're holding a trumpet.)
On the seventh day when all was done there was a trumpet blast, (Hold up 7 fingers.)
Then a shout, the walls fell down, the vict'ry's here! (Raise arms – V for victory.)

Bible Reading
15 minutes

Materials: Bibles for students to use
Strategies: Emotion Motions
Scripture: Exodus 20:15-17; Joshua 6:17-19; 7:1-26; Romans 3:23; 6:23
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. As leader reads Joshua 7 aloud, students make motions that portray the emotions depicted in the passage (Anger, confidence, fear, sadness, etc.). Leader guides students by introducing the emotion motions that will be used and by stopping occasionally to discuss the probable emotion and to allow students time to respond.

Bible Discussion
10 minutes

Materials: Container, clothes clues written on paper, word posters #1 & #2
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:

- When the city of Jericho fell, all that was in it was "devoted to *blank* for destruction" – to whom? (The Lord)
- The gold, silver, bronze, and iron were "*blank* to the Lord." (Holy)
- These holy items were to go into the "*blank* of the *blank*." (Treasury, the Lord)
- What items did Achan steal? (Cloak, shekels of silver, bar of gold)
- What should have happened to these items? (Cloak – burned; silver and gold to the Lord's treasury)
- The items were devoted to the Lord and holy to the Lord. From whom did Achan steal? (The Lord)
- Achan did not obey God; he broke God's commandment, "You shall not steal." What other sins did Achan commit? (He lied and he coveted.)

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- Because of Achan's sin, how many Israelites died when they went to take Ai? (Thirty-six)
- The Lord said, "he has *blank* the covenant of the Lord…he has done an *blank* thing in Israel." (Transgressed, outrageous)
- Because Achan stole from the Lord and disobeyed God, causing Israelites to die, what happened to Achan? (He was stoned to death and burned with fire.)
- What are the wages of sin? (Death)
- Who, besides Achan, has sinned, broken God's commandments, and deserves to die? (All people)
- What is the free gift of God? (Eternal life)
- Through faith in Whom? (Christ Jesus our Lord)
- Jesus died in our place. When He died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sins. When we believe in Jesus, when we have faith in Him, He saves us from the punishment that we deserve and gives us eternal life instead of death.

Show students word posters #1 & #2. Ask students which words on poster #1 describe God in this lesson. (Answers: Omniscient, Just, Judge) Ask students which word on poster #2 describes Christ in this lesson. (Answer: Savior)

Group Prayer

Through prayer, praise God for sending Jesus Christ to save us from death, the deserved punishment for our sin. Thank Him for His free gift of eternal life. Ask God for faith to believe in Jesus Christ as Savior.

Bible Memory
10-15 minutes

Transitional Thought: Achan sinned and received the death penalty for his sin. We have all sinned and deserve the death penalty. However, God has chosen to save those that have faith in Jesus Christ and to give them eternal life.
Materials: Bean Bag
Strategy: Bean Bag Stand-up/Sit-down Review
Instructions: Have students stand in a circle. Ask a question then toss the bean bag to someone to share the answer &/or verse. If the answer is correct, student sits. Continue until everyone is sitting.

Question: What is the covenant of grace?
Answer: It is an eternal agreement within the Trinity to save certain persons and to provide all the means for their salvation
Verse: "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins." Romans 11:27

Question: What is election?
Answer: It is God's choice of certain sinners for salvation.
Verse: "Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him…" Ephesians 1:4

Question: How does God save the elect?
Answer: God saves the elect by the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ.
Verse: "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

Bible Craft
As time allows

Materials: Index cards and pencils
Activity: Memory Game
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student 9 index cards. Have students write each question on a card, each answer on another card, and each verse on another card. Continue this process until all three questions, answers, and verses have been written. Backs of index cards must remain blank.

Have students play memory. Spread out all index cards upside down on table. Take turns turning over 3 cards. Try to remember where various cards are located. When a person turns over a question, answer, and verse that all match, the person can keep the 3 cards and take another turn.

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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