

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Eighty-three: Fall of Ai

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Bible Drill
Bible Reading & Discussion: Genesis 12:7-9; Deuteronomy 27:1-8; Joshua 8:1-35
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) God fulfilled His promise to give the land to Abram's offspring. (2) God gave Israel the victory over Ai. (3) Israel obeyed the Lord. (4) Jesus obeyed God the Father.
- 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.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Draw it!
Scripture: Genesis 12:7-9; Deuteronomy 27:1-8; Joshua 8:1-35
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper and pencil. Have students fold paper in half twice so that there are four squares when the paper is opened. As leader reads aloud, students draw four different scenes from the Joshua Scripture reading, each in a different square. Tell students to draw simple pictures that will not take a lot of time – like cartoons &/or stick figures.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Answer cards, word poster #1
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:
- What did the Lord say that He had given into Joshua's hand? (The king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land)
 - To whom did the Lord originally promise the land at Ai? (Abram's offspring)
 - The people of Israel are descendants of Abram, so did the Lord fulfill His promise to Abram? (Yes)
 - The Lord told Joshua, "Do not blank and do not be blank." (Fear, dismayed)
 - Why might Joshua fear to go up against Ai? (Ai had defeated Israel because of Achan)
 - God said, "Stretch out the blank that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." (Javelin)
 - What did God allow Israel to keep as plunder? (Spoil and livestock)
 - What did Joshua build on Mount Ebal? (An altar)
 - Where were the instructions about the altar written? (The Book of the Law of Moses)
 - The altar was to be made of blank stones. (Uncut)
 - What did Joshua write on the altar? (A copy of the law of Moses)
 - What was sacrificed on the altar? (Burnt offerings, Peace offerings)
 - To whom did Joshua read the Book of the Law? (All the assembly of Israel, the women, and little ones)
 - The people of Israel did according to word of the blank. (Lord)

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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, Immutable/unchangeable

Ask students which words on poster #1 describe God in this lesson. (Answers: In control, Promise keeper, Victory giver, etc.)

Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is, listing His attributes.

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: The Israelites obeyed God when they went up against Ai and when they built the altar on Mount Ebal. Jesus obeyed God the Father when He became man and died as the perfect sacrifice for sins.

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Erase-a-Word

Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following written on it:

Question: Being the Son of God, why did Christ become man?

Answer: Christ became man to fulfill the will of God the Father.

Verse: "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me." John 6:38

Read in unison. Have students cover their eyes. Erase random words from the board. Ask students to open their eyes and tell you what words were erased. Read again, saying the missing words from memory. Repeat several times until quoting rather than reading.

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers

As time allows Activity: Pointillism Mural

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper. Have students draw a mural that includes the manger, the cross, and the tomb. Have students include the words "Jesus was obedient." on the mural. Have students color the mural by making marker dots of different colors. Show students that mixing dots of more than one color can make other colors. Example: red and yellow dots together will look orange at a distance.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.