

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Eighty-five: The Lord Fights for Israel

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Joshua 10:1-43
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) The Lord fought for Israel. (2) Joshua did as the Lord God of Israel commanded. (3) When Christ resurrected, He overcame the power of death.
- 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: Lead students to sing songs about the Bible & the Judges. Spend some time discussing the meaning of new songs. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Be very careful to choose songs that only speak truth. Ask students to help lead songs, including actions and visuals as appropriate.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Round Robin
Scripture: Joshua 10:1-43
Instructions: Students should read the Scripture as a "round robin." Each person reads five verses aloud around and around the table until the passages have all been read.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word posters #1
10 minutes Strategy: Popcorn
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. The leader asks a question and students that want to answer the question "pop" up, share their answer, and then sit down. Set a limit of pops per person.
Questions:
- Describe the city of Gibeon. (A great city, like a royal city, all its men were warriors)
 - What two things had Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem, heard that made him afraid? (That Israel defeated Ai and that the Gibeonites made peace with Israel)
 - How many kings gathered their forces to go to war with Gibeon? (Five)
 - What did the men of Gibeon do? (Sent word to Joshua)
 - God told Joshua, "Do not blank them, for I have given them into your blank." (Fear, hands)
 - When Joshua and the Israelites suddenly appeared, who threw the enemy into a panic? (The Lord)
 - What did the Lord throw down from heaven? (Large hailstones)
 - Did more people die from the hailstones or from the Israelites' sword? (Hailstones)
 - "There has been no day like it before or since." Why, what happened? (The sun stood still, stopped in the midst of heaven.)
 - Who fought for Israel? (The Lord)
 - Where were the five kings buried? (In the cave where they had hidden)
 - Joshua struck the whole land, left none remaining, but devoted all to destruction "just as the blank blank of Israel commanded." (Lord God)
- 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,

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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: Omnipotent, In control, Victory giver...)

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

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: The Lord showed His power over His creation when He fought for Israel by making large hailstones fall from heaven and by making the sun stand still. Jesus Christ showed his power over death when He resurrected from the dead.

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Hand Motions

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

Question: How did Christ conquer death?

Answer: When Christ resurrected from the dead he overcame the power of death.

Verse: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him." Romans 6:9

Students read the passage in unison a few times. Simple hand motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students read the passage a few times using words and hand motions. Students then read the passage leaving out the words that have hand motions. Next students repeat the passage using hand motions and words from memory, without looking at the words.

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers, straws, tape or stapler, sample project

As time allows Activity: Jesus is alive! Flag

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of paper and a straw. On one side of the paper have students write in large letters "Christ conquered death." On the other side of the paper have students write "Jesus is alive." Assist each student to make a flag by attaching the paper to the straw with tape or staples. The straw will be a handle that can be used to wave the flag. Encourage students to decorate their flags with borders and symbols.

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