

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Eighty-eight: Joshua's Charge & Death

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Joshua 23:1-16; 24:1-33
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) Israel is reminded of all that the Lord has done for them. (2) Israel is commanded to serve the Lord their God. (3) Israel is warned against serving other gods. (4) God regenerates sinners to faith and life in Christ.
- 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: Ask students to lead songs about the Bible & the Judges.
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Paired or Small Group Reading and Student Challenge
Scripture: Joshua 23:1-16; 24:1-33
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Students read the passages aloud to one another in pairs or small groups. As students read they make two lists: one list of the things that the Lord had done for Israel, one list of the things that Israel is commanded to do concerning the Lord. Have students share and compare their lists. Leader should make these lists ahead of time to be prepared to guide students.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Order Please
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle in order by height or birth date, etc. Students answer questions in this order.
Questions:
- Who had fought for Israel? (The Lord)
 - The Lord gave Israel rest from whom? (Their enemies)
 - Had all the people of other nations been completely driven from the Promised Land? (No)
 - Joshua warned the Israelites not to mix with these people and not to serve or bow down to their blank. (gods)
 - Joshua said, "You shall cling to the blank your blank. (Lord, God)
 - The Israelites were told to, "be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the blank of the blank of Moses." (Book, Law)
 - If the Israelites transgressed the covenant of the Lord and served other gods, the Lord's blank would be kindled against them. (Anger)
 - If Israel chose to serve other gods, the Lord would bring upon them all the blank things. (Evil)
 - Joshua said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the blank." (Lord)
 - When the people said that they would serve the Lord God, Joshua let them know that it would not be easy because God is blank and blank. (Holy, Jealous)
 - How old was Joshua when he died? (110 years old)
 - How long did Israel serve the Lord after Joshua died? (All the days of the elders who outlived Joshua)
 - The Israelites had brought the bones of whom out of Egypt? (Joseph)
 - Where were they buried? (Shechem)
 - Who died and was buried at Gibeah? (Aaron's son Eleazar)

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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, Rest provider

Ask students which words on poster #1 describe God in this lesson. (Answers: Deliverer, Promise keeper, Victory giver, Rest provider...)

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

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: As He had promised, God saved the Israelites from their enemies, gave them rest and a new life in the Promised Land. As he promised, God gave Christ to save sinners, give them rest and new life in Him.

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Body Motions

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

Question: What is regeneration?

Answer: The act of God enlivening the sinner's heart, leading to faith in Christ

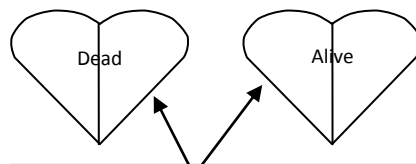
Verse: "Even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved." Ephesians 2:5

Exaggerated body motions are chosen to represent most words in the passage. Students read the passage a few times using words and body motions. Next students repeat the passage using body motions and words from memory, without looking at the words.

Bible Craft Materials: Paper, markers, sample project

As time allows Activity: Flip Hearts

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give students two paper hearts identical in size. Have students fold the hearts in half. Inside one heart have students write, "Dead in our sins" and draw tombstones & skulls. Inside of the other heart have students write, "Made alive with Christ" and have students draw the cross and smiley faces. Finally, have students glue the outsides of the hearts together from the fold to the edge on HALF of the heart. The two hearts should still open and close to show the inside, however they are now attached like a booklet. Discuss with students the fact that our hearts are dead in sin until God makes our hearts alive and we put our faith in Christ.



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