

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Ninety-Three: Gideon's 300

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Judges 6:14-16, 33 - 7:23
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation
Learning Objectives: (1) Gideon's faith was small. (2) Through three incidents God assured Gideon that He would save Israel. (3) The Lord saved Israel. (4) God sanctifies, makes holy, His people.
- 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, paper, pencils
15 minutes Strategies: Draw it!
Scripture: Judges 6:14-16, 33 - 7:23
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 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: Bean bag, music, word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Hot Potato
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. A bean bag is passed around the circle while music is played. When the music stops, the person holding the object answers the question.
Questions:
- Although the Lord had told Gideon that He would be with Gideon to strike the Midianites, Gideon wanted further proof from God that He would save Israel. Gideon placed a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. What did he ask God to do? (Make dew to be on the fleece only and not on the ground)
 - When God did this, what did Gideon next ask? (Make dew to be on the ground only and not on the fleece)
 - Did God do what Gideon asked? (Yes)
 - The Lord told Gideon that he had too many people "lest Israel blank...saying, my own hand has saved me." (Boast)
 - How many men returned home because they were fearful and trembling? (22,000)
 - When only 10,000 men remained, The Lord said there were still too many. What test did the Lord use to choose the men that would go with Gideon? (The way the men drank water)
 - How many men did the Lord choose to go with Gideon? (300)
 - The Lord sent Gideon to the camp of the Midianites to hear a conversation about what? (A dream)
 - The interpretation of the dream was that "blank has given into *Gideon's* hand Midian and all the camp." (God)
 - What did Gideon do after he heard the interpretation? (Worshipped)
 - What three items were given to each of the 300 men? (Trumpets, jars, and torches)
 - When Gideon and the men blew the trumpets and smashed the jars, "the blank set every man's sword against his comrade and against all the army." (Lord)
 - Who saved the Israelites from Midian? (The 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, Rest provider

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

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

Bible Memory 10-15 minutes Transitional Thought: God saved Israel from Midian under conditions that would not allow Israel to boast that they had saved themselves. God's saves and sanctifies (makes holy) His children "not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:9

Materials: White board with markers and eraser

Strategy: Picture It

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

Question: What is sanctification?

Answer: It is the act of God making his people holy in heart and conduct.

Verse: "Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit

and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Thessalonians 5:23

Pictures are used to replace some of the words in the passage. Students repeat the passage "reading" the pictures in place of the words. Gradually, the words are erased or covered until only the pictures remain. Students repeat the passage using only the pictures as a guide.

Bible Craft Materials: Markers, paper, envelopes, sample project

As time allows Activity: Letter Scramble

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student 14 squares of paper or index cards. Have each student write the word "sanctification" one letter per card. Have students scramble up the letters and see how fast they can put them in order to spell the word correctly. Challenge students to use the letter cards to spell other words. How many words can students make using the 14 letters? Can any of the words be used to discuss sanctification (such as "sin," "saint," "Satan," etc.)? Give each student an envelope in which to keep their letters.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.