

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Primary Lesson Ninety-nine: Samson's Birth

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Judges
Bible Reading & Discussion: Judges 13:1-25; Numbers 6:1-8
Bible Memory & Craft: Questions about Salvation Review
Learning Objectives: (1) The people of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and were given into the hand of the Philistines for 40 years. (2) The Lord told Manoah and his wife that they would have a son. (3) Manoah and his wife were given instructions concerning their son because he would be a Nazirite. (4) Samson was a picture of the messiah, Jesus Christ, Who was born to save sinners from the penalty of their sin through His death upon the cross.
- 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: Impromptu Retelling
Scripture: Judges 13:1-25; Numbers 6:1-8
Instructions: After Scripture has been read, students perform roles by pantomiming actions and repeating lines from the reading. Leader prompts students as needed. (Scene 1: Angel of the Lord & Manoah's wife; Scene 2: Manoah & his wife; Scene 3: Manoah alone; Scene 4: Angel of the Lord, Manoah & his wife)
- Bible Discussion** Materials: Question cards, answer cards, word poster #1
10 minutes Strategy: Match Up
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Questions are written on one set of index cards and answers are written on another. Cards are randomly handed out to students who must find the person with the "match" for their question or answer. Partners then read their cards to the group to determine correctness of the match.
Questions:
- When the people of Israel again did evil, the Lord gave them into whose hand? (The Philistines)
 - For how many years was Israel in the hand of the Philistines? (40)
 - Who appeared to Manoah's wife? (The Angel of the Lord)
 - Manoah's wife was told that she was going to have a son. What was she told that she could not drink? (Wine, strong drink)
 - Manoah's wife was told that she was going to have a son. What was she told that she could not eat? (Anything unclean)
 - What was never to touch the head of the child? (A razor)
 - What would the child be from the womb? (A Nazirite)
 - What would Manoah's son begin to do? (Save Israel from the hand of the Philistines)
 - What did Manoah do with the young goat and grain? (Offered it as a burnt offering to the Lord)
 - How did the Angel of the Lord leave Manoah and his wife? (The Lord went up in the flame of the altar)
 - When Manoah's son was born, what was he named? (Samson)
 - Who blessed Samson? (The Lord)
 - Who began to stir Samson? (The Spirit of the Lord)
 - A person making a Nazirite vow was making a vow to do what? (Separate himself to 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: Life-source, merciful, providence, etc.)

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

Note to Instructor: For the next few lessons students will review the 13 Questions about Salvation. Use game cards that were made during a past lesson to play the game and save the cards to be used to play review games during upcoming lessons.

Bible Memory Transitional Thought: From the womb Samson was set aside to be a Nazirite to God. He was born to begin to save Israel from the Philistines. Samson was a picture of the messiah, Jesus Christ, Who was born to save sinners from the penalty of their sin through His death upon the cross.

Materials: Question, answer, and verse game cards

Strategy: Memory

Instructions: Spread out all Game Cards upside down on the table. Take turns turning over 3 cards. Try to remember where various cards are located. When a player turns over a question, answer, and verse that all match then the player keeps the 3 cards and takes another turn. The player with the most matches at the end of the game wins. Have players "prove" their matches by reading them aloud. (Simpler variation: Try to match just question and answer or just answer and verse or just question and verse.)

Bible Craft Materials: Unfinished flap books from previous lesson, pencils, markers, sample project

As time allows Activity: Flap Book Project

Note: This project will take a few lessons to complete. Collect the unfinished books for completion during future lessons.

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student his/her unfinished flap book from the previous lesson. Have students neatly write one question at the top of each page. Have students write the answer and verse farther down the page. Tape a smaller piece of paper over the answer and verse to make a flap. (Student should see the question, but the answer and verse should be covered by the flap that can be lifted to disclose them.) Have students proceed until the 13 salvation questions, answers, and verses are included in the book. Have students decorate the cover, page borders, flaps, etc.

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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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

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

Question: Why did Christ die?

Answer: In the place of sinners, Christ died as the perfect sacrifice, taking the punishment for their sins and satisfying God's justice.

Verse: "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us – for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree'" Galatians 3:13

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

Question: How does the work of Christ save sinners?

Answer: A sinner is saved through faith in the work of Christ.

Verse: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

Question: What is regeneration?

Answer: It is the act of God enlivening the sinner's heart, leading to faith.

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

Ephesians 2:5

Question: What is righteousness?

Answer: Righteousness is God's goodness and holiness.

Verse: "...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith." Philippians 3:10

Question: What is justification?

Answer: Justification is the act of God counting a person righteous because God has accepted Christ's righteousness in place of the person's unrighteousness.

Verse: "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...to be received by faith." Romans 3:23-25

Question: What is repentance?

Answer: Repentance is turning from sin.

Verse: "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" Romans 6:1-2

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

Question: Is the process of sanctification ever complete in this life?

Answer: No. It is certain and continual, but is complete only in heaven.

Verse: "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 1:6