

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 7:7-11; 6:5-8; Mark 10:13-16

Lesson Objective: The children will learn how to pray (talk) to God.

Materials: Bible, paper, scissors, markers

Memory Verse: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7).

Lesson Summary

When you were born, you did not know how to talk. When you were hungry, sleepy, hurt, or sick, all you could do was cry. Amazingly enough, your parents were able to tell the difference between your hungry and sleepy cry, and between your hurt and sick cry. They knew exactly what to do to make you feel better. As you grew up, you learned how to talk and tell your parents what your needs were. Parents never get tired of listening to their children. God is our Father in heaven; He never gets tired of listening to His children either. God's children talk to Him through prayer. Matthew 6:8 tells us that God, our Father, knows what we need even before we ask Him. This means He knows you better than your parents do! God is an amazingly good, good Father. You shouldn't be afraid to talk to Him. You don't have to use big, fancy words to impress Him. You don't have to yell to get His attention. As a matter of fact, Jesus teaches us to go into a quiet place where you can be alone with God in prayer. He wants special one-on-one time with you everyday. In Mark 10:14, Jesus said to allow the children to come to Him, for the kingdom of God belongs to them. God has a special place just for you in His heavenly kingdom. If you want to know all about it, then all you have to do is ask (Matthew 7:7-8).

Bible Point:
**I can talk
to God!**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have each child trace their hand on a piece of paper and cut it out. Next, allow the children to write or draw a picture about their prayer request. Give each child time to talk about their prayer request and pray together for each one. You can display the craft in the classroom and continue to pray over the requests each week until all the prayers have been answered.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why should we talk to God?
2. When and how do we talk to God?
3. Does God have a place for children in His kingdom?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 4:16-20; 2 Timothy 2:15; John 8:31-32; 14:6

Lesson Objective: The children will learn the importance of reading the Bible.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons, something to hold the papers together (string or staples)

Memory Verse: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

Lesson Summary

A couple of children were asked during an interview, "Why do you think it's important to read the Bible?" One response was, "The Bible gives you more knowledge and understanding of God and His will for us." Another response was, "Reading the Bible gives you a closer relationship to God." Do you agree with these responses? Can you think of other reasons why it's important to read the Bible? The Bible is God's truth to guide you. In John 8:31-32, Jesus says if you read His Word you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free from sin! Reading God's Word and sharing it with others is what God wants us to do (2 Timothy 2:15). The Word of God is good news! It heals the broken hearted; it sets free the prisoners of sin, and gives sight, or understanding, to those that are blind to the truth (Luke 4:18). We learned last week that it's important to spend time with God in prayer every day. Likewise, it's just as important to spend time reading God's Word every day. God's Spirit helps us to understand His Word. Pray and ask God to fill you with His Spirit of understanding and to give you the ability to teach others what you know.

**Bible Point:
Read
God's Word**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Make a Bible reading plan chart for the classroom and challenge the children to read their Bible during the week. Assign a different Bible story each week and encourage the parents to get involved by reading with their children and having discussion time afterwards.
2. Make a Bible study journal and allow the children to decorate the front cover. Encourage them to write or draw pictures about what they learn from their Bible reading each week.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the ____, the ____, and the ____: no man comes to the Father, but by me."
2. In John 8:32, Jesus said, "You shall know the ____, and the truth shall make you ____."
3. Knowing the truth frees us. From what are we free?
4. What does Jesus want us to do with the truth?

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Writer: Mandy Thompson

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 17:11-19; John 4:23-24

Lesson Objective: The children will learn the difference between ceremonial worship and true, heartfelt worship.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him" (John 4:23).

Lesson Summary

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem when he heard ten men yelling, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus saw that they were lepers. Lepers were people who had a skin disease that was contagious just by touching them. They were not allowed to live in cities but had to leave their homes and families to go live outside the city with other lepers. They had to stay 100 steps away from people and yell, "Unclean!" to warn others if they came near. When Jesus saw them, He told them to go show themselves to the priests. As they were on their way to see the priest they noticed they were healed. In Jewish tradition, once you were healed, you had to show yourself to the priest, make your sacrifice to God, and then you could return to your city. But one of the men, once he realized he was healed, turned back to Jesus and praised Him with a loud voice, falling on his face at Jesus' feet and thanking Him. This man was a Samaritan who did not know the tradition of the Jews. He was an example of a true worshipper of God. His worship was from the heart. He didn't need someone else to tell him he was healed. He didn't need a ceremony to offer his sacrifice of praise to God. He went directly to the feet of Jesus and laid down his life as a sacrifice. While the other 9 went through the traditional ceremony and returned to their previous way of life, the Samaritan man knew his life had a new purpose. Today, God is still looking for those who will worship Him in Spirit and in truth. We have the same opportunity as the Samaritan man, to fall on our face before Jesus and give our life to the One who gave His life for us.

**Bible Point:
Worship God
in Spirit
and Truth!**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Give each child paper and crayons to draw a traffic light. Inside the red light write, "Stop and listen to God." Inside the yellow light write, "Slow, make time for God." Inside the green light write, "Go God's way every day."
2. If time permits, the children can draw a picture of the story of the 10 lepers on the back of their traffic light.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Give some examples of ceremonial worship.
2. Does God require ceremonial worship or worship in Spirit and truth?
3. How do we worship God in Spirit and Truth?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 10:25-37; James 2:8

Lesson Objective: The children will learn that if they love God, they will also love their neighbor.

Materials: Bible, costumes, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself" (Luke 10:27).

Lesson Summary

Jesus tells us that we can experience God's gift of life if we love Him with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus told a story to help us understand how to love God and our neighbor. There was a man robbed and badly beaten while he was traveling between towns. As he laid on the ground alone and dying, a priest came walking by. The priest saw him lying there, but he walked to the other side of the road to avoid helping him. Next, a Levite walked by. He looked at the man, but then he crossed the road to avoid helping him. Then a Samaritan man came walking by. He saw the man in distress and stopped to help him. He cleaned his wounds and took him to an Inn where he spent his whole day helping the man feel better. The next day, before he left, he gave money to the Innkeeper and told him to take care of the man until he was well enough to leave. The Priest and the Levite were only serving God with traditions. Their heart, soul, strength, and mind were not about serving God. Because of this, they had no love for their neighbor. The Good Samaritan, however, did understand how to love his neighbor as himself. He understood that his neighbor was anyone within his reach that needed his help. He loved his neighbor because he first loved God.

Bible Point:
I will
love others.



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Have the children act out the story of the Good Samaritan.
2. Give each child a piece of paper and crayons. Have them draw a cross in the middle of the page and surround it with ideas or pictures of ways they can be a Good Samaritan to a neighbor in need.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Who is our neighbor?
2. How do we love our neighbor?
3. What reward does God promise to those who love Him with all their heart, soul, strength, and mind; and their neighbor as themselves?