Adventure Number 17

Genesis 11:31-12:7

Story Line: God called Abraham to be a great nation and a blessing to all people.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- It had been more than 300 years since the universal flood in the time of Noah. It was the last recorded instance of God speaking to mankind.
- Terah, Abraham's father, left Ur to go to Canaan but settled instead in Haran. Terah was a moon-worshipper living in a land where many people worshipped the moon as a god. God promised to bless Abraham but this promise had one condition, Abraham had to obey God.
- Abraham, by faith, obeyed and left everything to follow God's plan.
- Three promises were based on God's call for Abraham to leave his land. The first promise to Abraham was land. The second promise offered to Abraham was offspring, and the third promise offered to Abraham was that he would be a blessing.
- God's promises were to bless those who blessed Abraham, curse those who treated Abraham with dishonor or contempt, and bless all the families of the earth through Abraham.
- Abraham was told to leave several things: his country, his people, and his father's household but he was told nothing about the land to which he would go. To leave and obey God not knowing where he was going would be difficult.
- We see evidences of Abraham's obedience in two different ways. First, he left. Second, he was a blessing.
- Abraham's descendants eventually owned the land of Canaan but Abraham owned only a cave when he died (Genesis 23:17-20).

Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts. introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

Have your class name the main characters that we have studied so far and something that we know about them. Possibilities could include:

- God is very strong. He created heaven and earth.
- Lucifer rebelled against God and was expelled from heaven.
- Adam was the first person that God created.
- Eve was deceived by Satan.
- Cain brought an unacceptable offering to God. Cain killed his brother, Abel.
- Abel brought an acceptable offering to God. He was killed by his brother, Cain.
- Seth was the third son that Adam and Eve had and he was thought to be a substitute for Abel.
- Noah obeyed God and built a large boat.
- Builders of Tower of Babel These builders tried to build a temple to God on their own terms, not God's terms.



3) Teach the Lesson

Abram grew up in a home that worshipped the moon. Satan had spread his rebellion to Terah, Abram's father. You may not worship the moon like Abram's family did but what are some things that people around you worship other than God?

Also, in this story we will learn about promises that God made to Abram who would later be called Abraham. Do you think God is able to keep His promises? If so, why? If not, why not?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Who They Are and What They Did

Create two stacks or lists. One list is the "who" list and the other is the "what they did list." Have the children match the two lists. For instance: God (from the "who" list) would be matched with very strong from the "what they did list."

Divide children up into teams and have them work together to put these two lists together. Time them. See who can do this the quickest.



Tell the Story

Abram grew up in Ur with his two brothers, Nahor and Haran. They probably did what most boys do in their day. It would be normal for boys to help their father do whatever he needed done. So, Abram, Nahor, and Haran in all likelihood helped their father, Terah. Terah was a moon-worshipper. The boys grew up worshipping the moon. It was the type of religion that was popular where they lived.

As the boys grew up, they became men and got married. Abram married Sarai but they could not have children. Haran got married and had a son named Lot. But a very bad thing happened. Haran died. The rest of the family helped take care of Lot, especially Abram.

One day, Terah decided to move from Ur to Haran. It was a long journey but all of Terah's family joined him and moved north. They loaded up all their belongings and all their animals. They did not leave anything behind. It must have been a sight to see all those animals and all those possessions travelling on a long journey. When Terah's family got to Haran, Terah lived there for a while and then he died.

After Abram's father died, God spoke to Abram and told him to go to live in another place. God made special promises to Abram which became very important to Abram and many other people. God said, "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So, Abram, Sarai, Lot, and other people moved again. This time, they went south to Shechem. When Abram arrived in Shechem, God spoke to Abram again, "To your children I will give this land." This was the second time that God appeared to Abram and made a special promise to him. Abram stayed in the same area but moved to Bethel where he built an altar to God and worshipped this God that had made promises to him. He would no longer be a moon worshipper, He worshipped the God that made these promises to him.

Abram began his faith journey. His family was not God-worshippers but now Abram would lead his family to worship a God that could not be seen. We know that Abram began to trust this God and he put his confidence in this God. When this God spoke, Abram trusted Him and obeyed what He said.

Teacher Helps

Tell the Story Activity: Let's Move Again!

Abram moved at least 3 times. The first place he lived was in modern day southern Iraq. That was Ur. Then, they moved to Haran or somewhere near modern day Syria. Then Abram moved to Israel, first to Shechem and then to Bethel.

Have your children move their chairs to designated places in your room so that they can get the feel of what happened and where it happened.

The teacher can sum up what happened in each location.

- Ur where Abram grew up with his two brothers.
- Haran where Terah took his family and then died.
- Shechem & Bethel

 where God made
 special promises to

 Abram.



Genesis 12:3 - I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"He Is Good" by Steve Green is recommended for this lesson.



Materials: Crayons, scissors, and tape or glue

Play a game called "Hurry up and wait" - Show children a special treat you have prepared. It can be a snack, toy, whatever you want to choose, but make sure it is something they will be very excited about. Before the story of God's amazing promise to Abraham and Sarah, Ask: "Have you ever been promised something very special and then you had to wait for it?" Today I have brought ______ (fill in the blank with the treat you have prepared, for example, let's say it is cookies) Who would like a cookie?" Show treat, let them see and smell it, but not touch or eat. "You will have to wait until later for the treat." Ask them: "Do you believe I will keep my promise?"

Tell the story about Abraham and Sarah, and God's special promise to them.

Bring out the treat 2-3 more times during class, each time, ask "Do you believe I will keep my promise?" Talk about having faith in a person that is trustworthy. At the end of class, give out the treats. Remind them that God ALWAYS keeps His promises, because He is true and all-powerful. He has both the character and ability to promise anything, and always comes through.

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Phrases

Phrases. Say Genesis 12:3 in three phrases. Designate each part of the class to learn just one phrase. After they have learned one phrase, rotate until all kids have learned all three phrases.



4) Review the Lesson

The teacher should locate three areas in the classroom where the story took place. Designate each place and let a volunteer tell you what happened in each place.

Ur

- Abram's birthplace and childhood
- Where Abram grew up in a moon-worshipping family

Haran

- Where Terah took his family
- Terah died there

Shechem and Bethel

- Where God made special promises to Abram
- Where Abram built an altar to God
- Where Abram began a special personal relationship with God



5) Apply the Lesson

God made special promises to Abraham. What are one or two special promises that God has made in His Word to you?

- Assurance of salvation 1 John 5:13
- Assurance of guidance -Proverbs 3:5-6

- Assurance of forgiveness 1 John 1:9
- Assurance of victory over sin 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Assurance of answered prayer -John 16:24

Story Line: God called Abraham to be a great nation and a blessing to all people.

Teacher Helps

Review Activity: 3 Stations in Your Classroom

Let volunteers in your class tell you what happened in each of the areas where Abram lived. Have them go to the place in the classroom that you designated earlier when you were telling the story.

Adventure Number 18

Genesis 13:13; 19:1-26

Story Line: God destroyed Sodom because the people were very wicked.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- Lot had an important job in the city of Sodom; perhaps he was a judge. As he sat at the entrance to the gates, he discussed with other leaders the important issues that faced the city.
- God executed judgment on the people that lived in the same time as Noah. It was because of their wickedness that they were judged. God sent a global flood then and He promised that He would never again flood the earth. However, He did not promise to never again judge the people living on the earth.
- In the same way, God showed Abraham that He would judge people for their wicked living. He would also rescue the righteous.
- God also demonstrated that He was a merciful God. The people of Noah's day had 120 years to repent and turn from their violence. Adam, Eve, and Enoch also experienced the amazing mercies of God. None of these individuals were perfect or sinless. Yet, they all understood that God was gracious.
- Most scholars place the twin cities of Sodom and Gomorrah at the southern end of the Dead Sea.
- As judge, God descended and investigated the crimes of wickedness.
 He rendered a verdict and pronounced a judgment. So, God presented
 Himself as the fair and just judge that He is. Sodom's judgment was
 justified.
- There are limits to the patience and mercy of a holy and just God.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

- A simple timeline has been developed to help us understand what happened in Scripture and when it happened. It is very difficult to put dates on Biblical events so we have not done that. However, we will learn periods of time.
- What was the first period of time that we studied? (Beginnings; specifically creation) What were some of the lessons that we learned about the period of time we call creation? (God is strong. God made all things. God made people to be His special friends.)
- What other period of time have we discussed? (fall) What are some of the lessons that we learned from the period of time we call the fall? (Satan was thrown out of heaven because of his sin, Adam and Eve sinned, and Satan tempted Adam and Eve.)
- What other period of time have we discussed? (flood) What are some of the lessons we learned from the period of time we call the flood? (God judges sin.)
- What other period of time have we discussed? (Babel) What are some of the lessons we learned from this period of time? (Man cannot establish his own method of worshipping God. It must be God's way of worshipping Him.)



3) Teach the Lesson

Towel Tug-Of-War. Have kids pull a towel toward them much like they would a rope tug-of-war. The purpose of this activity is to have one side represent the godly line of Abraham and the other side to be the godless side of Sodom. It was a struggle for Lot to decide which side to choose. Even though he was a believer, he had to struggle mightily to show that he was truly a follower of God.

There is a battle inside each of us. Two different sides are pulling against us and they each want us to follow. Which side will win?

Teach the Lesson Activity: Towel Tug-Of-War

Put two children of similar strength on each side of the towel and put a line on the floor in the middle. Have children pull until one is pulled across the line. Do this several times with different kids.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

Because of a famine, the family of Lot and the family of Abraham went to Egypt where both families prospered greatly. God added a lot of animals to each of them. When it came time to leave Egypt, they all moved to southern Israel. In southern Israel, the shepherds of Abraham and the shepherds of Lot began to argue. It became such a big thing that Abraham and Lot decided that this would be the time to go different ways.

Abraham gave his nephew Lot his choice. Whichever land looked best to him was his to keep. So, Lot went East with all his family, all his workers, all his possessions, and all his animals. Abraham went the other way. Lot ended up just south of the Dead Sea. It looked like a better place to be but it really was not. Lot liked what he saw but he did not take into account the kind of people that lived there. Abraham, on the other hand, was able to go back to Bethel, where he had built an altar.

Lot moved his family to Sodom. Lot was very rich and became a leader in the city. He sat at the gates of the city and decided very important matters for the city. He may have even been a judge. But, the people of Sodom were very wicked and the ultimate Judge, God, had indicted them for their wickedness. God decided to destroy the entire city because of the great sin. But, the ultimate Judge is also the ultimate Grace-Giver. He allowed Lot and his family to leave the city of Sodom before He destroyed it. Lot, his wife, and their two daughters left the city and right after that God rained down fire from heaven. Normally, we think of rain as cool and wet. But, this was hot and burning. God caused the entire city to burn and everyone in the city. It caused total destruction.

Lot was told to go to the mountains with his family and not look back. Unfortunately, Lot's wife looked back. God had warned the family and she disobeyed. So, she became a pillar of salt and died also. Lot and his two daughters made the rest of the journey without Lot's wife.

Abraham woke up the next morning and saw the smoke coming from this region. It was like a burning furnace. He could probably even feel the heat from this incredible fire. God had demonstrated His justice by destroying wickedness but He also demonstrated His mercy by sparing Lot and his two daughters.

Tell the Story Activity: Justice Line and Mercy Line

- Put several pieces
 of string across the
 floor where you are
 teaching. Make the
 string look like lines
 on a soccer field or a
 football field.
- At the one end, place a card with "Justice Line" written on it and on the other write "Mercy Line."
- Ask children about their view of God.
 Is He more of a Judge or more a Mercy-Giver? Or, is He somewhere in between?
- Have the children locate themselves somewhere on the field and be prepared to answer why they are standing there.
- Now, tell the story.



Genesis 19:29 (ESV) - When God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham.



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Usually children can choose any colors you wish for coloring, but this time have kids try to color the page exactly as the teacher. Here is the catch: The teacher should only show them his or her paper for 5 seconds, and then let's see how much the class can remember to match their pictures to yours. After they have finished, bring out the original example and compare their pictures to yours.

Question: "What would have made it easier to color your picture exactly like mine?" Obvious answer: "We needed to be able to look at and study the original." The point is this: Following God and pleasing Him is a lot like what we just did. If we want our lives to "match" what God expects, we need to compare ourselves to what He has given us in His Word. The problem in Sodom and Gomorrah, just like in __ ____ (your city or country) is that they, and we are comparing ourselves to the wrong standard. We look at what our friends are doing, and we think 'This must be alright, everyone is doing it.' Sometimes we look at famous people, or people in movies or on TV, and we make our decisions about what we will do by their example. This is so dangerous!! Think about the people in the Bible that pleased God like Abraham, Noah, Seth, Abel. They were not perfect, but they had one thing in common: They looked to God for their instructions, not the world around them. God's ways will not be easy to follow if you don't spend time looking at Him through His Word, the Bible. Let's make our lives good copies of God!!"

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Relay Race

Form two teams. Put the memory verse in large letters about ten yards away from the teams. Have children take turns to run to the memory verse and read the next word of the verse out loud so that everyone can hear. When each child has read his one word. go back to the team, touch the next person in line, and repeat the process until all words of the verse have been read. Repeat this until everyone has memorized the verse.

Bible Activity: Color and Compare

"Let's compare" – Print copies of the Bible coloring page for each child in the class. Ahead of time, color one picture as the "example" picture. Before passing out the coloring pages to the children, say: "We are going to have a little game with the coloring sheets today."



4) Review the Lesson

Scenarios:

- Abraham and Lot went to Italy because of famine in the land. (false)
- After the famine, Abraham and Lot moved to southern Israel. (true)
- Abraham wanted to take a vacation in Italy. (not in story)
- Lot was Abraham's nephew. (true)
- Lot had three daughters. (false)
- Lot and Abraham were very rich men. (true)
- Lot might have been a judge. (true)
- Lot was a very good soccer player. (not in story)
- Abraham wanted the best land and did not let Lot choose. (false)
- Lot's wife turned into a pillar of stone. (false)
- Lot's wife enjoyed baking cookies. (not in story)
- Lot must have been a fast runner (not in story)
- Abraham's shepherds and Lot's shepherds got into arguments. (true)
- God always judges sin. (true)
- God likes to destroy people. (false)



5) Apply the Lesson

Sodom was a terrible, no good, very bad place. If you have ever been to or in a place like this, describe how it made you feel.

Tell how you will resist temptation when you are in a terrible, no good, very bad place. Be specific.

Story Line: God destroyed Sodom because the people were very wicked.

Teacher Helps

Review Activity: True, False, or Not in Story

Have the children remain in their "relay race" teams. Read the following scenarios to the children and have them answer: true, false, or not in story. In large letters, put true, false, or not in story about ten yards away from the teams. When the scenario is read, the person at the head of the "relay race" team has to run and tap the correct answer: true, false, or not in story.

Adventure Number 19

Genesis 15:1-4; 16:1-16; and 17:20

Story Line: Sarai did not respond in faith to the promise of God. Abram did.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The king of Sodom offered Abram the spoils of the city. Abram declined his offer but may have feared retaliation by this king. However, God made a special promise to Abram, "I am your shield; your reward shall be very great" (Genesis 15:1).
- Abram immediately turned the conversation. There was a problem.
 The problem was that Abram had no children and he was 75 years old.
 Humanly speaking, it was most likely that he would not have children since Sarai was unable to bear children.
- God reminded Abram of his promise, "your own son shall be your heir" (Genesis 15:4). To make the point even further, God told Abram to step outside and try to count the stars. If he was able to do that, then he would know the number of descendants he would have. It was an amazing promise and a visual reminder that Abram would have children and their descendants would be many. Abram believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness; simple faith.
- Sarai's response was different. Probably, Abram and Sarai had been married for over 50 years yet they were unable to have children. Sarai reasoned that if she couldn't have children in the first 50 years, she and Abram weren't going to have children now. So she devised a plan to help God. Abram would sleep with Sarai's servant, Hagar. Together, Abram and Hagar conceived Ishmael.
- God did not use Ishmael as the son of promise. However, Abram loved this son and God promised to look after him. God would keep His other promise and provide a son of His original promise.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

- Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
- Colossians 1:16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.
- Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.
- Genesis 2:8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.
- Isaiah 14:12 How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!
- Genesis 3:6 She took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.
- Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.
- Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope.
- Genesis 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.



3) Teach the Lesson

- Angel (reporter) to Abram: "When God told you that He was going to be your shield and your reward, what did you think He meant?"
- Angel (reporter) to Sarai: "Why did you laugh when God told you that you were going to have a baby?"
- Angel (reporter) to Abram: "You grew up in a home of people who worshipped the moon. What was it like to quit worshipping the moon and start worshipping God?"

Teacher Helps

Review
Activity: Review
Previous Memory
Verses

The teacher should ask children to recall previous memory verses. Not all verses are listed on this page, but the teacher could ask for all 18 memory verses to be recited, if time permits. Ask for volunteers and maybe give them a few helps.

Divide up into teams and recognize the team that remembers more memory verses.

Teach the Lesson Activity: Angel Interview

Have one child be an angel, one child be Abram, and one child be Sarai. The angel should interview Abram and Sarai with these questions. Let the kids answer as if Abram and Sarai were answering. Maybe the teacher could think of more questions for the angel to ask.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

The king of Sodom wanted to make a pact with Abram. King Bera wanted to have Abram on his side as an ally. Because Abram was a powerful man and had great influence, Bera thought they should become friends and partners. Abram wasn't a king but he had a lot of power and he was a righteous man.

Abram wanted nothing to do with King Bera of Sodom. He totally rejected the pact that Bera was making. Abram knew the history of Sodom ... they were very wicked men and Abram stayed away from those kind. His nephew, Lot, chose to live in that city, but not Abram. Abram must have been concerned when he rejected this pact with King Bera. But God spoke to Abram and told him that He would be his shield and very great reward. To Abram, that meant that God was going to protect him in every way. That had to mean a lot to Abram because he trusted God. When God spoke, Abram listened and obeyed. This was his regular habit.

One day, God reminded Abram of his promise of a son that would be an heir to everything. God even took him outside and told him to count the stars; if Abram could do that, that is how many descendants he would have. Well, Abram believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness, even though it would be ten more years before this special son was born.

Sarai took a different view. Through a lack of faith, she thought she would help God with this plan by telling Abram and Hagar, her servant, to have a child. They did that and named this child Ishmael. The problem was that Ishmael was not going to be the child of promise. Hagar made life for Sarai miserable. The two of them were upset at each other and Sarai even blamed Abram for this problem. Sarai's lack of faith caused a big problem for Abram. Now, he had to decide what to do with Ishmael. Sarai's lack of faith caused a big problem for Hagar. Now, she would have no friendship with Sarai. Sarai's lack of faith was a big problem for Sarai herself. And Sarai's lack of faith caused a big problem for Ishmael. He would be loved but would have to leave the house of Abram.

God kept His promise to take care of Ishmael. Later, Ishmael had one small difference with his brother but there is no record of any other problems between the two of them. God watched over Ishmael through the good times and the bad times. Abram knew God would honor anything that He said. That is why Abram trusted God.

Tell the Story Activity: From My Point of View

Ask the kids how Sarai's lack of faith affected these people:

- Abram
- Sarai
- Hagar
- Ishmael

From these four people's point of view, how were they affected by someone's lack of faith?

Possible answers:

- Abram: hated to see his own son leave
- Sarai: bitterness toward Hagar
- Hagar: bitterness toward Sarai
- Ishmael: no dad to raise him



Genesis 15:6 (ESV) - And he (Abram) believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.



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Bible Activity

The statements will come from today's Bible story involving Abram, Sarai, Hagar, and Ishmael. When the children answer "know for sure," invite someone to tell why they know that for sure what God had said about that promise.

- 1. Abram and Sarah would have a child (know for sure); Genesis 18:10.
- 2. When would be the exact time the child would come? (by faith)
- 3. Abraham would be the father of many people (know for sure); Gen. 15:5.
- 4. The "son of promise" would come through Sarai and Abram (know for sure); Genesis 18:14.
- 5. How God would do this with 2 very old people that were too old to have children? (by faith)
- 6. Even though Ishmael was not the son of promise, God still loved him (know for sure).
- 7. How would God care for Hagar & Ishmael when they had no power in the family? (by faith)

Now, we have looked at the Bible story where people were called on to trust God by faith in certain areas, but this is also something that we should do

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity

Review the verse a few times then divide the children into two or more teams. Have the teams form lines across from a chalk or white board or piece of paper on a chair. Place something to write with at the board in front of each team. Have the first child of each team run to the board and write the first word of the verse, then run back to the line. The next child of the team will write the next word and it will continue until the verse is completed. Allow all teams to finish before playing again.

Bible Activity

Ahead of time, make 2 sets of cards or papers for each child in your class. Some of the cards will have the words "We know for sure," and some will say "by faith."

today. Let's talk about things in your life that you know for sure, and things that you need to trust God for by faith. This section should be prepared with the needs and situations that your children face. Some possible examples are:

- 1. God loves me and cares very much about my life (know for sure); Matthew 10:29-31.
- 2. How will God provide for my needs? (by faith)
- 3. God expects me to live a life that is obedient to Him (know for sure); 1 Samuel 15:22.
- 4. How will God reward me for standing up for doing the right thing when I am all alone? (by faith)



4) Review the Lesson

This lesson revolves around two main facts:

- 1. Abram responded by faith.
- 2. Sarai did not respond by faith.



5) Apply the Lesson

Faith Response's are crucial to understanding the Bible's big story. A person responds by faith to what God has said. That is a faith response. This faith response is from any person (man, woman, boy, or girl) to what God has said. Will you respond by faith to what God has said? What would that look like in your life this week?

Story Line: Sarai did not respond in faith to the promise of God. Abram did.

Teacher Helps

Bible Activity (continued)

Give these instructions to the children: I will read a statement and you decide which category it fits into, either it is something "we know for sure," or something the person needs to trust God "by faith." When you have decided which card to choose, hold it up and say the words on the card. After we have completed each statement, the "know for sure" cards you will keep in one stack by your feet, and the "by faith" cards we will put in a separate stack.

Review Activity

Tell children to write down one main thing that they learned from this lesson. Then, have them share with one person in the class what they learned. They should write down each new thing they add to what somebody learned in the class. Repeat this process several times. Then, form a master list of what the kids learned from the lesson.

Adventure Number 20 Genesis 22:1-18

Story Line: God tested Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. God provided a ram instead.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- God gave Abram a new name, Abraham. God tested Abraham to see if his faith was real. Abraham fully expected his son to live.
- Moriah means 'foreseen of Jehovah.' God was not taken by surprise by Adam's fall or by the long, stark tragedy of human sin. It was all foreseen by the Lord.
- The command by God for Abraham to sacrifice his son seemed very unreasonable. However, Abraham instantly obeyed God.
- Abraham never expected that God would take his son away from him. If Isaac died, God would raise him to life again. Abraham, without question, knew this and was sure that God would protect Isaac from danger or permanent harm.
- Abraham's answer to Isaac's question, "Where is the lamb?" reveals that Abraham had confidence that God would take care of Isaac. Abraham said, "God will provide the lamb." (Genesis 22:8, 14)
- "On the mountain of the Lord, it will be provided" ("Jehovah Jireh," verse 14), means that God provided a sacrifice in the form of a ram, not a child. God does not hurt children.
- Abraham was the obedient servant who worshipped God at great sacrifice. All throughout the three day trip and especially at the end of the trip, God provided.
- The distance from Beersheba to Mount Moriah was about 50 miles, a three-day journey.

Teacher Helps

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Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

Adventure Number 17: Promises to Abraham

- 1. Where did God make special promises to Abram?
- 2. Read Genesis 12:3.
- 3. Shechem and Bethel.
- 4. Praise God for His promises.

Adventure Number 18: Sodom and Gomorrah

- 1. Why did God put so many people to death in Sodom and Gomorrah?
- 2. Read Genesis 19:29.
- 3. Men were very wicked.
- 4. Pray that we would turn from wickedness.

Adventure Number 19: Abram's Son Ishmael

- 1. How did Abram respond in faith to what God said?
- 2. Read Genesis 15:6.
- 3. Abram trusted the promises of God.
- 4. Praise God that we can trust what He says.



3) Teach the Lesson

Ask your class, "Have you ever made a long trip?" If anyone has, then ask them what they would bring on a long trip. If they haven't made a long trip, ask them what they might bring and what they might do on this very long trip. Abram is going to make a long trip for a very important reason.

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Ask, Read, Talk, Speak

A good review strategy from previous lessons will focus on four main elements.

- 1) Ask a question.
- 2) Read the Bible.
- 3) Talk about it.
- 4) Speak to God.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

Abraham loved both of his sons, Isaac and Ishmael, but he really loved Isaac. God promised great things for Isaac. God was really going to use Isaac and Abraham knew this. Abraham was also very old so he probably wanted to protect Isaac, as a good father would want to do.

One day, God told Abraham to get Isaac and take him to Mount Moriah where Abraham would offer Isaac as a sacrifice. Sacrifices were not new but sacrificing your son was. God would never want a good father to physically hurt his son but God was testing Abraham's faith.

So, the next morning ... early the next morning, Abraham got wood for the sacrifice, told two servants to get prepared for the trip, get the donkeys ready, and of course he told Isaac that they were going on a long trip to make a sacrifice. They were all ready to go but it would be a long journey, three whole days of travelling. They travelled one day; then the second day; and on the third day, Abraham saw the place where they were to worship. It was Mount Moriah, not too far from Jerusalem. He told the two servants to stay behind while Isaac and he went to worship.

When Abraham and Isaac got to the place of worship, Abraham tied up his son and laid him on the altar. Isaac wanted to know where the sheep was for the sacrifice because that is what he was expecting. Isaac knew that sheep were to be used for offerings, not a son. When Abraham raised his knife up to kill Isaac, an angel told him to stop. It must have been a great relief for Abraham to hear those words from the angel. When he looked up, he saw a ram caught in some brush. Abraham untied his son and got the ram that was stuck. Then, he tied up the ram and offered that animal as a sacrifice to God. Together, they both worshipped God just like Abraham had told his servants earlier that day. They would worship God and that is just what they did.

Abraham decided to name that place with a very special name. He called it, "The Lord will provide." This place had to mean a lot to Abraham and Isaac because the Lord provided an animal as a sacrifice and not his own son. Later, we will learn of another choice God made as a sacrifice, only this time God would offer His own Son. We will talk more about that later. But, for right now, Mount Moriah had a new name because God provided just what Abraham needed and just when Abraham needed it.

Tell the Story Activity: Drama

This will be a great lesson to act out with the kids. We call it drama. As you tell the story, let the kids reenact the actual events. You will need kids to act these parts:

- 1) Abraham
- 2) Isaac
- 3) 2 servants
- 4) Several donkeys
- 5) Ram

Abraham should load up the wood (maybe a couple of sticks) on the back of the donkeys.

The whole group should walk around the class for each day travelled and be weary at the end of each day.

Abraham should pretend to tie up Isaac and place him on the altar of sacrifice.



Genesis 22:14 (ESV) - And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The Lord it shall be provided."



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"Speak, O Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty is recommended for this lesson.



Bible Activity

Explain that we are going to go on a walk, but not just a regular walk, this will be a "trust walk." Each person will have a partner, and one of you will wear a blindfold, so you can't see where you are going. Your partner will lead you around, making sure that you do not bump into anything and get hurt. It is very important that you are a trustworthy friend to your partner. If you are wearing the blindfold, you need to trust your friend. After a few minutes, we will switch the blindfold to the other person, and do another short walk. Have the children pair up in groups of two. Give each pair of children a blindfold, and help them put the blindfold on their friend. Encourage children to be a trustworthy friend.

After the activity, talk about how it felt to trust someone else when you can't see what is ahead. Talk about how both Abraham and Isaac had to trust God in this difficult situation. God is always good, always true, always right, even if we can't see it at the moment. We trust a friend to lead us around when we can't see, how much more should we trust God to lead us through life. He is our Creator, and the Master of the universe. He can always be trusted!!

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Hop It

In large letters, write phrases of the verse on sheets of paper. On the floor, tape the papers in a mixed up fashion, but close enough for succeeding words to be reached in a step. Children should step on one word at a time in the proper order to quote the verse. Let each child have a turn of hopping on the verse.

Bible Activity: Trust Walk

Materials needed: enough blindfolds for 1/2 the number of children expected in class (bring extras just to be safe)





4) Review the Lesson

Agree/Disagree Statements (If you disagree, why do you disagree?)

- 1. Abraham and Isaac travelled three days to Mount Moriah. (Agree)
- 2. Abraham did not have confidence that God would spare his son Isaac. (Disagree. He did have confidence in God.)
- 3. Abraham named this mountain and called it "Mount Moriah." (Disagree. He named it "The Lord will provide.")
- 4. Sarah did not think this was such a great idea. (Disagree. The Bible does not tell us if Sarah knew about this trip to Mount Moriah.)
- 5. This is the first time in the Bible that an animal was used as a sacrifice. (Disagree. God made clothes from an animal's skin for Adam and Eve.)

5) Apply the Lesson

Eight essential concepts are found in the Bible's big story. They are: 1. God, 2. Man, 3. Sin, 4. Death, 5. Christ, 6. Cross, 7. Faith, and 8. Life.

Abraham trusted God for many years. Now, when faced with a crisis, he trusted Him again. Name one or two ways that you will trust God for what He can and will provide for you. This lesson emphasizes trust or faith.

Story Line: God tested Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. God provided a ram instead.

Review Activity: Agree and Disagree Statements

Kids will have fun disagreeing or agreeing with these seven statements. You may want to make up some statements of your own for them to agree or disagree with. They could move to one side of the room or the other.

Adventure Number 21

Genesis 32:24-29

Story Line: Jacob won a new name in a wrestling match with an angel.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- After Isaac's experience on Mt. Moriah, he grew up in southern Canaan. God gave him a wife from Mesopotamia, probably modern day Iraq. Her name was Rebekah. Rebekah, like Sarah, was unable to have children, but unlike his father, Isaac prayed and God gave him and Rebekah twins, Jacob and Esau.
- God chose the second son, Jacob, to be the carrier of His blessings.
 Jacob was known to be a deceiver and his name even means "grasping the heel."
- Esau was cheated out of his birthright and his blessing by Jacob. Jacob had to flee from Esau who was very angry when this all happened.
- In Genesis 28:4, we learn that Isaac blessed Jacob again. This time his choice was clear. The older would serve the younger. Esau would serve Jacob just as Ishmael served Isaac.
- Jacob moved to Mesopotamia where he married two of Laban's daughters, Leah and Rachel. He loved Rachel much more than Leah. Things became very tense between Jacob and his father-in-law, Laban. So, Jacob had to move again, this time back to his homeland. When Esau heard that Jacob was coming back, he went out to meet him.
- We come now to a spiritual crisis in Jacob's life. At Bethel he saw the ladder, at the Jabbok he saw the Lord; at Bethel he became a believing man, here he became a broken man; at Bethel he became a son of God, here he became a saint of God.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

Bad News Reporters

- Lucifer rebelled against God.
- Lucifer persuaded Adam and Eve to sin against God.
- Cain killed Abel.
- The people of Noah's day were very wicked.
- Some people tried to build a tower to the "gods."
- Sarah did not have faith in God, at first.

Good News Reporters

- God is very strong.
- God created the earth.
- God provided clothes for Adam and Eve.
- Seth was a godly substitute for Abel.
- Noah was a righteous man.
- Abraham believed God.

Ask children to give as much detail in their reports as possible. Do not label children as good or bad. Instead, they are reporting good news and bad news.



3) Teach the Lesson

Ask children if they have ever been lied to or deceived. The main character in the story for today, Jacob, had a history of deception and manipulation. In fact, his name even means "deceiver." Let children tell a few of their experiences of when they have been lied to or deceived.

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Bad News and Good News Reporter

Have one group of children list as many bad things as they can remember thus far in the Bible stories. These are your bad news reporters.

Have another group of children list as many good things that have happened in the Bible stories. These are your good news reporters.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

Isaac ... his name literally means "laughter." Perhaps, Abraham and Sarah both laughed at the thought of having a child in their old age. Now, Isaac had just become a dad as his wife, Rebekah, gave birth to twins, Esau and Jacob. Esau was born first which usually means that he would receive special blessings and an inheritance. When Jacob was born second, his parents named him "deceiver." That was very unusual and it proved to be true that Jacob would deceive even his own family, even his own father and brother. As the boys grew up, Esau became a hunter and Jacob stayed more at home. Esau was Isaac's favorite son while Jacob was Rebekah's favorite son. When Isaac was very old, he wanted some food that Esau would have to kill and prepare. While Esau was out hunting, Rebekah and Jacob devised a plan to deceive Isaac who could not see very well. Before Esau returned, Jacob deceived his own father and told him that he was Esau and had some good food ready for him. The plan worked ... Isaac gave him a special blessing and Esau came too late. Esau was furious. Another time, Esau came in from hunting and was very hungry. Jacob tricked him into trading his inheritance for a good dinner. Again, Jacob's deception worked. Esau was so upset that he wanted to take his own brother's life.

So, Jacob travelled 400 miles north to Uncle Laban in Haran. There, he met and married two of Uncle Laban's daughters, Leah and Rachel. Interestingly, Laban deceived "the deceiver," Jacob, by tricking him into marrying Leah first. Then, Jacob tricked Laban with goats and sheep. Jacob had to leave Haran and this time he decided to go back home. He had one big problem though: Esau. What would Esau think or even do?

The night before the two brothers were to reunite, an angel of the Lord appeared and wrestled with Jacob, the deceiver. Jacob came face-to-face with his own sinfulness and asked the angel to bless him which the angel did. The angel gave him a new name. Jacob would no longer be "the deceiver," he would be called Israel or "struggles with God." Now, God would fight for Jacob because Jacob had come face-to-face with his own mortality. He must have been very scared about what Esau would do to him and his family. When God appeared to him and even wrestled with him, Jacob (or Israel) now knew that God could not be manipulated like his family members. Jacob would have to deal truthfully and God would fight for him.

When Jacob and Esau reunited, it was a wonderful sight. Everybody was happy. God made it possible for Esau to forgive his brother. God also made it possible for Jacob to carry on the family blessing that God had promised.

Tell the Story Activity: Jacob's Deception and God's Intervention

As you tell the story, have the children count how many times Jacob deceived somebody. And say, "This is just the times that we know about; there were probably other times also."

The teacher should also have them list the people that Jacob deceived.
There were a number of people that he deceived.

Jacob's Deceptions: many times ... many people.

God's Intervention: Jacob would no longer live a life of deception. What happened to change the life of Jacob?



Genesis 32:30 (ESV) - So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Write the word "truthful" in big letters down one side of a chalkboard, white board, or large piece of paper so all the kids in your class can see it.

Jacob had always been known as "the deceiver" both to his family, himself, and God. Now that his name was changed to "Israel," his character was changed as well. Let's see how many blessings we can list that match the letters of the word "truthful".

As the teacher, you must have some words in mind to get your kids started.

Example:

- T- Trust (when you are truthful, people can trust you)
- R Right (being truthful is the right thing to do, and pleases God)
- U Unreserved (not restricted)
- T Truth-Telling (out of your mouth comes the truth, not lies)
- H Habitually (telling the truth to be a regular habit)
- F Factual (truth based on the facts)
- U Unreserved (the full and entire truth)
- L Like It Is (what really happened)

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Word Scramble

Put each word on a piece of paper and scramble all the words or pieces of paper. Have children unscramble the words by putting them in the correct order.



4) Review the Lesson

Jacob's Deceptions:

- 1) Jacob deceived Esau to get his blessing.
- 2) Jacob deceived Esau and Isaac to get the inheritance.
- 3) Jacob deceived Laban.
- 4) Laban deceived Jacob.



5) Apply the Lesson

- <u>Deception</u>: List 2 or 3 ways that you have deceived someone.
- <u>Truthfulness</u>: Now, tell what you should have done in each of those situations to demonstrate truthfulness.
- <u>Choice</u>: Jacob chose to be truthful after he met God (the angel of God). After a life full of lies and deception, Jacob's life changed. There is hope found in the Bible that God can change anyone. Will you let Him change you?

Story Line: Jacob won a new name in a wrestling match with an angel.

Teacher Helps

Review Activity: Charades

Kids will have fun trying to figure out which deception of Jacob you are reenacting. Don't use any words.

Adventure Number 22

Genesis 37:3-4; 23-28;

39:1-4; 45:4-13; 47:5-6

Story Line: Good can happen even when people do bad things.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- One fourth of the book of Genesis is devoted to the life of Joseph. God related the creation of the universe in five words, "He made the stars also." The Lord devotes chapter after chapter to the story of a man who was not even in the Messianic line.
- Jacob had twelve sons by four different wives. The promise of God to Abraham and his descendants was that they would be a blessing to all nations. However, Jacob's sons did not look like they should be part of that.
- Jacob had a favorite son of the twelve, his eleventh son, Joseph, firstborn of his favorite wife, Rachel. Jacob showed his favoritism to Joseph in many ways. Most notably, Jacob gave Joseph a special tunic that should have been for the firstborn son.
- The ten older brothers became jealous of Joseph. Led by Judah, they decided to sell him. The other brothers actually wanted to kill Joseph. But God used Judah to spare Joseph's life. Joseph was bought by slave traders who took him to Egypt.
- In Egypt, Joseph became a leader. But Pharaoh's wife made sexual advances to Joseph. She even accused him of rape. Potiphar put Joseph in jail for this accusation. In jail, Joseph also became a leader and an interpreter of dreams. He became the foreman of the other prisoners.
- There was a famine and Jacob's family heard that there was food in Egypt. Jacob's sons went to get food which they eventually received from Joseph himself. Joseph did not hold a grudge and forgave his brothers.
- The family of Jacob stayed in Egypt for about 400 years after this.

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2) Begin the Lesson

Remind your class that you are learning the one big story of the Bible. While there are many stories in the Bible, they are linked to one major theme or story in the Bible. It is a story of hope. So, to help your class know that story and be able to put all the lessons together, we are going to review the lessons from the past. Ask, "What are the main events that we have studied in the Bible?"

- God always existed and He is very powerful.
- God created the earth and everything in it.
- God created people to be His special friends.
- Lucifer led a rebellion against God and one third of the angels followed him
- Lucifer, or Satan, deceived Eve. They sinned by disobeying God.
- God clothed Adam and Eve with the skin from an animal.
- Cain killed Abel.
- God sent a worldwide flood that killed almost everyone on the earth. God spared Noah and his family because Noah was a righteous man.
- God confused the language of the people because of their disobedience and worship of false gods.
- God made special promises to Abraham.
- Abraham offered a ram on Mount Moriah instead of his son, Isaac.
- Jacob wrestled with the angel of God and got a new name, Israel.



3) Teach the Lesson

Living in a foreign land is sometimes difficult. That is what the Israelites had to do. They lived in Egypt for over 400 years. What are some of the difficulties that you think the Israelites faced as they lived in a different culture for a long period of time?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: The Main Events

Review is a significant part of learning.
Twelve events are listed here. Write each event on a slip of paper or poster board and have children put them in chronological order.
Let them work together in small teams (2 or 3). Time how long it takes each team to put these events in the right order. Winner gets a prize.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

My name is Joseph and I want to tell you my story. I grew up in Canaan with 11 brothers. I was the next to the youngest of the twelve of us. My mother was Rachel and I was her favorite son. So, some of the times, I got special treatment from my parents that my brothers did not get. My brothers were quite jealous of me. Some of them even hated me. One day, they developed a plot to get rid of me. Their jealousy was so strong that while we were in the fields, they put me in a deep hole and took my coat. They were going to tell my father that an animal had come and devoured me. That was a lie but they all agreed to it. Then, my brothers saw some slave traders and sold me into slavery. They thought they would never see me again.

Eventually, I ended up in Egypt and I was a slave to the chief of the palace guards. God enabled me to do my job well. In fact, He enabled me to do my job so well, even as a slave, that Potiphar put me in charge of everything. He really trusted me. However, his wife was really strange and she tried to take advantage of me. I resisted her but she screamed and claimed that I did something bad to her. For some reason, Potiphar listened to her and I was put in jail. In jail, God gave me favor with everybody and I became a leader in the jail. God used the following dreams and my interpretation of them.

One night, the king of Egypt had two dreams which meant the same thing. I was the only one the king knew who could interpret the dreams. These dreams were from God and they showed that there would be a severe famine for seven years. The king listened to my interpretation and then put me in charge of everything underneath him. I stored up grain during seven prosperous years. But when the seven years of famine happened, everyone came to me, including my brothers. They wanted food but they did not recognize me now.

When my brothers realized who I was, they feared that I would retaliate against them. They knew I was very powerful. But, even though my brothers hated me at one time, I still loved them and wanted to help them. It was a wonderful reunion when we all got together, with my father, in Egypt. My father lived 17 years in Egypt and then died. Our families all stayed in Egypt. In fact, our descendants stayed in Egypt for another 400 years.

God was using me to bless the other nations. That was the promise of God to Abraham and his family, which I am part of. God used me to be a blessing to my brothers, my family, my countrymen, and all the nations.

Tell the Story Activity: The Story of Joseph

The teacher should find a guest speaker who will tell the story of Joseph. Have Joseph dress up in costume, if possible. Introduce your guest speaker as one who has lived a long time ago but has a very important message for all of us.

This story is told from the life of Joseph and those closest to him. But, in another sense, it tells the story of the one big story in the Bible.



Memory Verse

Genesis 39:2 (ESV) - The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Divide the class into 2 groups. One group will name all the people or circumstances that disappointed or hurt Joseph. The other group will respond to them by saying "But God was faithful to Joseph."

Write on pieces of paper these situations or people that hurt, disappointed, or forgot Joseph:

- 1. His brothers
- 2. Being a slave
- 3. Being in a foreign land all alone
- 4. Potiphar's wife
- 5. Potiphar
- 6. Being thrown in prison, even though he did no wrong.

Choose one child or a group of children to read each card. After each card is read, the other group will say "But God was faithful to Joseph." This is the fun part: Each time they say that phrase, they must do so a little bit louder. After the last card is read, have the entire group say it together one more time: "God was faithful to Joseph." Emphasize that God will always be faithful to us too, even if we can't see how it could possibly happen. Our job is to keep our eyes on God and His faithfulness, no matter what our circumstances are. Joseph is a great example of this principle!

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Bean Bag Toss

With masking tape, mark off a large square on the floor, about 36 inches. Connect the opposite corners inside the square with tape to form an "X." If you have space and many students, make a second square. Give each section a number value (1,2,3,4). A bit of a distance away, put a line of tape to mark where the student will throw from. Divide into two teams. Each student takes a turn throwing a bean bag into one of the sections. (You may make a bean bag by putting beans in a sock and closing it tight with a rubber band. Take the long part of the sock and fold it over the bean section.) If they can say the verse correctly, their team scores the amount of the section where the bean bag was thrown.



4) Review the Lesson

Divide the class into two teams. Give the teams one minute to write down as many statements as they can remember about Joseph, his family, and their time in Egypt.

- 11 brothers
- 400 years in Egypt
- Prosperity for 7 years and famine for 7 years
- the Lord was with Joseph
- Joseph's father lived 17 years in Egypt



5) Apply the Lesson

Write down on a piece of paper all the people that have hurt you with words or actions. Now write down on the other side of that paper all the people that you have hurt with words or actions.

Like Joseph, are you willing to forgive them? If you have hurt someone else, you must go to them and ask for their forgiveness. Your choice is bitterness or forgiveness. Forgiveness is a loving action that God does all the time.

Bitterness is an unloving action. Satan wants us to be bitter and not forgive those who have hurt us.

Story Line: Jacob won a new name in a wrestling match with an angel.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: One Minute List

The teacher should give two teams one minute each to list as many facts as they can about the lesson.

After the one minute has passed, compare lists and see who has more facts. Be sure that children remember that you are looking for facts.

Adventure Number 23

Exodus 1:1-14

Story Line: In spite of great oppression, God blessed the Israelites greatly.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- When Joseph welcomed his father and family to Egypt in about 1876 B.C., there were 70 men. About 100 years passed between the time of Joseph and Exodus 1. So, the male population of Israel increased from 70 to 600,000 in this time period.
- The people of Israel left Egypt about 430 years after they came to Egypt.
- At this time, there were about 2 million Israelites living in the land of Goshen in Egypt. God was keeping His promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3). Yet, the Israelites still had no land of their own.
- The cultures of Israel and Egypt were quite different. Israel worshipped one God (monotheistic). Egypt worshipped many gods (polytheistic). The Israelites had been a nomadic people and moved around but the Egyptians were deeply rooted. The Israelites were shepherds while the Egyptians were builders.
- Ancient Egyptian culture was polytheistic with as many as 1,500 gods or goddesses. Ra, Amon, and Ptah were elevated above the other gods.
- The Bible reasons that there is one Deity and He is eternal. The Egyptian deities were not eternal and could even die.
- In the Egyptian culture, magic also played an important part in their religion. Theoretically, their gods responded to curses and chanting of words that had magical power.
- Up to this point, the biblical God did not insist that there were no other gods beside Himself. However, He would not remain silent much longer about this.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

Lay out a game board for review that looks something like this:

Time Line	Story Line	Songs	Memory Verses
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points

Go back for each of the last 10 lessons and let the children name the timeline for each lesson (100 points), the story line for each lesson (200 points), the song for each lesson (300 points), and the memory verse for each lesson (400 points).

A prize should be given to the winning team. Usually, competition is a fun thing for the children. Keep them all involved. Depending on the size of your class, you may want to limit each child to only 1 or 2 answers. The reason for this is that a few children will answer all the questions, if you let them.



3) Teach the Lesson

One boy who was going to live in a different culture, said he did not want to learn a new language, he did not want to make new friends, he did not want to go to a new school, he did not want to eat new foods, and things like that.

Now, imagine living in that new culture with people who did not like you and treated you like you were a nobody. How would you feel? How would you react? What would you tell your parents?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Bible Jeopardy

Divide the class evenly into two teams. The teams could be:

- whoever has birthdays in January through June
- whoever has birthdays in July through December

This game will be continued with the review at end of the lesson.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

When Jacob came to Egypt, there were only 70 other men. But, about a hundred years later, there were 600,000 men. Most of the Israelite families lived in the northeast part of Egypt. God had promised to Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the sand grains on the seashore. There were lots of Israelites, perhaps 2 million of them.

This worried the new king of Egypt. The new king did not know Joseph. Joseph had been dead for some time now. Even though Joseph was very powerful in Egypt when he was alive, that was a long time ago. The king of Egypt was not only worried about the Israelites, he wanted to put a heavy load of work on them so they would not multiply so quickly. What the king did not realize was that God had promised to make Abraham's descendants as numerous as the sand on the seashore. The king was totally ignorant of the promise of God. Had he paid more attention to what God had promised, things might have been different.

Something interesting happened after the king declared more work for the Israelites. The more the king tried to work them, the more people were born to the Israelites. They became even more numerous. This must have really frustrated the king. What was he going to do? He was making life for the Israelites as miserable as possible so they would not have as many people. Just the opposite of what he planned was happening. The Israelites were treated like slaves now. Only one hundred years ago, they were treated like royalty. But not now. Not only were they not treated like royalty, the Egyptians dreaded the Israelites. They loathed and despised the Israelites. It was cruel what the king of Egypt was doing to the people of Israel.

God saw all that was happening to His people. It makes God very sad when people are treating other people harshly. But just as God saw Sarai when she could have no children, so God saw the people of Israel when they were treated so badly. God saw them and was about to do something very special for the Israelites. God would not be silent about the pain and suffering of His people. He would hear their pleas and He would respond. God's promises were coming true; there were many Israelites in a very short time. But, they still needed a land of their own and it wasn't clear at this point how they would be a blessing to the nations. So, the Israelites worked hard for the Egyptians. They worked just like slaves work. And in spite of their hard work, they kept having more and more babies. God was blessing them, even in their hardships.

Tell the Story Activity: Cheering for the Israelites

Have children listen to the story. As you tell the story, have the children clap or cheer when they hear the words "Israelites," "God," and "blessing."

Focus on cheering for these three words: God was going to bless the Israelites, even in their hardship.



Exodus 1:12 (ESV) - But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"Speak, O Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty is recommended for this lesson.



Bible Activity

As you make the chains, talk about the hardships of being a slave. Did God want His people to be in slavery? NO!! He had a plan to deliver them, but at this time life was very difficult for them. Remind the children of last week's lesson and how God was faithful to Joseph, even though he didn't know how it would all end.

Tell the children: There will always be some things in our lives that we don't understand, but there are other things that we know FOR SURE! Those are the things we learn about God in the Bible. Let's see how many things we can name about God that we know for sure:

- LOVE
- FAITHFUL
- JUST
- KIND
- HOLY
- RIGHTEOUS

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse
Activity: The Telephone
Game

Memorize this verse using The Telephone Game. Have your class form one line, then whisper into the first person in line a phrase of this verse, have that person repeat the phrase to the next person. Do this until all have quoted the first phrase. Then do the same thing with the second phrase, the third phrase, and so on until you have memorized the verse.



4) Review the Lesson

Continue your review game for points that you began at the start of the lesson.

- For 100 points, how many years were the Israelites in Egypt? (430)
- For 200 points, how many men originally went to Egypt with Jacob? (70)
- For 300 points, how many years had Joseph been dead when this story took place? (about 100)
- For 400 points, did the Egyptians believe in one God or many gods? (many gods)
- Bonus question worth 500 points: What is the theme of this lesson? (In spite of great oppression, God blessed the Israelites greatly.)



5) Apply the Lesson

God gave the oppressed Israelites many babies against all odds.
This was fulfilling His promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3 that made this happen.

What are two or three promises in the Bible that you know to be true and that you can thank God for?

- Assurance of forgiveness I John 1:9
- Assurance of answered prayer John 15:7
- Assurance of guidance Proverbs 3:5-6

Story Line: In spite of great oppression, God blessed the Israelites greatly.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: Bible Jeopardy

This review activity is a continuation of the review game started during the beginning of the lesson.

Adventure Number 24

Exodus 1:1-14 and

Exodus 3:1-17

Story Line: God called Moses in a special way. Moses obeyed God.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- Moses had been a shepherd in the Midian wilderness for 40 years, but now God was calling him to lead Abraham's descendants out of Egypt.
- As a shepherd, Moses was to doing everything for himself. Now, he would have to lean heavily on God.
- God first spoke to Moses on Mt. Sinai when He spoke to Moses out of a burning bush. This same mountain is also where God would give Moses the Ten Commandments (Exodus 19:1-20:21).
- God spoke to Moses from an unexpected place and Moses listened.
- When Moses took off his shoes, that was an act of worship. It was showing respect for God. Moses was showing God that he was unworthy, and that God was worthy of his worship and reverence.
- Moses made excuses to God because he felt he was not able to do the
 job God had for him. Moses felt like he would have to work alone,
 but God had many other resources available to help Moses such as
 miracles and Moses' brother, Aaron. When Moses used the resources
 of God, he was quite effective as a leader. When Moses did not use
 the resources of God, he was quite ineffective as a leader.
- Moses immediately objected to the command of God because of his own lack of ability (Exodus 3:11) and his own lack of authority (Exodus 3:13). God responded with two promises: the promise of His presence (Exodus 3:14) and the promise of his return to Mt. Horeb.
- The battle between the gods and Yahweh was about to begin, a story which has been told for the last 3000 years.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

One of the goals for review is for children to see the Bible's one big story. Today, we want to ask children to give us some of the recurring themes we saw so far in that story. For instance, let children volunteer their answers, but you might use the following examples as recurring themes in the Bible's one big story:

God's Amazing Power:

- Creation
- Worldwide Flood

Animal Substitution:

- Adam and Eve
- Abel
- Abraham and Isaac on Mount Moriah

Faith that Pleases God:

- Abel
- Noah
- Abraham

God Punishes Sin:

- Adam and Eve
- Cain
- Sodom and Gomorrah
- Babel



3) Teach the Lesson

It is not very often that a bush catches on fire and then speaks to you. But, if that happened to you, what would you want to know from this burning bush that was speaking to you? (Maybe, who are You? and why are You speaking to me?)

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: One Big Story

The teacher may want to give the class the topics such as: God's Amazing Power, Animal Substitution, Faith that Pleases God, and God Punishes Sin. Then, let the children tell Biblical examples of those stories that we have previously studied.

The purpose of this activity is for children to see recurring themes in the Bible's one big story.





Tell the Story

The Israelites were still treated like slaves and they still had no land they could call their own country. It must have been very discouraging for the Israelites. They had no place to go and the only place they could live was a place where they were treated very harshly. To make matters even worse, the king of Egypt ordered all Israelite baby boys to be thrown into the Nile River.

Jochebed, Moses' mother, positioned baby Moses in a waterproof basket in just the right spot in the Nile River. Jochebed knew the place where Pharaoh's daughter would bathe. Sure enough, Pharaoh's daughter found the baby and drew him out of the water. She named him Moses, a fairly common Egyptian name. Pharaoh's daughter permitted Jochebed to care for Moses for awhile. Then, Pharaoh's daughter raised Moses in the palace. Moses never forgot his true heritage. About 40 years later, Moses saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. So, Moses killed the Egyptian. The very next day, Moses learned that somebody else had seen this and he fled to the wilderness. He met and married a young lady there and they lived in the wilderness for another 40 years.

While Moses was living in the wilderness, he was near a bush that was burning but it was not being consumed or burned up. When he noticed the bush burning but not being burned up, a voice spoke to him from that bush. That had to be a really weird feeling for Moses. Moses had a conversation with that voice which was an angel from God. The angel clearly told Moses that "I AM" had sent him. Moses believed this. Then, the angel told Moses that he would be the one to lead Israel out of Egypt. Moses balked ... he hesitated. He did not think he was the right guy for the job. He must have thought that someone else could do a better job, maybe his brother, Aaron; maybe someone else.

Moses was concerned that the Israelites would not believe that God had commissioned him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. God understood Moses' concerns and was patient with him. To verify his leadership, God asked Moses what was in his hand ... it was a rod. When he picked up a snake, God told Moses to stick his hand in his side, which he did. When he pulled his hand out, it was full of a disease called leprosy. The Israelites believed Moses and worshipped the living God. Armed with God's presence, understanding God's commission, and with the help of Aaron, Moses chose to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt. The God of Abraham would do war against the gods of Egypt.

Tell the Story Activity: Excuses

If God asked you to do a big job for Him, what excuses would you possibly make:

- too young
- don't know anything
- don't know anybody
- don't know what to
- not smart enough
- not strong enough
- not a good leader

Let the kids volunteer their answers and discuss their reasons or excuses with them. Are any of their excuses similar to those of Moses?



Memory Verse

Exodus 3:14 (ESV) - God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And He said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

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Bible Activity

Read Exodus 3:1-17 two times. Moses argues with God about God's special job He asked Moses to do. What did Moses say? How does God answer?

#1 - (Hint: look at verse 11) - Moses protested and said, "Who am I?" What was God's answer? (Hint - verse 12) - "I will be with You."

#2 - (Verse 13) - Moses: If I say the God of my fathers has sent me, they

will ask "What is His name?" God's answer: (Verse 14) "Tell them 'I AM' has sent you."

What can we learn from this conversation about how God deals with His children? (Patient, firm, encouraging) What are some excuses we might make? Make a list of the reasons your class comes up with. What does God think of excuses and arguing with Him?

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Graffiti

Graffiti can also be used to help children memorize this verse. Write each word of this verse on a separate piece of paper. Then have children put the words in order in groups of 2 or 3. When each group can put the verse together in order, they will probably have this verse memorized.

Bible Activity: A Discussion with God

Extra credit assignment (for older kids). Read Exodus 4:1-17 at home, and find 3 more times Moses argued with God about this job, and also find God's answers to Moses. You will be able to explain these to the class next week. You can offer a prize as incentive, if you wish.



4) Review the Lesson

This lesson revolves around three main facts:

- 1. God saw that the Israelites were treated as slaves. He had compassion on them.
- 2. God spoke to Moses. God told Moses who He was and what He wanted him to do.
- 3. Moses initially hesitated to obey God. But, eventually Moses obeyed and led the people of Israel out of Egypt.



5) Apply the Lesson

Join the Obedience Club. Moses is in the Obedience Club. Abraham is in the Obedience Club. So are Abel and Noah. Why not you? All you have to do is listen to God and do what He says. Then you will be in the Obedience Club.

Sign up today!

- Obedience in being a kind person
- Obedience in saying truthful statements
- Obedience in putting others first
- Obedience in listening to God
- Obedience in obeying parents

Story Line: God called Moses in a special way. Moses obeyed God.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: 3 Main Facts

Tell children to write down one main thing they learned from this lesson. Then, have them share with one person in the class what they learned. They should write down each new thing they add to what somebody learned in the class. Repeat this process several times. Then, form a master list of what the kids learned from the lesson.

Adventure Number 25

Exodus 7:20 - 9:22

Story Line: God sent plagues in Egypt to free the Israelites.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- God wanted to release His people from slavery so He sent 10 plagues to demonstrate who He was and what He was like. None of the gods of Egypt were able to stand up against the God of the Bible.
- Plague #1: Nile to Blood (Exodus 7). The god of the Egyptians, Khnum was defeated. Khnum was the Egyptian god of the Nile.
- Plague #2: Frogs (Exodus 8). This was defeat for Khnum's wife, Heket, who symbolized resurrection and help for women in childbirth.
- Plague #3: Gnats (Exodus 8). This was a humiliating defeat for Geb, the Egyptian god of the ground.
- Plague #4: Flies (Exodus 8). Kheper, the Egyptian god of flies, was defeated.
- Plague #5: Livestock (Exodus 9). Calf worship was popular in Egypt.
 This was a severe defeat for Hathor, the goddess of love represented by a cow.
- Plague #6: Boils (Exodus 9). The Egyptian gods (Serapsis, Isis, and Imhotep) were clearly helpless.
- Plague #7: Hail (Exodus 9). Osiris, the Egyptian god of vegetation, could not help.
- Plague #8: Locusts (Exodus 10). Again, Osiris was defeated.
- Plague #9: Darkness (Exodus 10). Ra, the Egyptian sun god, was defeated.

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2) Begin the Lesson

Ask children to help you with previous memory verses. Maybe say something like, "Who remembers what (verse) says?"

- Adventure 1: Genesis: 1:1
- Adventure 2: Colossians 1:16
- Adventure 3: Genesis 2:2
- Adventure 4: Genesis 1:27
- Adventure 5: Genesis 2:8
- Adventure 6: Isaiah 14:12
- Adventure 7: Genesis 3:6
- Adventure 8: Romans 5:12
- Adventure 9: Genesis 3:15
- Adventure 10: Romans 8:20
- Adventure 11: Genesis 3:21
- Adventure 12: Leviticus 19:2
- Adventure 13: Genesis 4:7
- Adventure 14: Genesis 5:1
- Adventure 15: Genesis 16:8

• Adventure 16: Genesis 11:9

- Adventure 17: Genesis 12:3
- Adventure 18: Genesis 19:29
- Adventure 19: Genesis 15:6
- Adventure 20: Genesis 22:14
- Adventure 21: Genesis 32:30
- Adventure 22: Genesis 39:2
- Adventure 23: Exodus 1:12
- Adventure 24: Exodus 3:14

Teacher Helps

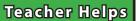
Begin the Lesson Activity: Memory Verse Review

Probably, most children will need help with at least some of these verses. If a child needs help, give him the first three words of the verse to help him get started. Emphasize to your class that if they can get the first three words of the verse, they will have a good start and will find the rest of the verse much easier to remember.



3) Teach the Lesson

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is a worldwide organization that monitors diseases and plagues. The CDC defines a "plague" as "a disease that affects humans and other mammals." The Center for Disease Control was not available when this Bible story took place, but imagine what it would be like for the CDC to receive phone calls from Egypt about 10 different plagues. What do you think they would have done?





Tell the Story

Our last story ended like this: "The God of Abraham would do war against the gods of Egypt." The battle was about to begin. Would the gods of Egypt win over the God of the Bible? Would neither side win? What if some battles were won by each side? Well, the battle lines were drawn. Egypt, with its many gods would face the God of the Bible because the God of the Bible wanted His people freed from slavery.

The first battle was the defeat of the Egyptian god, Khnum, who guarded the Nile River. When the Nile River turned to blood, God was victorious over Khnum.

The second battle featured Heket vs. God. Heket was the Egyptian god of the resurrection. But when the frogs surrounded the Nile River, Heket went down in defeat. Score, God-2 and Egyptian gods-0.

The third battle was a battle between Geb, the god of the soil, and God. Geb was totally humiliated when swarms of gnats surrounded man and beast. Again, another victory for God and another loss for the Egyptian gods.

The fourth battle saw Kheper, the Egyptian god of flies, go down in defeat.

The fifth battle saw all the Egyptian livestock die. Again, the God of the Bible was victorious over the Egyptian gods.

The sixth skirmish saw boils break out all over humans and animals. The Egyptian gods could not do anything when the God of the Bible initiated the boils. Score: God-6 and the Egyptian gods-0.

The seventh (hail), eighth (locusts), and ninth (darkness) plagues all resulted in the same outcome. God was completely victorious over the Egyptian gods. In spite of all these powerful plagues, Pharaoh would not let the people of Israel go and offer sacrifices.

The Egyptian people must have been very weary of yet another plague. But, God wanted His people to be free and the leader of the Egyptian nation would not let God's people go free. For some, this might look like a battle between Moses and Pharaoh. But, really, it was a battle between the God of the Bible and the main Egyptian gods. God's power was decisive over the gods of the Egyptians. We still have one more plague to look at, but we will talk about that the next time we are together.

Tell the Story Activity: Scoreboard

Make a scoreboard similar to one that you would find in a soccer match. On one side, put "God" and leave a blank for the current score. On the other side, put "Egyptian gods" and leave a blank for the current score.

As you tell the story of the nine plagues in this lesson, let kids keep score. When the score changes, let a different child come up and change the score.

Make sure the children know who the contestants are: God and the Egyptian gods, not Moses and Pharaoh.



Exodus 12:12 (ESV) - On all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

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Bible Activity

Make a card with the name of each plague written on each card. Make a second set of cards with the name of the Egyptian god that corresponds to each plague. If possible, use one color of paper for the plagues, and a different color for the false gods. Let the kids match up the plague with the false god, and see who can do it the fastest. You can let them work in teams or individually, depending on the size of your class. Emphasize that the one true God is more powerful than any other power in the world.

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Pictures

Have children memorize this verse using pictures for any word in the verse. For instance, the teacher could simply put a map of Egypt up to represent Egypt. Judgment might be represented by a throne or a gavel.



Have children simplify the lesson into 10 words or less using their own words. What are their answers? When children simplify the story of the lesson into ten words or less, they will probably say something like these possibilities:

- The God of the Bible defeated gods of the Egyptians.
- God wanted His people to be free from slavery.
- God showed His power in the plagues.
- Pharaoh was very stubborn.
- God is very strong.



5) Apply the Lesson

Join the Power Club. Last week, we joined the Obedience club. Today, the Power Club belongs to those who let God do the work and we merely submit to Him. Don't resist Him like Pharaoh did. Submit to Him like Moses did.

Sign up today!

- Power for daily Christian living
- Power to resist the temptations of Satan
- Power for sharing the Good News
- Power to obey God

Story Line: God sent plagues in Egypt to free the Israelites.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: Simplify

Simplify can be a useful game for the children. The teacher can give each team of 2 or 3 kids about 1-2 minutes to come up with the most significant 10 words of this lesson.

Adventure Number 26 Exodus 12:1-32

Story Line: God protected people who put their faith in Him.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- God sent ten plagues while the Israelites were living in Egypt but Pharaoh did not let the people of Israel leave Egypt to sacrifice to their God.
- God is the one who rescued His people from helpless and hopeless bondage.
- The final plague involved the death of firstborn children and animals.
- The last plague on Egypt was the death of the firstborn in each home. Since pharaoh was thought to be divine, his son was "a son of a god."
- The community of believers were to slaughter a lamb at twilight and spread the blood of the slain animal on the sides and top of the doorposts of the house.
- God wanted the firstborn dedicated to Him because in those days the firstborn was the most valuable and most dear to each family. When they dedicated their firstborn to Him, they were giving Him their best.
- The lamb was a sacrifice. Its innocent blood was shed.
- The people of God knew that if they were to be spared from death, an innocent life had to be sacrificed in their place.
- In killing the lamb, the Israelites shed innocent blood. The lamb was a sacrifice, a substitute for the person who would have died in the plague. From this point on, the Hebrew people would clearly understand that for them to be spared from death, an innocent life had to be sacrificed in their place.

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2) Begin the Lesson

Let's think back over the last 25 adventures that we have studied and see if we can put the adventures in order. Here are the themes for the first 25 adventures:

- 1) God is very strong.
- 2) God created angels.
- 3) God made everything.
- 4) God made man and woman to be His special friends.
- 5) Life in the garden was full of pleasure.
- 6) Satan is God's enemy. Satan was proud. God threw Satan out of heaven.
- 7) Satan tempted Adam and his wife. Adam and Eve disobeyed God.
- 8) Sin separated Adam and the woman from God.
- 9) God promised to send a special Person who would crush Satan.
- 10) Sin affected God's creation in many negative ways.
- 11) God killed an innocent animal to give clothes to Adam and his wife.
- 12) God hates sin. God expelled Adam and Eve from the garden because of sin.

- 13) Cain and Abel responded to God in two very different ways.
- 14) Seth became the leader of a very godly family.
- 15) The people were evil. God sent a flood. Noah trusted and obeyed God.
- 16) God confused the language of the people.
- 17) God called Abram to be a great nation and a blessing to all people.
- 18) God destroyed Sodom because the people were very wicked.
- 19) Sarah did not respond in faith to the promise of God. Abraham did.
- 20) God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. God provided a ram.
- 21) Jacob won a new name in a wrestling match with an angel.
- 22) Good can happen even when people do bad things.
- 23) In spite of great opposition, God blessed the Israelites greatly.
- 24) God called Moses in a special way. Moses obeyed God.
- 25) God sent plagues in Egypt to free the Israelites.

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Theme Review

The teacher should write these statements on pieces of paper and then mix them up. Do not put the number of the lesson on the piece of paper. Divide the children into 2 or 3 teams, depending on the size of the class. Time how long it takes each team to put the statements in the correct order. Remember, do not number the slips of paper so the children will think through the chronological order.



3) Teach the Lesson

What do these three events have in common?

- God provided clothes for Adam and Eve.
- God provided Abraham with a substitute sacrifice for Isaac.
- God provided protection when the Israelites oldest sons were spared.

Answer: God provided for each of them.



Tell the Story

Nine plagues had passed and Pharaoh was exceptionally angry. After the ninth plague, he banned Moses and Aaron from his presence. Little did he know that the tenth plague would be even worse for him than the first nine.

The last plague was the death of the firstborn male, a person or an animal. All firstborns were to die. God told the Israelites and Egyptians who feared the Lord to take the blood of a lamb and wipe it on the entrance of the door of the house. A promise was made between God and anyone who feared Him. The promise was this: the death angel would pass over any house that had the blood of a lamb on the entrance to the house. No one would die if they listened and obeyed the God who made this announcement. God had already proved to all how powerful He was. Now, it would be up to them to obey His instructions.

It happened at night. The death angel went throughout the land of Egypt looking at the entrance of every house. Those who had faith in Yahweh expressed that faith by putting the blood of the lamb on the doorposts of their house. Those who followed Yahweh's instructions were to stay inside their house so that they would not be blamed for the deaths of the firstborn. Also, they would not celebrate the death of any of God's creation. They waited in their homes until the morning. When they realized that even the Pharaoh's son was put to death by the death angel, they knew that God would keep His promise and provide for their salvation. Pharaoh immediately told Moses and Aaron to leave the country. They were to take all their people and all their animals. They were to pray to Yahweh and serve Him.

Teacher Helps

Tell the Story Activity: The Importance of the Lamb

The teacher should have the children listen to the story of the Passover and remember previous stories that a lamb had to be slain for the good of someone. What examples can the class think of?

Possible answers:

- Adam and Eve
- Cain and Abel
- Abraham and Isaac
- The Passover

The Bible's big story reminds us of the importance of the lamb.



Exodus 12:13 (ESV) - The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"Speak, O Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty is recommended for this lesson.



Plagues and Passover

If possible, have unleavened bread as a snack in class today.

Sift the flour, sugar and salt. Cut in shortening. Add a little bit of milk at a time, and only enough to form into dough. Knead gently until elastic. Roll dough using floured rolling pin into a rectangle 1/4 inch thick. Cut dough into squares about 1/2 inch in size. Pierce the dough all over with a fork. Bake at 375 degrees for 15-20 minutes until lightly browned.

It can be purchased in some grocery stores, or you can make your own using this simple recipe. Explain to the children that the bread was to be unleavened for two reasons:

- 1. They could not take the time to add yeast and let the bread rise, since they would be making a hasty departure from Egypt.
- 2. Yeast, or "leaven" represents sin in a person's life. They were not to be stained with sin, but be in a right relationship with God.

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Around the Class

Have the children sit in a circle while music is playing. Pass around a phrase of the memory verse. When the music stops, whoever is holding the phrase of the memory verse should try to quote the verse. Do this until all phrases are memorized. Then, do the same thing for the whole memory verse.

Bible Activity: Unleavened Bread Recipe

- 1 cup flour
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1/3 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup shortening
- 2 2 1/2 tablespoons milk



4) Review the Lesson

Two major themes emerge from the Bible's big story of hope. They are "God's provision" and "man's required faith response." In the story of the Passover, we see both of these themes very clearly. In what stories in the Bible do you see these two major themes?

- God's provision for the needs of man (Adam and Eve)
- Eve became the mother of all mankind
- Noah and the ark that he built
- Abraham and Isaac
- The Passover plague



5) Apply the Lesson

Responding by faith to God's provision is seen throughout the Bible. We will see it more in lessons to come.

What are some ways that God has provided for you and He expects your faith response?

- He has provided salvation through what Jesus Christ did on the cross and He expects a faith response from you.
- Will you respond by faith to what Jesus Christ did on the cross for you?

Story Line: God protected people who put their faith in Him.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: Two Major Themes

Have children name and describe as many Bible events as possible that show these two major themes: God's provision and man's required faith response.

Adventure Number 27

Exodus 14:1-31

Story Line: God is mighty to save.

God parted the Red Sea.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- 600 chariots were bearing down on the Israelites. Each chariot had two soldiers in it, one to drive and the other to fight.
- The Israelites were discouraged because they thought they were trapped. In front of them was the Red Sea and behind them was the Egyptian army who were in pursuit of the Israelites. They even complained to Moses and to the Lord about their desperate circumstances.
- This is the first time that we hear of the Israelites complaining on the journey to the promised land. It was a problem they did not forsake.
- The Israelites had at least 600,000 men. Pharaoh brought 600 chariots, charioteers, and troops. Yet, the superior military strength of the Egyptians caused the Israelites to complain.
- The Lord told Moses to quit crying out to Him and get moving. Prayer was important but so was action.
- With no apparent place for the Israelites to go, God dried up the Red Sea for the Israelites to cross.
- When the Israelites had crossed the Red Sea, the Egyptian chariots tried to cross also. As the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand and the Red Sea waters drowned the Egyptian chariots and their riders.
- When the Israelites saw the crushing defeat of the Egyptian army, they stood in awe and praised God. They also put their faith in God and His servant Moses.

Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

Review Activity: Name That Event

Teacher Helps

The teacher could scramble all the events and people and ask for volunteers to put the events and people in order on the wall.

Teams could be created by letting groups of 2 or 3 work together to create the correct order of events on the timeline.

- Name That Timeline has the class putting in order each of the previous events on a timeline. If a board is available, use a board. If the teacher can put the events of the timeline on a wall so that it is visible to all, that would work the best.
- Timeline Events and People
 - Beginning of Angels
 - Beginning of the World
 - Beginning of People
 - Beginning of Satan's Fall
 - Beginning of People's Sin
 - Promise of a Satan Crusher
 - Expelled from the Garden
 - Cain and Abel
 - Seth
 - Noah and the Flood
 - Sodom and Gomorrah
 - Abraham
 - Isaac
 - Jacob

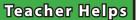
3) Teach the Lesson

What are the three most important events in your nation's history?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Teach the Lesson Activity: 3 Most Important Events

In the history of the nation of Israel, this event is one of the most important events.





Tell the Story

The Israelites were now on their way to their own land which God had promised to them. What an exciting time that had to be ... a land of their own and no more slavery. To make it even better, God was on their side visibly now. They had seen His powerful working over the Egyptian gods and they realized how mighty their God was.

After they hit the road, some problems developed. First, the king of Egypt realized he had made a mistake. He let his slave labor go without a payment and without any kind of promise. So, the king decided with his best army to go after the Israelites who were unarmed. It should have been an easy match. Six hundred of Egypt's best charioteers, who were like the armored vehicles of the day, against the helpless Israelites. Add on to that, Egypt had their best foot soldiers. This would be an easy victory for the Egyptians.

And that is exactly what the Israelites thought. When they saw this massive army coming after them, they complained to Moses. They told him that it would have been better for them to die as slaves in Egypt than to die in the wilderness. Apparently, they forgot about the mighty God who had just won ten major victories by sending the plagues against the Egyptian gods.

God told Moses to quit praying and get moving. There was a time to pray but now it was time to travel. God led the Israelites with a bright light in front of them and protected their back side from the Egyptians with a cloud. God had this thing entirely under control. It was night time now and neither side moved. God made sure that the Egyptians didn't attack. In the morning, after a strong wind from the east, Moses held up his rod; the sea parted, and millions of Israelites crossed the Red Sea on dry ground. God showed His mighty power again to the Israelites.

The Egyptian army thought they could cross over on dry ground also. What a big mistake they made. They assumed that the two walls of water on each side of the Red Sea that protected the Israelites would protect them also. They did not realize that it was God who was holding up the water and the entire Egyptian army drowned when God released the waters of the Red Sea. Not one of the Egyptians survived. It was one incredible sight!

Moses wrote a song about this deliverance and the Israelites praised God. They learned to trust Moses and Moses' God, at least for right now.

Tell the Story Activity: Complaining or Praising?

This is the first time that we know that the Israelites complained. After such recent great victories by their God, one would think that complaining against God would be the furthest thing from them. Yet, complaining became a regular part of their daily lives.

After you tell this story, divide your class up into two groups: complainers and praisers. Ask them to do the best job they can to convince the other group that they should join them.

Wrap up this part of the lesson by encouraging kids to look for what God is doing and praise Him for that. Also, encourage them to resist the temptation to join the complainers.



Exodus 14:29 (ESV) - But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

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Bible Activity

"In our Bible lesson today, we learned that the people crossed the Red Sea. We're going to pretend to go across the Red Sea, too."

- Line the children up at one end of the classroom.
- You will need 4 children or 4 teachers to hold the ends of the ropes.
- Stretch the ropes out with a gap of about one foot in between them. Have the children jump over both ropes.
- Once all of the children have jumped across the ropes, move the ropes a little further apart. Let them jump again.
- Continue moving the ropes further apart until the distance is too great for any of the children to successfully jump across.

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Phrases

Phrases. Say Exodus 14:29 in three phrases. Designate each part of the class to learn just one phrase. After they have learned one phrase, rotate until all kids have learned all three phrases.

Bible Activity: Crossing the Red Sea

The teacher will need two ropes for this activity.

This activity is divided into two parts. The first part is when the ropes are close enough together so that everyone can "cross the Red Sea."

The second part is when the ropes are very far apart so that no one (the Egyptian army) can "cross the Red Sea" successfully.





4) Review the Lesson

"Who" Questions:

- 1. Who held out the rod of God and the sea parted?
- 2. Who changed His mind?

"What" Questions:

- 1. What led the Israelites?
- 2. What followed up behind the Israelites?

"When" Questions:

- 1. When did the Israelites cross the Red Sea?
- 2. When did Pharaoh come after the Israelites?

"Where" Questions:

- 1. Where is the Red Sea?
- 2. Where did the Israelites tell Moses that they wanted to go?

"How" Ouestions:

- 1. How did the Israelites show their faith in God?
- 2. How did God dry up the sea bed?

"Why" Questions:

- 1. Why did the Israelites complain?
- 2. Why did the Israelites praise God?

Review Activity: The Investigative Cube

Divide the class up into two teams. Make a cube with these labels on each side of the cube: who, what, when, where, how, why. When the cube is rolled to one team, they will answer the type of question that is face up on the cube. For instance, if the "why" is face up on the cube, then that team will answer a "why" question. Teachers can make up their own questions from the lesson.



5) Apply the Lesson

Name 3 things that you should stop complaining about.

Name 3 things that you should praise God for.

Story Line: God is mighty to save. God parted the Red Sea.

Adventure Number 28

Exodus 20:1-17

Story Line: God is holy.

God gave the Ten Commandments.

Disobedience to His commands is sin.



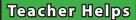
1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The Ten Commandments were given to Moses by God on two stone tablets on Mount Sinai which is located on the Sinai Peninsula across the Gulf of Suez from the larger part of Egypt.
- The Israelites had just come from Egypt where they lived for 430 years where the Egyptians had many gods.
- God is worthy of the greatest reverence, and anything else was forbidden. Regardless of how creative they might be, any image would be unworthy of worshipping Yahweh. The Israelites had lived among a people that had many idols. Now, they were to have no idols. This was forbidden by God.
- God told the Israelites that they should not use the name of God in a careless way. He is holy and His name is holy.
- God expected the Israelites to worship and rest on one particular day. It was called the Sabbath.
- The Israelite children were expected to honor their parents. This is the first commandment that attached a promise to it.
- The Israelites were expected not to take the life of another innocent human being; they were expected to not commit murder.
- The Israelites were not to commit adultery. That is, a man could have only one wife to live with and sleep with.
- They were not to steal or take anything that did not belong to them.
- They were not to give false witness. That is, if they went to court and testified, they were supposed to tell the whole truth.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

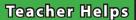
- What was the first adventure that we learned about? (creation) What did we learn in the period of time we call creation? (God is strong. God made all things. God made people to be His special friends.)
- What other adventures have we discussed? (fall) What are some of the themes that we learned from the period of time we call the fall? (Satan was thrown out of heaven because of his sin, Adam and Eve sinned, and Satan tempted Adam and Eve.)
- What is another adventure we discussed? (flood) What are some of the themes that we learned from the period of time we call the flood? (God judges sin.)
- What is another adventure we discussed? (Babel) What are some of the themes that we learned from this period of time? (Man cannot establish his own method of worshipping God. It must be God's way of worshipping Him.)
- What is another adventure we discussed? (Beginnings of a Nation) What are some of the themes that we learned from this period of time? (God called Abraham to be a great nation and a blessing to all people.)
- What is another adventure we discussed? (Moses) What are some of the themes that we learned from this period of time? (God called Moses in a special way and Moses obeyed.)



3) Teach the Lesson

What kind of laws are important in the place where you live?

Up to this point in time, the nation of Israel did not have a set of laws that they had to obey. Now, God was going to give them a very specific moral code that we call the Ten Commandments. The nation was to follow closely this moral code by obeying what God said to do and also what He said not to do.





Tell the Story

The Israelites had been travelling for two months now. They left Egypt and were on their way to their promised land. They came to Mount Sinai, a familiar place to Moses. This is where Moses heard God speak from the burning bush. It was here that Moses knew that God was calling him to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt. It was a holy place for Moses and now it would be a holy place for the rest of Israel.

Israel had lived without a moral code of obedience to their God. Living among the Egyptians, who have many gods, did not help them. Certainly, they adopted some of the religion of the Egyptians. Now, God wanted to separate Himself and enter into a new covenant with the nation of Israel. Covenants were not new to these people. They knew of the covenant with Noah. They knew of the covenant with Abraham. Now, they would receive their own covenant with God through Moses.

The people of Israel waited for Moses, who had gone to the top of the mountain to meet with God and receive this moral code of obedience. We call this code the Ten Commandments. Here is what they say and briefly what they mean.

- 1) "You must not have any other god but me." God expected loyalty to Him.
- 2) "You must not make for yourself an idol." No creative image of Him would come close to representing the glory of Yahweh.
- 3) "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God." The name of the Lord was to be treated with the highest reverence and honor.
- 4) "Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." God's people were to be people who worshipped Him. Their Creator rested and so should they.
- 5) "Honor your father and mother." Children and adults were to give special support and respect to their parents.
- 6) "You must not murder." The taking of innocent life was forbidden.
- 7) "You must not commit adultery." The marriage relationship was to be special for one man and one woman only.

Tell the Story Activity: Most Accepted and Least Accepted Commandments

Tell children to listen to all Ten Commandments. The teacher may even want to give them a copy of the Ten Commandments.

As you tell them the Ten Commandments, have the children put a circle around the commandment that is most accepted in the place where they live.

Also, have the children put an "x" beside the commandment that is least accepted in the place where they live.

When you have finished telling them this story, ask them what they thought was the most accepted and the least accepted commandments in their culture.

- 8) "You must not steal." Keep, or give away, what is your property but don't take what belongs to someone else.
- 9) "You must not testify falsely against your neighbor." Don't tell a lie.
- 10) "You must not covet." Not only were they to not take what belongs to someone else, they were to be content with what they had and not want what someone else had.



Memory Verse

Exodus 20:3 (ESV) - You shall have no other gods before me.



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Make a big poster. On the left side, list each of the Ten Commandments. On the right side, show what each commandment tells us about God.

- 1. God is exclusive God alone.
- 2. God will not share His glory it is His alone.
- 3. God's name is very special respect it.
- 4. God's day is special.

- 5. God set up the family honor that.
- 6. God shows respect for life, so should we.
- 7. God is pure and self-controlled.
- 8. God is just.
- 9. God is truth.
- 10. God is satisfied, not wanting more.

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Build A Verse

Divide into two groups. Repeat the verse as follows, each side adding one word to what the other group said.

Group 1: Exodus

Group 2: Exodus 20

Group 1: Exodus 20:3

Group 2: Exodus 20:3,

"You

Group 1: Exodus 20:3,

"You shall . . ."

Bible Activity: Parchment Commandments

Here are some examples of statements that could go on the right side of the poster. God's laws are not made up to spoil all the fun in life! They reflect God's nature and character. God's laws protect us from harm in so many ways! If you have time, help the children think of how each commandment protects us.

Timeline: Beginnings of a Nation



4) Review the Lesson

Take the top three vote getters for the "least accepted" commandment that you discussed earlier in the lesson. Discuss with your class:

- Why are these commandments not accepted in our culture?
- What does God expect from us when He gives us commandments that are not part of the moral code of the place where we live?
- Is it more important to obey God or is it more important to follow what everybody else does? Why?
- Does God expect us to obey Him all the time? Does He expect us to obey Him even when many others around us don't obey Him?



5) Apply the Lesson

- 1. <u>God</u>. In the beginning, there was a very powerful God.
- 2. <u>Man</u>. God created people to be His special friends.
- 3. <u>Sin</u>. Man and woman disobeyed God.
- 4. <u>Death</u>. God punished man and woman for their disobedience. Death, in the Bible, refers to separation.

- 5. <u>Christ</u>. God sent His one and only Son who lived a perfect life.
- 6. <u>Cross</u>. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world.
- 7. <u>Faith</u>. If anyone places their faith in Christ, God welcomes them.
- 8. <u>Life</u>. God gives eternal life to those who put their faith in Him.

Story Line: God is holy.

God gave the Ten Commandments.

Disobedience to His commands is sin.

Teacher Helps

Review Activity: Question and Answer

These four questions are to be used in conjunction with the "tell the story" part of the lesson. The teacher should note the "least accepted" commandments in the place where you live and encourage kids to live in God's culture and in obedience to Him.

Apply the Lesson Activity

The eight essential truths of the Bible's big story are very important. Which truth does the Ten Commandments emphasize and what will you do to follow the moral code that God has given?

Adventure Number 29

Exodus 32:1-35

Story Line: The Israelites rebelled against God.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The Israelites expressed concern that Moses might not return from his trip to the mountain top to meet with God. They ordered Aaron to make "gods" for them that would lead them on their journey. So, Aaron gathered gold and fashioned a golden calf.
- Two popular Egyptian gods, Hapi and Hathor, were represented as a bull and a heifer. The Canaanites worshipped Baal, thought of as a bull. In so doing, the Israelites were adopting the religions that were around them and ignoring the second commandment that God had just given them. They were to make no idols or images of Him, of any kind.
- Moses broke the tablets that God had given to him when he saw the idolatry of the Israelites.
- Aaron's compromise to please the people and yet follow God, or gods, resulted in complete failure. However, at the very same time as this compromise, Yahweh designated Aaron and his sons as priests for the Most High God.
- Yahweh communicated to Moses what was happening in the camp.
 Angrily, Moses left the mountain and came down to rebuke the people of Israel. When Aaron was confronted by Moses, he blamed the people.
- Moses returned to the mountain where he sought forgiveness from God. He even offered himself as a sacrifice for the people's sins. However, as we will learn later, God does not like human sacrifices.

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2) Begin the Lesson

- **Teacher Helps**
- Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
- Colossians 1:16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.
- Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.
- Genesis 2:8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.
- Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.
- Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope.
- Genesis 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
- Exodus 12:13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.
- Exodus 14:29 But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.
- Exodus 20:3 You shall have no other gods before me.



3) Teach the Lesson

When was the last time you saw somebody get really upset? Maybe they even got mad. What were the circumstances that led them to get so bothered about something?

Today's lesson is about Moses who was quite angry at the Israelites because of something they did. It even affected his own brother and sister.

Review Activity: Review Previous Memory Verses

The teacher should ask children to recall previous memory verses. Not all verses are listed on this page, but the teacher could ask for all 28 previous memory verses to be recited, if time permits. Ask for volunteers and maybe give them a few helps or prompts.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

Moses and Joshua set out for a long journey, a journey that only Moses could make to the top of the mountain. Moses went all the way to the top of the mountain to talk to God while Joshua only went part way up. Joshua waited patiently for Moses. The Israelites did exactly the opposite.

They thought Moses wasn't coming back and they got restless. They got the idea that Aaron would be the next best choice for a leader and they told him to just do something. It didn't matter what ... just do something!

What was Aaron thinking? He told the people to bring their gold to him and they would make a bull out of the gold earrings. Then, they began to worship the golden calf and throw a big party. They proclaimed this golden calf as their deliverer from Egypt.

WOW! God was really upset! He had just told them not to make an image of Him but they went ahead and did it anyway. And, Aaron was their leader! God could see everything and he told Moses what was going on. God was so upset that He threatened to destroy all of the people. Moses came down the mountain and was rejoined by Joshua. Joshua heard the noise from the Israelites and thought they must be at war but Moses knew better. He knew because God told him that the Israelites were having one big party and it wasn't one that honored God. When Moses saw what was going on, he threw the two tablets with the Ten Commandments down and broke them. Now, Moses was really upset also, especially at his brother, Aaron.

Moses rebuked the people. He told them they had sinned and that he would pray for them. He would go back to God, on the mountain, and make atonement for their sin. They were all in big trouble for making this golden calf, worshipping it, and partying around it.

God forgave the people for doing such a wrong thing. He told Moses that no one would be blotted out of the God's book who wanted forgiveness. God gave Moses this assurance and He also gave him another set of tablets with the Ten Commandments on them. God's grace was very evident as He forgave the people. However, He did send a plague on them for doing such a wicked thing. It was similar to when Adam and Eve sinned. God forgave them and gave them a new set of clothes. However, He also punished them by expelling them from the garden. That is how God works. He is gracious but He always punishes sin.

Tell the Story Activity: Listening Locations

Ask children to listen to the story from various locations.

- 1) Listen from the top of the mountain where Moses was. What did he see? What did he hear? What did he feel?
- 2) Listen from the middle of the mountain where Joshua was. What did he see? What did he hear? What did he feel?
- 3) Listen from the bottom of the mountain where Aaron and the Israelites were. What did they see? What did they hear? What did they feel?

Compare locations. What was it like at each of the three locations?



Exodus 20:4 (ESV) - You shall not make for yourself a carved image.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"Speak, O Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty is recommended for this lesson.



Bible Activity

The goal of this activity is to illustrate the things that are idols in our lives today. Ask the kids this question: "If there was a cow made of gold here in our classroom today, would you be tempted to bow down and worship it?" (NO! That would be wrong, like we learned in the lesson today) OK, lets say this together: "NO IDOLS!!" (Do this with the children, several times in a row) Now, let's think about the things we have as idols today. You might be thinking, I don't have any cows made of gold, I don't have any idols. But what is an idol? It is anything that takes the place of God in our lives. Is there anything that takes more of your time and attention than God does? (Be prepared ahead of time and bring in objects that could be idols to your group of kids) What about video games? TV? Sports? Bring a picture or an actual object to represent each idol that could be relevant to your class. Are you willing to look at this ______ and say "NO IDOLS?" Let's say it again, only this time I will hold up each object that could be an idol to us today. Do this together. Pray, and ask God to keep us from idols!

Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity

Review the verse a few times then divide the children into two or more teams. Have the teams form lines across from a chalk or white board or piece of paper on a chair. Place something to write with at the board in front of each team. Have the first child of each team run to the board and write the first word of the verse, then run back to the line. The next child of the team will write the next word. This continues until the verse is completed. Allow all teams to finish before playing again.



4) Review the Lesson

This lesson revolves around two main facts:

- 1. Moses worshipped God at the top of the mountain.
- 2. The Israelites worshipped the golden calf at the bottom of the mountain.



5) Apply the Lesson

Choosing who or what you worship is the application for this lesson. Israel chose to worship a false god and party around it. God judged them with a plague.

As a righteous Judge, He will choose the right consequence for your actions.

What are some good choices you can make to worship God? (pray, read Bible, go to church, and obey Him)

What can you do to NOT worship God?

When anyone chooses to not worship God, there are bad consequences for this choice.

Story Line: The Israelites rebelled against God.

Teacher Helps

Review Activity

Tell children to write down one main thing that they learned from this lesson. Then, have them share with one person in the class what they learned. They should write down each new thing someone share with them. Repeat this process several times. Then, form a master list of what the kids learned from the lesson.

Adventure Number 30

Exodus 40:17-35

Story Line: God told the Israelites to build a tent where they could meet Him and offer sacrifices for forgiveness.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The tabernacle was first built near Mount Sinai about one year after the Israelites left Egypt.
- The Israelites stayed in this same basic location for about eight and a half months. For at least 80 days, Moses was on Mount Sinai. So, for about 6 months, Israel was collecting materials needed for the tabernacle.
- Seven times in Exodus 40, Moses is said to have built the tabernacle exactly as the Lord directed.
- The two tablets of stone containing the Ten Commandments that Moses received from God were placed in the ark.
- The promise of God, "I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God" (Exodus 29:45) was fulfilled as the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34).
- The tabernacle was God's home on earth. It is where He showed His glory, where sacrifices could be made, and where sins were forgiven.
- When the lamp stands were ready, they were lit so that the place of worship would not remain in darkness (v. 25).
- The construction of the tabernacle suggest a pattern to follow. First, believers must understand God's instruction clearly. Second, carry them out exactly.
- The tabernacle taught two fundamental principles. First, God dwelt among His people. Second, He was inaccessible to them because of His holiness and their sinfulness.

Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

Adventure Number 27: The Exodus

- 1. How did God lead the Israelites to the Red Sea?
- 2. Read Exodus 14:19-20.
- 3. The cloud and the fire.
- 4. Praise God for His clear leading.

Adventure Number 28: The Ten Commandments

- 1. How many of the Ten Commandments can you name?
- 2. Read Exodus 20:1-17.
- 3. God's moral code for living.
- 4. Pray that we would follow God's commandments for living.

Adventure Number 29: The Golden Calf Rebellion

- 1. How could Aaron lead such a rebellion against God?
- 2. Read Exodus 32:1-6.
- 3. Following God with all of our heart is not an easy thing to do.
- 4. Pray that none of us would cause others to rebel against God.



3) Teach the Lesson

Have you ever seen a place where people worship? What are some different things that you have noticed about places where different religions worship?

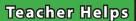
What are some things that you would expect to see at a place where Christians worship?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Ask, Read, Talk, Pray

A good review strategy from 3 previous adventures will focus on four main elements.

- 1) Ask a question.
- 2) Read the Bible.
- 3) Talk about it.
- 4) Pray to God.





Welcome to the Tabernacle Tour located in beautiful southern Israel. I want to show you the Tabernacle or tent area where God dwelled among His people. I am glad that so many of you could come today for the tour. Please feel free to ask any questions.

As we stand outside the Tabernacle, you will notice heavy curtains that are surrounding the entire Tabernacle area. With a height of over seven feet, the length of the Tabernacle is about 150 feet and the width of the Tabernacle is about 75 feet. As you can see, it is not a permanent building. That is because God wanted to dwell among His people as they travelled. So, it took many workers to load and unload the Tabernacle gear and equipment.

As we enter the Tabernacle, the first thing that we see is the bronze altar. The bronze altar is where both animal and grain sacrifices were made for the people. Because many animals died here, the priests had to be very careful to clean up all the messes.

As we proceed further into the Tabernacle, we see the bronze basin. That is where the priests cleansed their hands and feet. Before they could go any further, God expected them to be clean. Their sins were taken care of at the altar and their bodies were also clean now.

As we face the front of the Tabernacle, we see two rooms. The first room was called the Holy Place and there are three pieces of furniture. On the right side, you will see a low table. On top of this table, you will notice 12 loaves of bread. These symbolized the fellowship among the 12 tribes of Israel. Across from the table, you will notice a gold lamp stand. It looks like a stylized tree and it reminds us of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. The last item in this first room is a gold-plated hardwood altar on which incense was offered. The incense that was burned was a form of worship; only the priests could do this.

The second room was called the Holiest Place. This very special place contained the Ark, a hardwood chest that was overlaid with gold. It contained a copy of the Law that God gave to Moses. Notice the golden cherubs or angels that are on the lid. This Ark was the main symbol of the presence of God. This was a restricted access area. Only the chief priest could enter this room and he could only do that once every year. So, the Tabernacle shows us that God dwelt among His people. It also shows us that He is holy and how we can deal with our sin.

Tell the Story Activity: Tour Guide

The teacher should act as a tour guide for the telling of this lesson. As the "tour guide" goes through the tent or tabernacle, the teacher will describe what he or she sees and why it is there.

Let the children ask questions at the end about your tour. You may even want to print "Tabernacle Tour Tickets" for each "customer."

The teacher may even want to lay out a replica of the items in the Tabernacle. As you give your tour, have items similar to those in the Tabernacle for your class to see. Let them ask questions.



Exodus 40:34 (ESV) - Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Give each child a piece of construction paper, Bible verse, craft sticks and glue. Let the children glue their Bible Verse on their paper. While the children are gluing, go around and write each child's name on his/her paper. Demonstrate to the children how to glue the craft sticks onto their paper in the shape of a building (each child's building will look different – encourage their creativity). Demonstrate to the children how to tear the scraps of construction paper and glue them onto their building.

Story Line: God told the Israelites to build a tent where they could meet Him and offer sacrifices for forgiveness.

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Hop It

In large letters, write phrases of the verse on sheets of paper. On the floor, tape the papers in a mixed up fashion, but close enough for succeeding words to be reached in a step. Children should step on one word at a time in the proper order to quote the verse. Let each child have a turn of hopping on the verse.

Bible Activity

In our Bible story today, the people of Israel built a tabernacle (a place to meet God) so that they had a place to worship God. Let's build our own.



4) Review the Lesson

Agree/Disagree Statements (If you disagree, why do you disagree?)

- 1. The Tabernacle was over 75 feet tall (Disagree. It is 7.5 feet tall)
- 2. The basin in the Tabernacle was made out of gold. (Disagree. It was made out of bronze.)
- 3. The Tabernacle was located in the center of the Israelites camp because God wanted to dwell among His people. (Agree.)
- 4. The twelve loaves of bread symbolized twelve different soccer teams. (Disagree. The twelve loaves symbolized fellowship among the twelve tribes of Israel.)
- 5. The first thing you see when you enter the Tabernacle is the Holy of Holies or the Holiest Place (Disagree. The first thing you see when you enter the Tabernacle is the bronze altar.)
- 6. There were lots of rooms inside the Tabernacle. (Disagree. There were two rooms inside the Tabernacle; the Holy Place and the Holiest Place.)



5) Apply the Lesson

The Tabernacle was a great place to be because it represented God's presence. You could not come to the Tabernacle (God's presence) though without an offering.

If you truly wanted to be in God's presence, name an offering that you could bring to God that you think He would accept. What are some things that people bring to God as offerings that you are sure He won't accept?

Don't bring an offering to God that is your favorite thing or idea. Only bring an offering to God that you think He will accept. What is that offering?

Teacher Helps

Review Activity: Agree and Disagree Statements

Kids will have fun disagreeing or agreeing with these statements. You may want to make up some statements of your own for them to agree or disagree with.

Adventure Number 31 Leviticus 1:1-9

Story Line: A sacrifice was needed to worship a holy God.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- Now that Israel had a Tabernacle to worship God, they needed to learn how to worship this holy God who lived in their midst.
- The book of Leviticus gave the Israelites instructions in how to live in the presence of a holy God. Leviticus 1-7 tells about the five offerings the Israelites should make to the Lord.
- The first offering is called the burnt offering and is found in Leviticus 1. It expresses both commitment to Yahweh and cleansing from sin. Both were necessary for holy people to worship a holy God.
- The animal for the burnt offering could be a bull, sheep, goat, turtledove, or pigeon. The turtledove and pigeon were for people who could not afford a larger animal.
- The offerer put his hand on the head of the animal. This indicated that this was his offering. The priests made sure there was fire on the altar with wood arranged as it should be. The animal pieces were consumed by the fire on the altar.
- Giving the whole burnt offering was an act which symbolized giving oneself completely to Yahweh.
- In contrast to the other offerings, every part of the animal was burnt as an aroma to God.
- Abraham used this to express the supremacy of God.
- Moses used this to worship God.

Teacher Helps

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couple of months.

2) Begin the Lesson

Let's review the eras and time periods that we have studied over the last

- Put these time periods in order? (Beginnings and Beginnings of a Nation)
- Who are some of the people that we met in each era?
 - 1) Beginnings: Adam and Eve
 - 2) Beginnings: Lucifer, Cain, and Abel
 - 3) Beginnings: Noah
 - 4) Beginnings: worshippers of false gods
 - 5) Beginnings of a Nation: Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Joseph
 - 6) Beginnings of a Nation: Moses and Pharaoh
- What are some of the things that these individuals had in common?
 - 1) Adam, Abel, Noah, Abraham, and Moses all had moments when they placed their faith exclusively in God.
 - 2) An offering that required a sacrifice. (Adam, Abel, Abraham, and Moses)
 - 3) They faced Satan's temptations and attacks. (Adam, Eve, Cain, the people of Noah's day, worshippers of false gods, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and Pharaoh)
- What are some of the ways that God provided for these people? (God gave Adam and Eve clothes, God gave Noah a special boat for protection from the flood, God gave Abraham a ram to offer on Mount Moriah, and God provided protection from Pharaoh's army for Moses.)



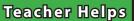
3) Teach the Lesson

Suppose that you have committed a crime: you stole something. And suppose there was a penalty for that crime ... you would have to go to jail for the rest of your life! Now, suppose that someone else said they would take your place in jail and you could go free. How would you feel? Why?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Ball Toss

Gather your class of children in a circle with a small ball. Have children take turns rolling the ball gently to each other. When a child catches the ball. have each child answer one part of the question. At this point, do not correct children if they give a wrong answer. Let each child that wants to participate and then roll the ball to another person in the class for the next question.





Tell the Story

I came from a poor family. We did not have very much. I did not know that we were poor. I liked to play with my friends who lived near me. All of us were always on the move in the wilderness. It was hot and we had to help our parents get everything ready to move. We even had to carry some of our own clothes until we got to the next place. We did not know where we were going. We just followed our parents.

After we left Egypt, I learned that God wanted to dwell or live in the middle of all of us. There were millions of people but God chose to live right in the center of our camp. Certain people even built a special place to worship God; they called it a Tabernacle. I couldn't go into the Tabernacle but my parents could. Really, they couldn't go all the way into the Holiest Place, they could just go into the courtyard. The priest was the only one who could go into the Holiest Place and he could only do that once a year.

Because my family was poor, we could not sacrifice a bull like some families could. You see, a bull was expensive and my family could never afford a bull. It didn't matter to me that we weren't able to afford some of the things that my friends' parents could afford. But I found out something really exciting about our family's offering to God and I want to tell you about it.

God told our leaders that all of us could offer a turtledove or a pigeon as a sacrifice to God. We didn't have to offer an expensive offering, like a bull, a sheep, or a goat. I found out that God just wants us to bring our best offering. If we couldn't afford a more costly offering, we could bring an offering that didn't cost as much. We just had to bring our best offering. That is all that God required.

I learned this about God. He loved me so much that I didn't have to be rich or famous to be in His presence. He liked me just the way I am. He only had one requirement: bring the best offering that you can bring. And that is what my parents did ... they brought the best offering that they could bring.

That will make me sleep better tonight because I know that God really likes my family. I know He is holy, that is why He wants us to bring an offering to Him. But, I also know that He is kind. So, whether you are rich like some of my friends and can bring a bull, a sheep, or a goat for an offering or whether you are poor like us and can only afford a pigeon, God expects a sacrifice from us to worship Him. I learned from the Tabernacle that He loves everybody and wants to forgive our sins if we ask for forgiveness.

Tell the Story Activity: First Person Kid in the Wilderness

This story is designed to be told as a child would tell the story as if he or she was a kid in the wilderness wanderings. The teacher could tell the story or you could have one of the children tell the story, as if they were there in the wilderness.



Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) - For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.



Praise and Worship

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Bible Activity

Together, we will see how many examples of this decision we can think of. Give the first group a paper with these names written on it: Cain and Abel, Adam and Eve, Lucifer. Give the second group these names: Noah, Abraham, Moses. The children should work together to come up with 2 choices each person or people had to decide. For example, Cain and Abel each had an offering, Cain's was vegetables (man's way), and Abel's was a lamb (God's way). They should have 2 answers for each person on their list. When they have finished, group 1 will ask group 2 to say either "God's way" or "man's way" as the group leader reads the list. For example, the leader for group 1 would say, Adam and Eve - "Eat from any tree they wanted to" Group 2 would respond by saying, "Man's way!" Group 1 leader would then say: "Eat from any tree in the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." Group 2 would say "God's way!" Emphasize that the people in the Bible stories didn't always understand God's commands, but they were still expected to obey, and do things God's way. They either chose to trust God, and obey Him, or they chose to follow their own ideas, even if it meant disobeying God. God can always be trusted! He is loving and good, and His commandments are for our protection and will always bring blessing.

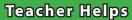
Teacher Helps

Bible Memory Activity: Word Scramble

Put each word on a piece of paper and scramble all the words or pieces of paper. Have children unscramble the words by putting them in the correct order.

Bible Activity

Divide your class into 2 groups. Appoint a leader for each group. Today we are going play a game called "God's way, or man's way." Say this: We have learned about many different people in the Bible that had to make a choice. Were they going to do things God's way, or man's way?





The theme of this lesson is this: a substitutionary sacrifice was needed to worship God. Because we are telling the Bible's one big story, what other examples from the Bible tell this same story of substitutionary sacrifice?

- 1. Adam and Eve. An animal had to die so that Adam and Eve could have clothes to cover their shame.
- 2. Cain and Abel. An animal had to die so that Abel could bring an acceptable offering to God.
- 3. Abraham and Isaac. An animal had to die so that Isaac would not die on Mount Moriah.
- 4. The Tabernacle in the Wilderness. An animal had to die for the people to receive forgiveness from God.



5) Apply the Lesson

To worship God, we must be right with Him and with others also. Is there anything that you have done that needs forgiveness from God or forgiveness from people? True worship involves recognizing a holy God and our sinfulness. Sinful people need forgiveness. If you need to be forgiven by God, what will you do? If you need to be forgiven by people, what will you do? True worshippers of God will seek forgiveness.

Story Line: A sacrifice was needed to worship a holy God.

Review Activity: The Big Story

Up to this point, we have studied at least four examples of substitutionary sacrifice found in Scripture. Can you name them?

After you name all four examples, have children tell you what happened in each story for substitutionary sacrifice to take place.

Adventure Number 32

Leviticus 16:6-34

Story Line: The sins of God's people could be removed from them.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- People sin naturally and they sin often. They need forgiveness and cleansing from their sin. Blood sacrifices were needed to accomplish both cleansing and forgiveness.
- Leviticus 1-7 gives details for atonement, forgiveness, fellowship, restoration, commitment, and worship.
- Leviticus 8-10 describe how priests would be commissioned.
- Leviticus 11-15 tells us what situations make people unclean.
- Leviticus 16 describes the annual Day of Atonement for cleansing and forgiveness.
- Leviticus 17 explains why blood was necessary for atonement and forgiveness.
- The annual Day of Atonement occurs in late September or early October and is known as Yom Kippur.
- The Day of Atonement was the only day the high priest could enter the Most Holy Place. No one else was ever allowed inside.
- The high priest would offer a bull for his own sins first. Then, he would take some of the blood and incense with hot coals into the Tabernacle. After this, he would set the coals on the golden incense altar and add incense to make a cloud of smoke between him and the Ark of the Covenant. While the cloud was in front of him, he would enter the most Holy Place and sprinkle the bull's blood on the cover, also known as the mercy seat. After this, he cleansed the sin of his family.

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2) Begin the Lesson

Remind your class that you are learning the one Big Story of the Bible. While there are many stories in the Bible, they are linked to one major theme or story in the Bible. It is a story of hope. Help your class know that story and be able to put all the lessons together, we are going to review the lessons from the past. Ask, "What are the main events that we have studied in the Bible?"

- God always existed and He is very powerful.
- God created the earth and everything in it.
- God created people to be His special friends.
- Lucifer led a rebellion against God and one third of the angels followed him.
- Lucifer, or Satan, deceived Eve. She and Adam sinned by disobeying God.
- God sent a worldwide flood that killed everybody on the earth. God chose to spare Noah and his family because Noah was a righteous man.
- God made special promises to Abraham.
- Abraham offered a ram on Mount Moriah instead of his son, Isaac.
- Jacob wrested with the angel of God and got a new name, Israel.
- The Israelites lived in Egypt for 430 years.
- Through special plagues and deliverance, God led the Israelites out of Egypt.
- God established a moral code called the Ten Commandments that the Israelites were to obey.



3) Teach the Lesson

Contamination makes something harmful or unusable. This happens regularly. When a food source gets contaminated with a disease, it becomes unusable. When a water source gets contaminated with chemicals, it becomes harmful.

God does not want us to live a contaminated life. A sinful life is a contaminated life. What has God done to prevent this?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: The Main Events

Review is a significant part of learning.
Twelve events are listed here. Write each event on a slip of paper or poster board and have children put them in chronological order.
Let them work together in small teams of 2 or 3. Time how long it takes each team to put these events in the right order. Winner gets a prize.





Tell the Story

It was a special day. There would be no other day in the year like this day. It would be a day that would be celebrated for years to come by many families. It was the Day of Atonement. To tell you why this day is so extraordinary will require a little bit of background information.

The Israelites had just been given a special moral code to live by, it was called the Ten Commandments. Now, they also had a place of worship, the Tabernacle. Between those two, God established that He is holy and that people are unholy or sinful. God showed He is a personal God by conveying the Ten Commandments to Moses directly and by dwelling in the midst of the Israelites. He was not an impersonal God as some supposed Him to be. He was personal to the Israelites.

Because God was up close and personal, He required that everyone's sin be atoned for, even the priests. To have a place of worship was not enough. To have a code of conduct was not enough. They needed to be forgiven and cleansed from sin. The code of conduct, the Ten Commandments, established what needed to be forgiven when one of the commandments was violated. The Tabernacle established where and how repentance and forgiveness were to take place.

So, once a year, around late September or early October, the Israelites honored God on that day. The priest entered the Most Holy Place on this special day. It was the only day that he could enter. On this particular day, the priest offered a bull that made atonement for his sins and for the sins of his family. He had to do this every year on this special day. He and the Israelites received forgiveness from God when they brought the right sacrifice to the right place with the right reasons, because they had violated God's moral code of living.

On this great day, the Israelites expressed sorrow for sin gratitude because God had chosen to be merciful and forgiving. The people of Israel learned a lot about God's character from the Day of Atonement. They learned that He is kind, loving, and wants to forgive all those who call on His name with the right offering. Those who had violated His moral code of living were not completely wiped out or destroyed. They were forgiven, if they wanted to be forgiven. On this day, the Day of Atonement, sins were removed. It was temporary removal, good until the next year. But, still, sins were removed and for that the Israelites were thankful.

Tell the Story Activity: Special Day

After telling this story, see if children can tell you the following about the Day of Atonement:

- Where? (Tabernacle)
- Who? (the high priest could go into the Holiest Place)
- What? (forgiveness and cleansing)
- When? (late September or early October)
- Why? (the people were sinful and needed to be forgiven by God)



Leviticus 16:30 (ESV) - For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the LORD from all your sins.



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"Salvation Belongs to Our God" by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



Bible Activity

The purpose of this activity is to help kids understand the complete forgiveness of sin. If possible, bring a globe in to class for this lesson. If no globe is available, use a ball to represent the earth. Let's pretend we wanted to go as far north as we could from where we live. Point out the approximate location of your town, and use your finger to travel north on the globe, until you get to the North Pole. Now let's go as far south as we can. (again, trace your finger southward until you reach the south pole). Can you go any further north? (No) Can you go any further south? (No). When God forgives our sin, He doesn't even remember it anymore. That's hard to understand, because it's very hard for us to forget when someone wrongs or hurts us. We might try really hard to forgive them, but it would be even harder for us to forget it forever, like God does. Have a volunteer read Psalm 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us." OK, now lets see how far to the east we can travel from our church! Move your finger east, and even when you get all the way around to the starting point, you can still keep going east. God didn't say as far the north is from the south, because then there would be a stopping place. You can never go far enough east to start going west, and never go far enough west to start going east. God's forgiveness goes on forever!

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Bean Bag Toss

With masking tape, mark off a large square on the floor, about 36 inches. Connect the opposite corners inside the square with tape to form an "X." If you have space and many students, make a second square. Give each section a number value (1,2,3,4). A bit of a distance away, put a line of tape to mark the throw line. Divide into two teams. Each student takes a turn throwing a bean bag into one of the sections. (You may make a bean bag by putting beans in a sock and closing it tight with a rubber band. Take the long part of the sock and fold it over the bean section.) If they can say the verse correctly, their team scores the amount of the section where the bean bag was thrown.





Divide the class into two teams. Give the teams one minute to write down as many statements as they can about the Day of Atonement.

- The Holiest Place could only be entered once a year.
- The priest is the only one who could go into the Holiest Place.
- Everyone needed to have their sins forgiven, even the priest.
- The Day of Atonement occurred in late September or early October.
- The blood of a bull was the only source of satisfaction to God or substitution.
- The Tabernacle was the location for the Day of Atonement activities.



5) Apply the Lesson

God can and does forgive all sin, regardless of how bad that sin is. Perhaps, someone in your class needs forgiveness from God. The sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross is our only hope of forgiveness. Without the shedding of His blood, there is no forgiveness of sin. This special day reminds all of us that we are unholy and God has a remedy for our unholiness, the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanses us from all sin.

Story Line: The sins of God's people could be removed from them.

Review the Lesson Activity: One Minute List

The teacher should give two teams one minute each to list as many facts as they can about the lesson.

After the one minute has passed, compare lists and see who has more facts. Be sure that children remember that you are looking for facts.

Adventure Number 33

Number 13:26 - 14:4

Story Line: God's people chose to believe that God could not give them the land.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The Israelites spent nearly a year at Mount Sinai. There, they received the Law. They had left Egypt about two years earlier. Now, they were headed northeast to the promised land. All seemed to be going well. Anticipation of arrival in the land that God promised to Abraham 650 years earlier must have been high.
- The Promised Land was indeed bountiful, as the 12 scouts discovered. The Bible often calls it a land flowing with milk and honey. Although the land was relatively small, 150 miles (241 kilometers) long and 60 miles (97 kilometers) wide, its lush hillsides were covered with fig, date, and nut trees. It was the land God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- The twelve scouts were sent to evaluate the number of people in the land, their strengths, and whether the land was rich or poor. God was giving them information that might weigh against their confidence in God.
- Some of the walled cities had walls as high as 60 feet. Three major groups of people occupied the land: the Amorites, the Jebusites, and the Hittites. Except for Joshua and Caleb, the scouts communicated their fear to the rest of the nation, which caused a national revolt.
- Only two of the spies believed Yahweh. The rest of Israel followed the ten spies. They complained about Yahweh, they forgot their misery in Egypt, and they predicted their wives and children would be exploited.
- This lack of faith resulted in 38 more years in the wilderness.

Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

Lay out a game board for review that looks something like this:

Time Line	Story Line	Songs	Memory Verses
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points
100 points	200 points	300 points	400 points

Go back for each of the last 10 lessons and let the children name the time line for each lesson (100 points), the story line for each lesson (200 points), the song for each lesson (300 points), and the memory verse for each lesson (400 points).

A prize should be given to the winning team. Usually, competition is a fun thing for the children. So, keep them all involved. Depending on the size of your class, you may want to limit each child to only 1 or 2 answers.

There will be a total of 11,000 points, 1000 points for each lesson (100 for the time line, 200 for the story line, 300 for the song, and 400 for the memory verse).



3) Teach the Lesson

All computers have a basic operating system. The operating system for Apple computer is ios. The operating system for PC computers is Windows. It is the language that the computer "speaks" to make it work properly.

God has an operating system for people also. It is for people to put their faith in what He said He would do; believing that what He said He would, that is what He will do. This lesson is about people who put their "operating system" in their fears, not in the promises of God.

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Bible Jeopardy

Divide the class evenly into two teams. The teams could be:

- 1) whoever has birthdays in January through June
- 2) whoever has birthdays in July through December
- This game will be continued with the review at end of the lesson.





Tell the Story

We left Egypt two years ago through God's miraculous intervention. We have spent about the last year at Mount Sinai where Moses received the Ten Commandments. Now, we were ready to move into the promised land that God had promised to Abraham over 600 years earlier. Twelve of us were selected to scout out our new land.

My name is Joshua and I was one of the twelve scouts that were selected to go into the land of Canaan. Things were going very well. All of us saw the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea. We now had a moral code of behavior from God Himself; it was called the Ten Commandments. It told us how to live. Now, for the first time, we had a written set of beliefs and behaviors we were to follow. Anticipation to enter the promised land was high.

So, twelve of us, one from each tribe, set out to search out the land. We spent 40 days in the land of Canaan. Caleb and I saw things much differently than the other ten scouts.

All of us saw that the land was very fruitful and productive. The grapes that grew in Canaan were huge. We had been living in the wilderness so when we saw how great the land was for growing crops, we were all delighted.

But, a major difference arose between the other ten scouts and us. We, Caleb and I, saw this problem coming but we believed God could and would overcome our fears. The people of the land were protected very well in their cities and some of the people were quite strong. The other ten scouts thought this should stop us; they thought there was no way that we could overcome their well fortified cities. Caleb and I disagreed. We knew God would help us overcome the people that lived in the promised land just like He helped us overcome the Egyptians. We knew that God would give it to us. The other ten scouts convinced the rest of the Israelites that taking the land would be impossible. Their report resulted in a huge revolt against our God and against Moses.

We ended up spending another 38 years in the wilderness because of our unbelief at Kadesh Barnea. Had we trusted God, we would have entered the promised land much sooner. Caleb and I, and everyone under the age of 20 were the only ones who would ever see the promised land. If the others had just believed God, they would have seen and lived in the promised land.

Tell the Story Activity: Joshua Tells the Story of Faith or Consequences

The teacher should tell this story as if he or she was Joshua. The teacher may want to dress up as Joshua. As Joshua tells the story, your class should listen for:

- 1) What is the truth about what God had promised Abraham?
- 2) What are the consequences of not believing that truth?



Numbers 13:31 (ESV) - Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are."



Bible Activity

Teach the song/poem called "12 men went to spy on Canaan." The words to the song are in black, motions are in red. Tune is in blue, key of G major.

G G G G D B D E E D D E F# G

12 men went to spy on Canaan, 10 were bad and 2 were good.

Shield eyes and look around. Hold up 10 fingers, thumbs down for bad, hold up pointer on each hand for "2" and then thumbs up for "good".

G G G G G G D B D E E D D E F# G

What do you think they saw in Canaan, 10 were bad and 2 were good.

Palms up, questioning look on your face, Hold up 10 fingers, thumbs down for bad, hold up pointer on each hand for "2" and then thumbs up for "good."

G G G D E E D A A A G F# E D

Some saw giants big and strong. Some saw grapes on clusters long.

Flex muscles in arms, then hold up imaginary grapevine with left hand, trace imaginary cluster of grapes from the vine, all the way down to the floor.

G G G D E E D E E D D E F# G

Some saw God was in it all, 10 were bad and 2 were good.

Point up to heaven for "God," Hold up 10 fingers, thumbs down for bad, hold up pointer on each hand for "2" and then thumbs up for "good."

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: The Telephone Game

Memorize this verse using The Telephone Game. Have your class form one line, then whisper into the ear of the first person in line a phrase of this verse, have that person repeat the phrase to the next person. Do this until all have quoted the first phrase. Then do the same thing with the second phrase, the third phrase, and so on until you have memorized the verse.



Continue your review game for points that you began at the start of the lesson.

- For 100 points, how many scouts were sent out? (12)
- For 200 points, how many days did they scout out the land? (40)
- For 300 points, where did they leave from and return? (Kadesh Barnea)
- For 400 points, who were the two scouts who brought back a good report? (Joshua and Caleb)
- Bonus question worth 500 points: What is the theme of this lesson? (God's people chose to believe that God would not give them the land.)



5) Apply the Lesson

Lack of faith in God affected the whole nation. How can you be a "faith scout" and not an "unbelief scout?"

- Complain about circumstances or praise God for circumstances?
- Remember what God said and obey or disregard what God said?
- Tell others what God can do or tell others that God is unable?

Story Line: God's people chose to believe that God could not give them the land.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: Bible Jeopardy

This review activity is a continuation of the review game at the beginning of the lesson.

Adventure Number 34

Number 21:4-9

Story Line: People were healed if they believed God and looked at the bronze snake.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- From Psalm 78, we learn that Israel was complaining because they were not faithful to God, they did not obey God, and forgot the great miracles God had done for them.
- In Number 21, a new chapter begins in the history of redemption.
- They had bread enough to eat, but they complained that they had no bread. They were disgusted with the bread God gave them.
- That part of the desert where the Israelites now were, near the gulf of Akaba, is infested with venomous reptiles, particularly lizards, which raise themselves in the air and swing themselves from branches; and scorpions, which, being in the habit of lying in long grass, are particularly dangerous to the barelegged, sandaled people of the East.
- Moses was told to put a bronze snake on a pole. When the Israelites just looked at the bronze snake, they would be healed.
- It was not the bronze snake that healed them but looking at the bronze snake that healed them, which represented their belief in God's word.
- If they refused to look at the snake, then they would die from the bite of the poisonous snake.
- Israel realized their sin and confessed their sin to God.
- Those who had quarreled about God did not want Him as their best friend.
- God made provision for the people so they would have relief from His judgment.

Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



2) Begin the Lesson

One of the goals for review is for children to see the Bible's big story. Today, we want to ask children to give us some of the recurring themes we see so far in that story. For instance, let children volunteer their answers, but you might use the following examples as recurring themes in the Bible's one big story:

God's Amazing Power:

- Creation
- Worldwide Flood
- Red Sea Crossing

Animal Substitution:

- Adam and Eve
- Abraham and Isaac on Mount Moriah

Faith that Pleases God:

- Noah
- Abraham
- The Passover

God Punishes Sin:

- Adam and Eve
- Unbelief at Kadesh Barnea



3) Teach the Lesson

Complaining and arguing are two things God really doesn't like at all. Many people have a tendency to complain about their circumstances. If any thing at all happens different than what they hoped for, they complain.

This lesson is about a bunch of complainers. They found fault with three different things. What are some things that you are most likely to complain about?

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: One Big Story

The teacher may want to give the class the topics such as: God's Amazing Power, Animal Substitution, Faith that Pleases God, and God Punishes Sin. Then, let the children tell Biblical examples of those stories we have previously studied.

The purpose of this activity is for children to see recurring themes in the Bible's one big story.





Tell the Story

It was another change of plans. Moses decided to enter the Promised Land from the East, not from the South. The Israelites were already upset at all the delays at getting into their new homeland. Now, Moses' new plans were all it took to get them complaining, bickering, and arguing. Instead of following their leader who was following God, they developed another national rebellion. This time the rebellion looked like this: they didn't like the water ... they didn't like the food ... and they didn't like the wilderness wandering. The complaining caught on and soon almost everyone was caught up in the "bad food, bad water, and bad land mentality."

Now, it was time for the Lord to punish sin, again! This time, He sent poisonous snakes. The bites of these poisonous snakes were deadly. Many people died because of these snake bites. When people started dying, there was a feeling among the living that they had done the wrong thing, they had sinned. So, they went to Moses and asked him to pray for them, which he did. Moses prayed for them and God sent a special answer for their problem.

The remedy for their sin of complaining came in a much different form than anyone expected. The Lord told Moses to get a bronze snake and put it on a tall pole. Anyone who looked at the bronze snake on the pole would be healed of their deadly snake bite. It just required faith, that was all. Of course, Moses obeyed God. He put the bronze snake on the pole. Who else would obey? Now, would they listen to what God said to do and then do it?

We don't know how many people would listen to the voice of God and obey it. But, we do know that Moses listened and obeyed the voice of God. It was a reminder that God expects faith in Him even when circumstances don't look as promising as what we may like sometimes. The Israelites had circled around Kadesh for 38 years. They were tired of the wilderness, they were tired of the food, and they were tired of the lack of water. When Moses changed their plans to enter their new homeland, they complained. That was not a good idea and of course, God punished them for their complaining.

Now, perhaps many people learned a vital lesson ... maybe they learned a couple of vital lessons. They learned that God doesn't like complaining. They learned that God does like faith; not just any kind of faith. He likes the kind of faith that people put in Him that looks like this: what He said is what He will do! God always honors His own word and He expected the Israelites to do the same.

Tell the Story Activity: Complaining

Before telling the story, tell your class to find as many things to complain about as possible. Then, have your class tell others what to complain about.

If it is possible to bring in a tall pole and an imitation of a snake on a pole, use that when Moses lifts up the pole with the bronze snake.



John 3:14 (ESV) - And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

"Salvation Belongs to Our God" by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



Bible Activity

Give each child a card or piece of paper, and have them write down as many things as they can think of to be thankful for. Give children about 5 minutes to work on this. At the end of 5 minutes, let each child share a few of the things on their list. Ask: "Can you think of anything in the whole world that you would like to have that you don't have? Of course! There are always things we would like to have, but we can choose to be content by thinking of and thanking God for the blessings He has given us."

The Israelites were short on contentment and thankfulness! What did they have to be thankful for? (water from the rock, deliverance from the Egyptians, manna from heaven) How did they feel when they complained to Moses? (Grumpy, mad)

How did they feel when the snakes started biting people and killing them? (scared, sorry, ashamed)

Did God give all of them what they deserved? (no, He offered a way of escape from the consequences of their sin)

Were all of them forgiven? (no, just the ones who turned from their sin and obeyed God by looking up to the bronze snake)

Teacher Helps

Memory Verse Activity: Graffiti

Graffiti can be used to help children memorize this verse. Write each word of this verse on a separate piece of paper. Then have children put the words in order in groups of 2 or 3. When each group can put the verse together in order, they will probably have this verse memorized.

Bible Activity: Thankfulness

Thankfulness activity - Start by asking the question: "Have you ever been around a person who complained all the time? Do you enjoy spending time with a person like that? Are those people usually the ones who have nothing to be thankful for, and that's why they complain?" NO!! So ... let's see how many blessings we can count today!



Review the lesson and see which of these you can find.

- Sin of unbelief and rebellion
- Judgment from the Lord
- Confession
- Prayer for deliverance
- God's provision
- Faith
- Life



5) Apply the Lesson

Complain or Be Thankful - You Choose! It is God's will for us to be thankful. It is also God's will for us not to complain. Of the following areas: what will you do? It is a choice that you need to make. Will you choose to be thankful or will you choose to complain?

- School
- Parents
- Friends
- Your brother or sister
- Something else

Story Line: People were healed if they believed God and looked at the bronze snake.

Teacher Helps

Review the Lesson Activity: Scripture Search

The teacher should have the class break up into groups of 2 or 3. Have them find each of the 7 main ideas in the lesson which are listed to your left. For younger children, or non-readers, the teacher should help them by looking up verses.

Adventure Number 35

Deuteronomy 6:1-10

Story Line: People who followed God were to be completely loyal and obedient to Him.



1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- After travelling for almost 40 years, the Israelites were now ready to enter the land promised to Abraham. All those who were 20 years old or older in Kadesh were now dead with the exception of Moses, Caleb, and Joshua.
- Before Moses died, he wanted to prepare the next generation to enter this special place. Since none of them remembered Mt. Sinai, Moses refreshed this new generation with instructions on how to follow the Lord their God.
- The book of Deuteronomy is a set of sermons from Moses to this new generation. Moses began by giving a historical background of what Yahweh had done (Deuteronomy 1-4). He followed that by repeating the Ten Commandments that were issued nearly 40 years ago on Mount Sinai (Deuteronomy 5). Then, Moses emphasized the impact of the Ten Commandments on the Israelites (Deuteronomy 6-11).
- The nation of Israel was now ready for a land that was flowing with milk and honey. They had missed their chance 40 years earlier. Now, Moses warned them how to prepare to enter the land. Numbers 13 and 14 explained where they went wrong.
- They should also know that He is the only Deity in the world. No other deity would ever successfully challenge Him.
- The response of every Israelite to this truth was simple: love the Lord your God with everything that you have and everything that you are. Complete loyalty to Yahweh was expected.

Teacher Helps

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2) Begin the Lesson

Ask children to help you with previous memory verses. Maybe say something like, "Who remembers what (verse) says?"

- Adventure 5: Genesis 2:8
- Adventure 6: Isaiah 14:12
- Adventure 7: Genesis 3:6
- Adventure 8: Romans 5:12
- Adventure 9: Genesis 3:15
- Adventure 10: Romans 8:20
- Adventure 11: Genesis 3:21
- Adventure 12: Leviticus 19:2
- Adventure 13: Genesis 4:7
- Adventure 14: Genesis 5:1
- Adventure 15: Genesis 16:8
- Adventure 16: Genesis 11:9
- Adventure 17: Genesis 12:3
- Adventure 18: Genesis 19:29

- Adventure 19: Genesis 15:6
- Adventure 20: Genesis 22:14
- Adventure 21: Genesis 32:30
- Adventure 22: Genesis 39:2
- Adventure 23: Exodus 1:12
- Adventure 24: Exodus 3:14
- Adventure 25: Exodus 12:12
- Adventure 26: Exodus 12:13
- Adventure 27: Exodus 14:29
- Adventure 28: Exodus 20:3
- Adventure 29: Exodus 20:4
- Adventure 30: Exodus 40:34
- Adventure 31: Leviticus 17:11
- Adventure 32: Leviticus 16:30
- Adventure 33: Numbers 13:31
- Adventure 34: John 3:14

3) Teach the Lesson

What are the most important things these people have ever told you?

- Your mom
- Your dad
- One of your teachers

- One of your friends
- A family member

Today's lesson will summarize the most important thing that God has ever told us.

Teacher Helps

Begin the Lesson Activity: Memory Verse Review

The last 30 memory verses are given here. Divide the children up into two teams and see which team can tell you the most memory verses. Give the teams five minutes and they must work together.

The teacher can provide a few helps.

Teacher Helps



Tell the Story

The journey was almost over. The Israelites had wandered in the wilderness for almost 40 years. Most of the people who started the journey were dead now, buried somewhere in the wilderness. Moses was getting up in years but he still had a lot of strength. To prepare the Israelites for their new land, Moses delivered a series of sermons. It was helpful because he wanted the next generation to be better prepared to know and obey God. The last generation had failed miserably.

Moses knew that the nation was at a crossroads. The last generation was a bunch of complainers that focused less on Yahweh and more on circumstances. God had to punish all the adults over 20 years old for that. These people never got to enter the land promised to Abraham. It was their choice to complain that hurt them the most. Now, the next generation was ready to enter the land. But, they had not seen the great miracles of the past. Miracles like the ten plagues, the crossing of the Red Sea, and the miraculous provisions that God had made for the nation. Their shoes did not even wear out. Think of that ... they wandered for 40 years in the desert and they used the same pair of shoes.

The next generation needed to know about all this. The next generation needed to know who God is and what He is like. They didn't learn this from their parents like they should have. So, Moses delivered a sermon series to the nation. This sermon series was to help the Israelites worship Yahweh. You see, they were surrounded by nations that believed in many gods but not the true and unique God. They came from Egypt where there were many false gods. They were going to Canaan ... same thing, a lot of false gods. Because their parents did not instruct them about the one true God, Moses would have to do that.

It was like new marching orders for the new generation. The new marching orders were for everybody, kids and adults. Adults were instructed to tell their kids about this great God. They were supposed to talk about this great God all the time. Like at dinner time, when they travelled, in the morning and in the evening ... almost every time was to be used. This great God wanted adults and children to know who He was and what He had done. So, when they entered the new land, the Israelites would know Who got them there and what they were supposed to do when they got there. One last thing, God provided another great leader. His name was Joshua and he would lead this nation into their new land with their new marching orders for this next generation.

Tell the Story Activity: The Last Words of Moses

Moses gives a glimpse as he ends his time as leader of the great nation of Israel. These are his last words. What does he say in this last address to the nation that is most significant to you? Write it down and share it with a friend in class at the end of the lesson.



Deuteronomy 6:5 (ESV) - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.



Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at www.itunes.com. However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

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Bible Activity

Craft - Making Phylacteries

Cut strips of paper, about 1 inch wide by about 12 inches long. You will need 3 or 4 strips for each child. Paper that is colored or has a pattern printed on one side is nice, but not necessary. If you are using white paper, it would be fun to let the children color one side of the paper, if you have time. On the other side, have the children write Bible verses. Today's memory verse should be one, and the others can be whatever you choose. Some suggestions: Joshua 1:8 (this is next week's memory verse), and 2 other verses you would like to use from previous lessons. After the verses have been copied onto the papers, wrap each paper around a pencil to form a cylinder shape. Tape the end to keep it rolled up, then thread the rolls onto the yarn to form a necklace. Tell the children that the Israelites were instructed to keep God's Word close to them at all times. They wore special jewelry with Bible verses to help them remember God's commands. They were to talk about God's Word all the time! God especially wanted them to teach their children God's ways. Living a life that is pleasing to God is not easy! We need to keep God's Word in our minds all the time. Let's say our verse together one more time.

Teacher Helps

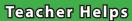
Memory Verse Activity: Pictures

Have children memorize this verse using pictures for any word in the verse. For instance, the teacher may use a triangle for "the LORD God" or a red heart for the "love." "Soul" could be a picture of a person and "might" could be visualized with a picture of a strong right arm.

Bible Activity: Making Phylacteries

Supplies needed for each child:

- 4 strips of paper
- pencil
- 1 piece of yarn or string 24" long
- tape





Have children simplify the lesson into 10 words or less using their own words. What are their answers? When children simplify the story of the lesson into ten words or less, they will probably say something like these possibilities:

- The Lord our God is one Lord.
- Love the Lord with all your heart.
- God wants us to be totally obedient to Him.
- Teach children who God is.
- Talk about God all the time.
- Don't worship other gods.



5) Apply the Lesson

The Lord wants us to have an intimate personal relationship with Him and obey Him.

Obedience is emphasized regularly in Deuteronomy. Encourage daily obedience. Talk about practical ways that children can obey God.

- With all your heart (what you desire)
- With all your soul (what you think about)
- With all your strength (what you do)

Story Line: People who followed God were to be completely loyal and obedient to Him.

Review the Lesson Activity: Simplify

Simplify can be a useful game for the children. The teacher can give each team of 2 or 3 kids about 1-2 minutes to come up with the most significant 10 words of this lesson.