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Look, Listen and Live

Book 4

Servants of GOD

Sunday School Lessons

from Ruth, Samuel and Kings



Book 4
Servants of GOD

Based on the Sunday School Lessons published by the AIC Sunday School Committee, Juba, Southern Sudan.

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CONTENTS

Lesson 1.....	A Family Flees from Famine
Lesson 2.....	Naomi and Ruth Return to Israel
Lesson 3.....	Ruth in the Harvest Field
Lesson 4.....	Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor
Lesson 5.....	Boaz and the Elders of Bethlehem
Lesson 6.....	Mary and the Angel of God
Lesson 7.....	Hannah Prays to God
Lesson 8.....	The Child Samuel in the House of God
Lesson 9.....	Samuel Prays for Israel
Lesson 10.....	Samuel Anoints Saul with Oil
Lesson 11.....	Saul Tears Samuel's Robe
Lesson 12.....	Jesus in the House of God
Lesson 13.....	David the Brave Shepherd
Lesson 14.....	David and the Giant Goliath
Lesson 15.....	Saul Tries to Kill David
Lesson 16.....	David Spares Saul's Life
Lesson 17.....	David is Made King
Lesson 18.....	David and Bathsheba
Lesson 19.....	A House for God
Lesson 20.....	Jesus comes to Jerusalem
Lesson 21.....	The Birds Feed Elijah
Lesson 22.....	Elijah and the Fire of God
Lesson 23.....	Elijah goes to Heaven
Lesson 24.....	Jesus Appears with Moses and Elijah

INTRODUCTION

These lessons were written in response to some cries for help from young people who had been asked to teach in Sunday Schools. They are based on the Look, Listen and Live set of pictures (Book 4, yellow cover) published by Global Recordings Network Australia (formerly Gospel Recordings), whom we would like to thank for permission to use their material and encouragement to go ahead with the project. These pictures are an all important visual aid in the lessons. A reproduction of the main picture or pictures needed in each lesson has been printed at its beginning.

This book deals only with the lesson section of the Sunday School and each is planned to last about twenty minutes. The rest of the Sunday School time, composed of singing, prayer, Bible reading, quizzes and other activities, is left to the teachers to plan. We recommend that each lesson should end with a short prayer and song based on that week's teaching. The lessons are aimed at a fairly wide age range of children from 7 to 12 years.

When they were first tried out, the teachers wrote each lesson out week by week in an exercise book so they were purposely kept quite short. Some lessons have been expanded but the idea was to give a fairly brief but comprehensive outline for the teacher to fill out during their own preparation.

The aim printed at the top of each story directs the teaching of that lesson. To make the lessons suitable for children, we cannot teach the whole truth about God in each lesson. Instead the teacher should concentrate on one or two truths in each lesson so that children gradually come to know more about God.

The lesson is not meant to be read to the class from the book. It aims to be the teacher's walking stick and not a pair of crutches.

AIC Sudan Sunday School Committee.

TEACHER INSTRUCTION

READ THIS BEFORE EVERY LESSON

Teacher's Preparation

Ask yourself these questions:

1. Have you prayed and asked GOD to help you prepare the lesson?
2. Have you read the plan of the lesson and learned the aim?
3. Have you read the Bible passage and do you know the story thoroughly?
4. Do you have your pictures, objects, questions and other teaching aids ready?
5. Have you planned your revision step?

Revision

This is where you make strong the meaning of the lesson. Do not take longer than 4 minutes. Use some of these ideas or plan your own ideas.

1. Show the picture again and get the children to tell you the story.
2. Plan a quiz.
3. Tell the students again the aim of the lesson.

Lesson 1 A Family Flees From Famine

Picture 1

Aim

To show that the refugee and famine problems we know in Africa today are not new. These problems were known in Bible times.

Reading: Ruth 1:1-5

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:1

I look to the mountains; Where will my help come from?

Note: During the next 8 weeks Psalm 121 will be learnt. A new verse will be learnt each week. The theme of this Psalm is "The Lord is our Protector".



Lesson Plan

Introduction

The children of the Sunday School Class will all know families who have left their homes in the rural areas and walked many miles and with much difficulty to the towns. Why do people do this? They have come to find food and safety in the towns.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. During the times of the Judges (Look, Listen and Live Book 3) there was a famine in Israel. A man called Elimelech with his wife Naomi and two sons lived in Bethlehem. The name Bethlehem means House of Brad. But there was no bread. There was famine. What should Elimelech do to feed his family?
2. Elimelech took his family to the land of Moab. This was fifty miles south of Bethlehem. *Show Picture 1.* Describe how they had to walk there and could take only what they could carry.
3. Moab there was food but they were foreigners. The language, customs and religion were all different. The Moabites did not worship the Lord God Almighty. Think of the difficulties Elimelech and family would have.
4. Sadness came to the family when Elimelech died. The two sons married women from Moab. But then the two sons also died.
5. Ten years after she came to Moab, Naomi was left alone in this foreign country. She had no husband and no sons, just two foreign daughters-in-law. She was a very sad woman..

Teach Memory Verse

This verse asks a question. Ask the class what the answer is. The answer is also in the second verse of the Psalm.

Israel's neighbours were heathen tribes worshipping idols. They built altars to their gods on the tops of mountains (the highest place). But the Psalm writer knew that help came from the living God.

Our Response to the Story

Talk about the famines there have been in Africa in recent years, especially in Ethiopia and Sudan. Perhaps you have a personal story to tell here. In October 1988 Juba had no food. In November 1988 the Lutheran World Federation began flying food into the town. Christians from all over the world gave food and money for this air-lift.

Lesson 2 Naomi And Ruth Return To Israel

Picture 2

Aim

To show that Ruth's commitment to her mother-in-law Naomi is an outstanding example of love and loyalty.

Reading: Ruth 1:6-22

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:2

My help will come from the Lord Who made heaven and earth.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

As the class what are the reasons that will make refugees and displaced people return to the countries or areas they came from originally. The most important reasons for returning are that the home area has food and is safe.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. *Show Picture 1.* Naomi and her family were refugees. Now Naomi's husband and sons had died and she had no relative in this foreign land of Moab. There was no one to care for her and her two daughters-in-law from Moab called Orpah and Ruth. Then Naomi heard that there had been good harvests in her home country of Israel so she decided to go home, v. 6.
2. Naomi, Orpah and Ruth all set out together. Then Naomi told Orpah and Ruth to go back to their relatives in Moab. They had been good daughters-in-law but Naomi had no more sons to give them to marry. They must start their own homes again. With great sadness Orpah went back to Moab, v. 6-14.
3. But Ruth pleaded to stay with Naomi. She said: "Don't make me leave you. Where you go I will go; wherever you live I will live. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God". So Ruth accompanied Naomi to Bethlehem in Israel, v. 14-17. *Show picture 2.* Point out Orpah returning to Moab.
4. Everyone in Bethlehem was excited to see Naomi when she returned with Ruth. But they also found it difficult to recognise Naomi after ten years. Sadness had probably changed her face. Naomi talked about changing her name to Mara which means bitterness. Naomi means pleasant.
5. But Naomi had her very loyal and helpful daughter-in-law living with her. Read Ruth's words to Naomi again, v.16,17. Ruth was willing to leave her own family and country and religion to stay with Naomi who was a very poor widow.

Teach Memory Verse

In the next lesson we will see a practical example of this verse in how God cared for Ruth and Naomi. Review previous verse.

Our Response to the Story

Ruth was willing to give herself to Naomi without expecting anything back. Challenge the children this week to do something for someone in their community without expecting anything in return. They should aim "to be a Ruth".

Lesson 3 Ruth In The Harvest Field

Picture 3

Aim

To show how God provided for Naomi and Ruth.

Reading: Ruth 2:1-23.

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:3.

He will not let you fall; Your protector is always awake.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the class how refugees and displaced people get food. They should be able to tell you that the government of the country they are staying in often asks other governments and aid agencies for help. Families try to help each other.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Naomi and Ruth were very poor. It was harvest time so Ruth offered to go to the fields and pick up any corn (maize) the harvesters dropped, 2:2,3.
2. Later the owner of the field, a rich man called Boaz arrived to see how the harvest was going. He noticed the foreigner Ruth at work, 2:4,5. *Show picture 3.*
3. The man in charge spoke very well of Ruth, 2:6.
4. Boaz spoke to Ruth and was very helpful to her even though he was a rich man and she was a poor foreign girl.
Boaz was very impressed with Ruth's care of her mother-in-law Naomi, 2:8-13.
5. Boaz made sure Ruth had enough to eat and gave special instructions to the harvest workers.
6. In the evening Ruth took home nearly ten kilograms of grain (about two large tinfoils). Describe how she took it home and showed Naomi. It would have been a very joyful evening, 2:17,18.
7. When Naomi heard that Ruth had worked in Boaz's field she was delighted and praised the Lord. Boaz was a relative of Naomi's dead husband, 2:18-20.
8. Ruth worked in Boaz's fields until the end of harvest, 2:21-23.

Teach Memory Verse

Also review previous verses.

Our Response to the Story

God led Ruth to work in Boaz's field after she showed she was willing to do some very hot and tiring labour to provide food for herself and her mother-in-law.

Hudson Taylor was a famous missionary to China. He believed in praying to God for his needs and not asking people. One day his cook came to him and said: "We have opened the last bag of rice." Hudson Taylor replied: "Then the Lord's time must surely be near to meet our needs." Before the bag was finished a friend sent a gift of money to buy whatever was needed.

God provided for Naomi and Ruth. He provided for Hudson Taylor and his family. He provides for us today. Ask the class if they can give you an example of God's provision for them. The teacher should have an example ready too.

To end the lesson follow the example of Naomi, v. 20 and praise God for His provision for us and the people He uses to do it.

Lesson 4 Ruth And Boaz At The Threshing Floor

Picture 4

Aim

To show that just as Ruth had cared for Naomi, now Naomi cared for Ruth. She helped Ruth find the husband God had planned for her.

Reading: Ruth 3:1-18

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:4

The protector of Israel never doses or sleeps.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the girls in the class what they most want in life. They will probably answer they want a house, a husband and a family.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Ruth and Naomi lived together but Ruth was still a young woman. Naomi knew she should have a home of her own. So Naomi began to make plans for Ruth, v. 1.
2. It was the custom in Israel that when a man died his nearest relative could marry the dead man's widow. Boaz was a relative of Ruth's late husband, v. 2.
3. Naomi told Ruth to make herself look beautiful. She was to follow the custom of the country and lie down quietly at Boaz's feet when he had fallen asleep, v. 3-5.
4. Ruth carefully followed Naomi's instructions, v. 6-7. *Show picture 4.*
5. Describe what happened in verses 8-14. The teacher could pretend to Boaz. Act out his surprise at finding Ruth lying at his feet. Boaz treats Ruth with great respect. He admires her and is very complimented that she wants to be his wife.
6. Boaz was careful to protect Ruth's character and sent her home before daybreak. He gave her a gift of grain.
7. Naomi listened eagerly to all Ruth had to tell her, and gave her some very good advice. She must be patient, v. 14-18.

Teach Memory Verse

The God of Israel who is our God, watched over Boaz and Ruth and watches over us.

Review the previous verses of Psalm 121.

Our Response to the Story

Even though this lesson is being given to children it is not too early to talk about marriage. Emphasise that both Ruth and Boaz treated each other with respect and they both admired each other. These are very good foundations for marriage.

Suggestion: Finish the lesson with a short prayer about the need for Christian homes and ask God to help Sunday School members marry Christian husbands and wives.

Lesson 5 Boaz And The Elders Of Bethlehem

Picture 5

Aim

To show how Ruth, a foreigner who became God's obedient servant was blessed.

Reading: Ruth 4:1-22

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:5

The Lord will guard you;

He is by your side to protect you.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the class what happens when there is a problem in the community. The elders often meet together to discuss it.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Boaz had a problem so he did the same thing. He sat down with the elders of Bethlehem. They met by the town gate, 4:1.
2. Boaz was not Elimelech's closest relative. Elimelech was Naomi's late husband. Boaz called the closest relative to sit down with him and the town elders to discuss the selling of a field that belonged to Elimelech, 4:1-4.
3. At first the closest relative wanted to buy the field, but he changed his mind when he heard that this also meant taking care of the widow Ruth, 4:4-6.
4. The way was now clear for Boaz to marry Ruth. To seal the agreement, the closest relative gave up all claim to Elimelech's possessions and gave Boaz one shoe. This was the custom in Israel, 4:7-10. *Show picture 5.*
5. Ruth and Boaz were married. God blessed them with a son called Obed. There was great rejoicing. The local women were full of praise for Ruth even though she was a foreigner, 4:13-16.
6. This boy grew up to be the grandfather of the famous King David. It was into this family that God chose His Son Jesus Christ to be born.

Teach Memory Verse

Think of how God protected Ruth.

Review the previous verses of the Psalm.

Our Response to the Story

Ruth left her own home and came to a foreign land to look after Naomi. She kept her word. (See 1:16,17.) God honoured Ruth and blessed her with a new home. Ruth is an example to us of trust in God in all circumstances. We can do the same.

Lesson 6 Mary And The Angel Of God

Picture 6

Aim

To show how another young woman named Mary became God's servant and was blessed.

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:6

The sun will not hurt you during the day

Nor the moon during the night.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

When a young woman is engaged or booked to be married there are many preparations to be made, especially as the day draws near. Different people come to help. Talk about this with the class.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Mary was engaged to a man called Joseph. She had a very unexpected visitor.
2. Mary was in her home when she was greeted by the angel Gabriel, the messenger of God. Gabriel's greeting was very important because he told Mary that God's presence was with her, 1:26-28. *Show picture 6.*
3. Mary was very frightened, but Gabriel encouraged her. He said she had pleased God, 1:29,30.
4. Gabriel gives Mary God's message that she would be the mother of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Every young Jewish girl wondered if God would choose her to be the mother of the Messiah, 1:31-33.
5. Mary asked how God would do this as she was a virgin. She was not doubting God's plan. The angel told her the power of God's Holy Spirit would bring about this miracle, 1:34, 35, 37.
6. Mary accepted God's plan for her even though it was so unusual and called herself His servant, 1:38.

Teach Memory Verse

The whole Psalm shows that God protects His servants. Review the previous verses.

Our Response to the Story

Mary, like Ruth, accepted God's plan for her even though it was so unusual. She had great joy in accepting this plan. Read Luke 1:46-49. She was God's servant. He had chosen her. God wants us to be His servants also. That is a great privilege. It is what He created us to be. As obedience brought blessing to Ruth and Mary, it will bring blessing to us today.

Lesson 7 Hannah Prays To God

Picture 7

Aim

To show how Hannah, a servant of God, took her troubles to God in prayer.

Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-20

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:7

The Lord will protect you from all danger; He will keep you safe.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the class what makes a husband and wife unhappy in their home. Sometimes there may not be enough money, or there are problems from drunkenness, or perhaps the wife is unable to have children.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. A woman called Hannah loved her husband Elkanah very much. And he loved her, but she had no children. This distressed her very much, 1:1,2.
2. Peninnah, Elkanah's second wife, upset Hannah and made her miserable. She tormented Hannah so much about her being childless that she could not eat, 1:6,7.
3. Every year the family went to the House of God in the land of Israel to worship. They took animal offerings to sacrifice to God. Hannah always found this time the most difficult. Since God had not given her children, her offering to God had to be less than Peninnah's, 1:3-8.
4. One year Hannah was so upset that she left the family meal and went to cry out her sadness to God in prayer. Hannah made a promise to God. If God gave her a son she would commit his life to God, 1:9-11.
5. Eli the High Priest watched Hannah praying. *Show picture 7.* Because Hannah was so upset, Eli thought she was drunk. He was angry with her. What a sad mistake Eli made, 1:13-14.
6. Hannah corrected Eli's terrible mistake and Eli blessed her.
7. God heard Hannah's prayer and gave her a son who was called Samuel. This name means "asked of God".

Teach Memory Verse

God kept Hannah in her time of trouble.

Review previous verses.

Our Response to the Story

Hannah is another servant of God who provides up with a good example to follow. She was very miserable and poured out her troubles to God, 1:15. God is there to hear us and after her prayer Hannah was at peace. She was no longer sad and she was able to eat, 1:18. We should do what Hannah did.

Lesson 8 The Child Samuel In The House Of God

Picture 8

Aim

To show that even a young child can be a servant of God.

Reading: 1 Samuel 1:21-28; 2:18-20,26; 3:1-21

Memory Verse: Psalm 121:8

He will protect you as you come and go Now and forever



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Talk about how children help in the house. From the time a young child learns to walk they like to copy their parents. Get the class to tell how children try to help.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. *Show picture 7.* By questioning the class, briefly review last week's lesson about Hannah's prayer and the birth of Samuel. Remind the class that Samuel means "asked of God", and Hannah's promise to God, 1:11.
2. When Samuel was still a little boy about four or five years old, Hannah and her husband Elkanah took him to Eli the High Priest at the House of God. Hannah was fulfilling her promise to God, and Samuel was to help serve God in the temple even though he was still very young, 1:24-28.
3. Every year Hannah and Elkanah visited Samuel and brought him new clothes. Young Samuel was learning to be a servant of God and he knew God was with him. He probably helped Eli keep the temple clean and the lamps filled with oil; delivered messages and learnt to sing Psalms or songs used in worship. He did many of the jobs children do at home today. People thought well of young Samuel, 2:18-20,26.
4. In those days many people in Israel did not worship God sincerely. God did not speak to them because they would not listen. But Samuel was learning differently, 3:1.
5. One night Eli, who was almost blind now, was resting while Samuel was watching the lamp in front of the Covenant Box in the temple. This box was the holiest place in the temple as it contained the commandments that God gave Moses. It also was a symbol that God was there with them. Suddenly Samuel heard his name called. Describe what happened in verses 4 and 5 in your own words, 3:1-5.
6. Tell the story of God's second and third call to Samuel and Eli's instructions. *Show picture 8.* If the teacher takes each part in turn it becomes a very dramatic story, 1:6-10.
7. Even though Samuel was only a child, God had some very sad and serious things to say to him. Eli's sons who were priests were disobedient. They were not good servants of God. They would be judged, 2:12. God spoke to Samuel many times. He became a great priest and leader in his country, 1:19-21.

Teach Memory Verse

Review previous memory verses.

Point out to the class how true this Psalm is for all the people they have heard about so far -- Ruth, Mary, Hannah and Samuel.

Our Response to the Story

Samuel began to serve God when he was very young - possibly as young as some in the class. He did his everyday work not just for Eli but for God. He learnt to listen to God. He is an example for children to follow today.

Lesson 9 Samuel Prays For Israel

Picture 9

Aim

To show how Samuel, God's faithful servant, led His people the Israelites back to serve God.

Reading: 1 Samuel 7:2-17.

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:1

Happy are those who reject the advice of evil men.

Note: During the next 13 weeks Psalm 1 will be learnt. A new verse or part of a verse will be learnt each lesson. This Psalm tells us what a servant of God is like as well as what he is not like.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the class what kind of man makes a good chief. If they find this a difficult question to answer give them some suggestions both good and bad and let them say which are the best. For example, should a good chief be honest, wise, lazy, helpful or greedy?

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Samuel was the chief over the people of Israel. He was called a Judge. While Samuel was growing up God allowed Israel to lose a lot of land to a fierce tribe called the Philistines. The Israelites realised if they turned back to worship God only, He would deliver them from the Philistines. Samuel was the judge or chief who told them what to do, 7:2-4.
2. The Israelites obeyed Samuel and the men met together with Samuel who led them in prayer. The men of Israel showed they were really serious in their desire to follow God by not eating any food and by confessing their sins, 7:5,6.
3. Now the Philistines saw a chance to come and kill all the men of Israel at one go, 7:7.
4. The Israelites were very frightened but they trusted their chief and God's servant. Samuel made a special sacrifice. He continued praying and God answered, 7:9.
5. Describe the very exciting events of verse 10. Samuel was sacrificing and praying. The large, well-equipped Philistine army was getting nearer.

The smaller army of Israel was watching Samuel but feeling very frightened. Then God sent a thunderstorm. *Show picture 9.* Now the Philistine army became so frightened that they ran away. The Israelites chased them, 7:10,11.

6. So that the people would not forget what God had done Samuel set up a stone to mark the place and gave it a special name, 7:12,13.

Teach Memory Verse

Samuel was a man like this.

Our Response to the Story

Ask the class why Samuel was a good chief. He taught the people how to serve God and how God wanted them to live, 7:3. Then he helped them do it, 7:9.

Samuel prayed for his people. This is an example for us to follow. God wants us to pray for our family, our friends and our country. Ask the children to do this at home every day this week.

Lesson 10 Samuel Anoints Saul With Oil

Picture 10

Aim

To show how Saul was chosen as king to lead the people of Israel.

Reading: 1 Samuel 8:4-22; 9:1-27; 10:1-4,9

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:1 (continue to learn verse 1.)

Happy are those who reject the advice of evil men,
Who do not follow the example of sinners.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Tell the class a short story about how you lost something and the hard time you had finding it.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. There was once a rich man in Israel called Kish who lost his donkeys. They were so important to him that he sent his son Saul with a servant to look for them. Describe what Saul was like, 9:1-3.
2. Saul and the servant walked many miles but could not find the donkeys. Now the father might forget about the donkeys and worry about Saul, 9:4,5.
3. The servant had a good idea. As they were near the town where Samuel the man of God lived they could ask him about the donkeys. Some girls directed them to where Samuel stayed, 9:6-13.
4. Saul and his servant met Samuel who told them the donkeys had been found. Saul was very surprised at the way Samuel welcomed them with special food to eat and a good place to sleep. Saul's father was an important man, but he came from the smallest tribe in Israel, 9:19-25.
5. Saul did not know yet that God had told Samuel that Saul had been chosen by God to be the King of Israel, 9:17. Samuel had been very upset when the people of Israel asked for a king so that they could be like all the tribes around them. Kings often took more from the people than they gave them, 8:4-22.
6. At dawn after Saul and his servant had spent the night in Samuel's house, Samuel escorted them to the edge of town. Then Samuel took Saul aside and anointed his head with oil to show that God had appointed him ruler over Israel. *Show picture 10.* 9:26,27; 10:1,2.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

God did not just leave Saul to carry out the new responsibility of being King alone. He gave him a new nature to do it, 10:9.

Today when God gives us responsibilities He also gives us the power to do them. We need to ask Him for the ability and trust Him Philippians 1:6.

Lesson 11 Saul Tears Samuel's Robe

Picture 11

Aim

To show how King Saul failed as a leader. He wanted to worship God his own way but God wants our obedience.

Reading: 1 Samuel 15:1-29,34

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:1 (Complete the learning of verse 1.)

Happy are those who reject the advice of evil men,

Who do not follow the example of sinners,

Or join those who have no use for God.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Make up a story or tell one from your own experience about a child being disobedient in a family. A boy or girl was asked to do something by a parent and they did not do it. Describe what happened.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. The prophet Samuel gave King Saul a message from God. King Saul was to lead the army of Israel against the neighbouring tribe called the Amalekites. As they were a very wicked people, they were to be completely destroyed, 15:1-3.
2. Saul and his army defeated the Amalekites but they did not obey God completely. They saved the king of Amalek and the best of the animals, 15:7-9.
3. God spoke to Samuel about this disobedience and Samuel set off to find Saul, who had gone to build a monument to himself. This was probably a big tower with Saul's name on it and all the victories he had won. King Saul had begun to be proud of himself, 15:10-13.
4. King Saul thought he had obeyed God completely. He blamed his men for sparing the best cattle and sheep. But should a king let his men lead him? Samuel was very upset with Saul. The teacher could take the different parts of Saul and Samuel. King Saul protested he was innocent and Samuel asked questions about his unwise actions, 15:13-21.
5. Samuel told Saul that God wanted complete obedience to His commands much more than worship through the sacrifice of animals. Saul's disobedience was so serious that his family would not inherit the kingship, 15:22,23.
6. Saul was very upset but he continued to make excuses for his disobedience. When Samuel refused to listen and turned to leave, Saul caught hold of his clothes so tightly they tore. *Show picture 11.* Samuel used what happened to show Saul that the kingdom would be torn or taken away from Saul. Samuel never met Saul any more, 15:24-29,34.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

This story shows that our obedience to God is more important even than our worship of God. If we obey Him, He will show us the way if we really want Him to do so. God's Word, the Bible, teaches us His commands. Samuel obeyed God and served Him all his life.

Lesson 12 Jesus In The House Of God

Picture 12

Aim

To show that Jesus when He was just a boy like Samuel knew that He had come to serve God.

Reading: Luke 2:41-52

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:2

Instead they find joy in obeying the law of the Lord.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

We do certain things at certain times of this every year. For example, seeds are planted when the rains begin.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Remind the class of the story about Hannah and Elkanah's yearly journey to the House of God for worship and sacrifice (Lesson 7). Many years later Jesus was a child in Israel. When He was 12 years old He accompanied Mary and Joseph to Jerusalem for the great Passover feast (See Book 2, Mighty Men of God), 2:41.
2. People travelled to and from the feast in large family groups. They sang as they went. Describe how Mary and Joseph missed Jesus in the crowd on the way home. They returned to Jerusalem to look for him, 2:43-45.
3. After three days of searching they found Jesus in the Temple, the House of God. He was talking with the Jewish teachers about God. Just imagine a boy of twelve debating with university lecturers! The Jewish teachers were amazed at Jesus' wisdom. *Show picture 12. 2:45-47.*
4. Mary and Joseph were surprised when they found Jesus. Mary's question to Jesus showed that she was upset. Jesus, in His answer, showed that He knew He was the Son of God. Like Samuel He knew He had come to serve God. This is the highest kind of service anyone can do.

Teach Memory Verse

This verse is an example to us. It is what Jesus did. Review verse 1.

Our Response to the Story

God sent His son, Jesus, to be the perfect servant so that He could show us what God the Father is like and how He wants us to serve Him. Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth where He was obedient to them, 1:51,52.

God put Jesus into this family as He puts us into our families. Jesus showed us we can be servants of God by obedience to our parents.

Lesson 13 David The Brave Shepherd

Picture 13

Aim

To show how God prepared David to be His servant and a great king.

Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:34,35.

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:2 (Complete the learning of verse 2.)

Instead they find joy in obeying the law of the Lord.

And they study it day and night.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

As the class to suggest names of some great and important people. Some of the greatest people who ever lived have been servants of God.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. One of the greatest kings was King David, but he began his life by looking after his father's sheep. This meant that sometimes he had to act very bravely. He had to protect the sheep from attack by wild animals, like lions and bears, 17:34. *Show picture 13.*
2. David also learnt to be a clever musician. While looking after the sheep he made up some of the songs of worship we now call the Psalms. Point to the instrument David used which is leaning against the rock in the picture. This would be a good time to review Psalm 121 and Psalm 1:1,2. David was growing up trusting and obeying God.
3. One day when David was out looking after the sheep his father Jesse sent for him to come home. When he arrived, he found the prophet Samuel there, 16:11.
4. Samuel was upset that King Saul who had begun so well, had now become proud and disobedient to God's commands. God instructed Samuel to look in Jesse's family for another king. Samuel had to do this secretly in case Saul heard about it. Samuel told everyone that he had come to make a sacrifice and lead them in the worship of God, 16:1-5.
5. As Jesse's sons came to the sacrifice, Samuel looked at them. Which one was to be the next king? They were big, good-looking men.

Read verses 6-11 several times and then put the story into your own words. The teacher could act out the story pretending to be Samuel.

6. God showed Samuel that it was David who was to be the next king. Samuel anointed him with oil, 16:12,13.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

God had given His Spirit to Saul. In the same way God gave David the same Spirit to equip him for service, 10:9; 16:13. David, unlike Saul, trusted in God all his life although as we shall see he did some things that grieved God. But he remained a man who wanted to serve God wholeheartedly. David is an example to us because he became the kind of person God wants us all to be, 13:14.

Lesson 14 David And The Giant Goliath

Picture 14

Aim

To show how God helped His servant David defeat the giant Goliath.

Reading: 1 Samuel 17:1-54

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:3

They are like trees that grow beside a stream.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Talk to the class about the heights of different people. Some people grow very tall; others remain short. Ask the class about the height of the tallest person they have ever seen. Show the class a maize stalk or a stick about 3 meters long (about 9 feet). Have they ever seen anyone this tall?

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Goliath was a man as tall as the stick and of course much wider. He was a giant. He belonged to the tribe of the Philistines who were at war with Israel. Every day he challenged someone from Israel to come and fight him. But the Israelites were terrified, 17:1-11.
2. Describe how David was sent by his father to visit his older brothers in the army and to take them some food. He heard Goliath's challenge to Israel and saw how frightened they were. David wondered why they were so frightened of this man who did not know the living God. Even a huge giant is powerless against our all-powerful God, 17:17-25.
3. David's eldest brother tried to make him be quiet. In the end King Saul heard about it and sent for David. Saul did not think David could fight against Goliath as he was just a youth. But David told Saul about the courageous acts God had helped him do as a shepherd. *Show picture 13* again. As God had helped him against wild animals so He would help him against the giant, 17:26-37.
4. David was offered Saul's armour but it was much too big. Instead he just went to the river and selected five stones for his catapult, 17:38-40.
5. *Show picture 14*. Point out the differences between Goliath and David - their sizes, armour and weapons - but most of all Goliath was against the living God while David was His servant, 17:45.
6. Goliath was very angry to see a youth like David sent out against him and without any armour! David told Goliath he was the servant of the living, victorious God, 17:41-47.
7. Tell how David killed Goliath with a stone from his catapult. When the Philistines saw the giant was dead they ran. The Israelites won the battle and David kept Goliath's sward, 17:48-54.

Teach Memory Verse

Review previous verses of Psalm 1.

Our Response to the Story

We are often frightened of something because it looks too big or too powerful. David was not frightened by Goliath even though he was large and appeared to be so powerful. David acted in the power of God to overcome Goliath. God has given us as His servants the same power to overcome the evil temptations of Satan today, 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Lesson 15 Saul Tries To Kill David

Picture 15

Aim

To show how God protected His servant when King Saul became jealous of him.

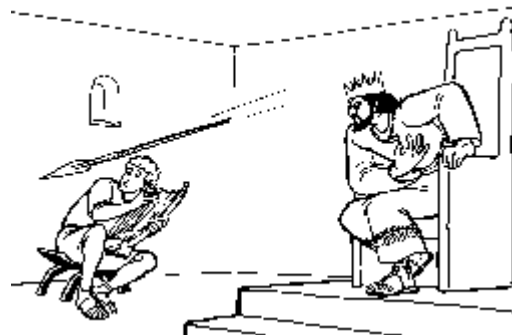
Reading: 1 Samuel 18:1-16; 20:1-42; 22:1,2

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:3 (Continue learning verse 3.)

They are like trees that grow beside a stream,

That bear fruit at the right time,

And whose leaves do not dry up.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ruta and Peris were two little girls. When Ruta had a birthday she was given a beautiful new dress. Peris was very upset and she cried. She wanted a new dress, but it was not her birthday. She tried to tear her sister's new dress. Peris was very jealous of Ruta as she had something Peris wanted.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. King Saul became very jealous of David. That is surprising, a king becoming jealous of a shepherd boy. But David had killed the giant Goliath and was made an army commander. The women began to make up songs praising David. This made Saul very angry, 18:6-9.
2. David also became great friends with Saul's eldest son Jonathan, 18:1-5.
3. King Saul was so jealous of David that he began to lose control of himself. One day as David was playing music to calm him, Saul threw his spear at David. David dodged it and the spear buried itself in the wall. Saul threw his spear twice. *Show picture 15.* 18:10,11.
4. After this Saul tried many times to kill David but many times Saul's son Jonathan helped David escape. At one special feast David was supposed to eat with the king and his family. David did not know if it was safe to come. He did not know why Saul was so angry with him. Jonathan agreed to help David and made a secret plan to warn him of danger, 20:1-23.
5. When Jonathan came to the field with his servant to practise with his bow and arrows, David was hidden behind a pile of rocks watching. When David heard Jonathan tell his servant to go further to look for the arrows, he knew this was the signal to tell him it was not safe to stay in that place, 20:35-40.
6. After saying goodbye to Jonathan, David spent the next few years in the desert to escape from Saul, 22:1,2.

Teach Memory Verse

Review previous verses.

Our Response to the Story

1 Samuel 18:12 shows the difference between David and Saul. The Lord's presence was with David. He was trusting God and living in obedience to Him in spite of many problems. Saul was proud, jealous and disobedient and lived in fear and anger. Saul was a king and David was a poor hunted man. But it was David who knew God's presence. Jealousy may begin in a small way but it can grow bigger and bigger until it rules a life, and leads to great evil. Which direction is your life going? Are you a Saul or a David?

Lesson 16 David Spares Saul's Life

Picture 16

Aim

To show how David spared the life of King Saul even though he was trying to kill him.

Reading: 1 Samuel 26:1-25

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:3 (Complete the learning of v. 3.)

They are like trees that grow beside a stream,

That bear fruit at the right time,

And whose leaves do not dry up.

They succeed in everything they do.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Ask the class how people treat someone they don't like. Hatred of an enemy can lead to fighting and death.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. David had an enemy. It was King Saul. *Show picture 15.* Briefly review the previous lesson asking the class questions about the picture. Jealousy of David made Saul try to kill David many times so David had to live in hiding. What would David do if he had Saul in his power?

The following story tells us.

2. One day messengers came and told King Saul where David was hiding. At once Saul took 3,000 of his best soldiers (all to catch one man!) and went there. David's spies were out watching too and then David himself saw where Saul and his army were, 26:1-5.

3. At night David and his friend Abishai crept into the camp right to the place where King Saul was sleeping. All the guards were sleeping too! David's enemy Saul was in his power. Abishai urged David to let him kill Saul, 26:6-8.

4. But David prevented Abishai killing Saul. God had appointed Saul king and God would remove him at the right time. David knew God's plan and timing were perfect. *Show picture 16.* Instead David took Saul's spear and water jar from beside his head, 26:9-16.

5. When they were a safe distance from camp David shouted over to them and woke them all up. He told them what he and Abishai had done. He showed them what poor guards they had been, 26:13-16.

6. King Saul recognised David's voice too. David asked Saul why he was continually trying to kill him. Now Saul realised how easily David could have killed him. After this Saul stopped trying to kill David, 26:17-25.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Think how different was David's response to having Saul in his power to that of Abishai. David did not kill King Saul and Saul's behaviour changed towards David. How was David able to do this? He was the kind of man God wanted (1 Samuel 13:14) and God's Spirit was with David.

Ask the class how they treat people they do not like or who they think may have harmed them. Jesus has instructed his servants to do the opposite of what the world does. Many years later Paul gave the young Christian church some helpful instructions. They are still good today. Read Romans 12:17-21.

Lesson 17 David Is Made King

Picture 17

Aim

To show how David continually remembered that it was God who made him King.

Reading: 1 Samuel 31:1-7;
2 Samuel 5:1-12,22-25; 6:12-19; 7:18-24

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:4

But evil men are not like this at all; They are like the straw that the wind blows away.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Discuss with the class what happens when someone is appointed to a new job. Different people send their congratulations; there may be a tea party or a meal given in the person's honour.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Everyone was happy when David was made king. The Philistines had come and fought Israel again and Saul and his sons had been killed. The people met and made David king, 1 Samuel 31:1-7.
2. *Show picture 17.* Point out all the different kinds of people who welcomed David as king: the priest, the soldiers, the old and the young and the children, 2 Samuel 5:1-5.
3. In the picture David is dressed as a soldier as well as a king. David did lead the people in battle. He made Jerusalem his capital. It was a city that was difficult to conquer but David led his soldiers in through a water tunnel. God gave David victory over the Philistines too, 2 Samuel 5:1-9,20-25.
4. David ruled well. He improved the country and looked after the people. He knew God had made him king, 5:11,12.
5. David brought back the Covenant Box (see Lesson 8) to Jerusalem. That was a great day of celebration with gifts of food for everyone. Sadly David's wife, Michal, did not approve of David celebrating with all the ordinary people, 6:12-23. David offered a prayer of thanksgiving to God. He never forgot that it was God who made the shepherd boy a king, 17:18-24.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Make up a story about someone who was promoted in his work but because he became so proud of his achievements he never did any work. This is a temptation to us all. When we are promoted we can become too proud to work. David the king remained a humble servant of God and is an example to us today.

Lesson 18 David And Bathsheba

Picture 18

Aim

To show how David sinned and asked God's forgiveness for the terrible things he did.

Reading: 2 Samuel 11:1-27; 12:1-23; Psalm 51

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:5

Sinners will be condemned by God.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Anna admired her sister Ruta's hair ornament so much that one day she took it and hid it in her own box. Every day Anna took it out and looked at it but she could not wear it in her hair because Ruta would see it. One day Anna dropped it and it broke. Ruta came into the house and saw the ornament broken. Both girls were very unhappy.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. David the king was very rich. He had many beautiful possessions. He had a strong army and he should have been leading them. But this one year he stayed at home in his palace at Jerusalem, 11:1.
2. One day David was walking on the flat roof of his palace when he saw a beautiful woman taking a bath. Her name was Bathsheba. She was the wife of one of David's soldiers named Uriah. He was away with the army fighting. *Show picture 18.* David sent for Bathsheba and she came and stayed with him. Later she found she was pregnant, 11:2-5.
3. Now what would King David do? At first he tried unsuccessfully to make it look as if the baby was Uriah's. Then he arranged to have Uriah killed in battle, 11:6-17.
4. David then took Bathsheba as his wife. But he had first become a murderer to do this, 11:26,27.
5. God sent a religious teacher, the prophet Nathan, to show David how wicked he had been, 12:7-9. If there is time tell the story of the lamb that Nathan told, 12:15-19.
6. God did not allow this first child born to David and Bathsheba to live, 12:15-19.
7. David realised how sinful he had been. He deserved to die. But he repented and asked God's forgiveness, 12:13.

Teach Memory Verse

Review previous verses.

Our Response to the Story

After this event in David's life he wrote Psalm 51, in which he asked for God's forgiveness. Asking for forgiveness means realising how awful our sin is and humbling ourselves before God. Then we will change our behaviour. Read Psalm 51:10.

Lesson 19 A House For God

Picture 19

Aim

To show how David made careful preparations for his son Solomon to build a beautiful house for God.

Reading: 1 Chronicles 28:1-21; 26:6-9
2 Chronicles 2:1-16; 5:1,2,11-14

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:5 (Complete the verse.)

Sinners will be condemned by God And kept apart from God's own people.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Discuss with the class about all the plans and preparations that have to be made to put up a new building once the site has been chosen. All the materials have to be bought and delivered to the site. All the labourers have to be hired. There is a great deal to do.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. King David loved God. In fact he loved God more when he began to understand that God had forgiven him for his sin. He wanted to show God his love for Him by building a great house for worship to God.
2. God would not allow David to build the house because he had been a man of war. Solomon his son could do it. But David could make all the preparations. David gathered the people together and told them this, 1 Chronicles 28:1-7.
3. David gave Solomon all the plans for building the Temple or House of God. He worked out how much gold and silver and other materials would be needed for the building and the furniture. Everyone was told what his job would be, 28:11-21.
4. Everyone, including the king and all the leaders and army commanders, willingly gave materials for the building. They were happy that so much was given, 29:1-9.
5. After King David died Solomon became king and began the work. He collected beautiful cedar wood and skilled workmen from other countries. (Tyre was a seaport north of Israel.) Solomon was careful to send sufficient food for the workmen, 2 Chronicles 2:1-16.
6. The Temple took seven years to build. It was very beautiful. The gold and silver shone in the sun. When the work was finished, Solomon summoned all the leaders to Jerusalem to see the Covenant Box put into the Temple, 5:1,2. *Show picture 19.* This shows Solomon in his prayer of dedication, the priests sacrificing at the altar, 4:1; the large tank for washing the animal sacrifices, 4:2-6; the bronze columns in front of the Temple, 3:15,16.
7. Everyone gathered to sing praises to God because the work was finished. God showed His joy and pleasure by filling the Temple with His dazzling light, 5:11-14. Finish this part of the lesson by singing a song of joyful praise to God.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

David's preparations to build the Temple were very careful and took a long time. The building took seven years to finish. It takes a lifetime to be a servant of God. Our bodies should be beautiful temples for Him, 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.

This lesson can also be used to teach the importance and joy of giving our money and goods to God.

Lesson 20 Jesus Comes To Jerusalem

Picture 20

Aim

To show how Jesus the King of all kings entered Jerusalem. We can look forward to the coming of His kingdom one day on earth.

Reading: Matthew 21:1-11, Isaiah 11:1-9.

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:6

The righteous are guided and protected by the Lord.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Families are important. We quickly learn to know the members of our own family. We also hear about our family's history and where they lived.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. David was the greatest king of Israel. God told him that his family would continue to be kings of Israel if they remained God's faithful servants, 1 Chronicles 28:7.
2. About a thousand years after David's death a son was born to a young woman called Mary whose husband Joseph was a descendant of King David. God chose David's family to be the earthly family of His own Son Jesus Christ, the King of kings.
3. During His life on earth Jesus taught His disciples about the kingdom of God (Matthew called it the Kingdom of Heaven). Many people expected Jesus to become a king in Jerusalem, ruling all Israel just like David, and expelling all the ruling foreigners.
4. One day Jesus did ride into Jerusalem but He rode in on a donkey. Great earthly kings rode on camels or horses. Donkeys were used to carry goods. Today Presidents and Governors ride in big Mercedes cars, not in little Suzukis or on bicycles! Jesus was the greatest servant of God and He was humble. He did not use possessions to show His power. He sent two disciples to fetch a donkey for Him to ride, Matthew 21:1,2.
5. The disciples had instructions to say the donkey was for their Master's use if anyone asked what they were doing. These events would fulfil what God's prophets had taught many years before, 21:3-6.
6. Crowds gathered and greeted Jesus: "Praise to David's Son! God bless Him who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise God!" 21:7-11.

Show picture 20.

The class could act out this part of the story - some cutting branches and others laying down their kangas for the donkey to walk over. Everyone can sing a song of praise and welcome to the King above all kings on the earth.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

The people in Jerusalem did not really understand the kingdom Jesus was talking about. He wants us to be part of His kingdom now by becoming part of His family as a child of God, John 1:12.

One day Jesus will return as King of all the earth. He will set up a Kingdom of Peace, Isaiah 11:1-9. Only those in God's family will have a place in that wonderful kingdom.

Lesson 21 The Birds Feed Elijah

Picture 21

Aim

To show how God, who is the creator and controller of the earth, cared for His servant Elijah during a drought.

Reading: 1 Kings 16:29-33; 17:1-15

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:6

(Complete the learning of the verse.)

The righteous are guided and protected by the Lord, But the evil are on their way to doom.



Lesson Plan

Introduction

Show pictures 15 and 20. By asking the class questions remind them of the different kings and their names. Emphasise what king of king each one was. Saul was a disappointment as she preferred to go his own way. David was a good king. He sinned but really sought forgiveness.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Some years after David and Solomon, Ahab became king of Israel. His wife was a foreign princess called Jezebel. She was very different from Ruth. (Ruth was a foreigner too.) Show pictures 2 and 3. Jezebel led the people away from God and was a very evil woman. She had the followers of God killed and forced the people to worship false gods and idols called Baal. Jezebel led people to believe Baal controlled the earth. He made the rains come and the corn grow, 16:29-33.
2. God sent His prophet called Elijah to King Ahab. Elijah brought a message from the living God. There would be no dew or rain for three years or until God gave the command, 17:1,2.
3. As the class to tell you what will happen if there is no rain. It is terrible. There will be no crops harvested and rivers and wells will run dry.
4. God took special care of His servant Elijah. He was sent to a river that had water, and very large black birds which could fly a long way brought him bread and meat every morning and evening. *Show picture 21.* No one knew where Elijah was. He was safe from King Ahab who was very angry about the drought, 17:2-6.
5. After a while the river dried up and then God sent Elijah on a long walk to a neighbouring foreign country. There a widow shared her very little food with him. Widows are usually the people who have the least food, as they have no husbands to look after them. But God provided. He promised their food would never be finished before the rain came. And it never did run out, 17:7-15.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Why did God send the drought? He wanted to show King Ahab and the people of Israel that He is the Living God, the creator and controller of the world. The Baal had no power. It was just a piece of wood. He asks us to worship Him as Creator and trust Him to supply our needs as He did Elijah's.

A personal example from the teacher would be very valuable here.

Lesson 22 Elijah And The Fire Of God

Picture 22

Aim

To show how Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal and demonstrated the power of the Living God.

Reading: 1 Kings 18:16-46

Memory Verse: Review Psalm 121

Lesson Plan

Introduction

Talk to the class about contests. These are activities which people take part in to find out who is the best person at that particular activity. Find out what contests different children enjoy.



Main Points of the Lesson

1. Elijah had a contest with the prophets of Baal. King Ahab ordered the people of Israel and the prophets to Baal to meet Elijah at Mount Carmel. They would have a competition to see who was really the true God. Would it be God or Baal? 18:20-22.
2. Elijah announced the rules of the contest. The prophets or leaders of Baal worship - all 450 of them - would arrange a sacrifice of two bulls. Elijah, the only prophet of God would do the same. They would not put fire to the sacrifice but pray for fire to be sent. The one who answered by fire would be the true God. Everyone agreed to the contest, 18:22-24.
3. The Baal worshippers built their altar first. They prayed all day but no fire came. Elijah started making fun of them, 28:25-29.
4. In the evening Elijah called everyone to watch him. He repaired the alter to God and prepared the sacrifice. He even had four large jars of water poured over it to make it harder to burn, 28:30-35.
5. Then Elijah prayed to God and asked for fire to show the people that He is the Living God. God sent fire that burnt up everything including the stones and the water. *Show picture 22.* All the people cried out, "The Lord, He is God." The prophets Baal had taught the people lies and they were killed, 18:36-40.

Teach Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

Elijah was one man against the king and queen and 450 prophets of Baal. But he was a servant of God. He knew he served the Living God and there are no other gods. Elijah is an example to us of a courageous servant of God who stood alone against evil. Some Christians are called and equipped by God to do this today. Let's pray for them and for us that we will be absolutely sure that God is the Living God.

Elijah experienced the truth of Psalms 121 and Psalm 1 in his life.

Lesson 23 Elijah Goes To Heaven

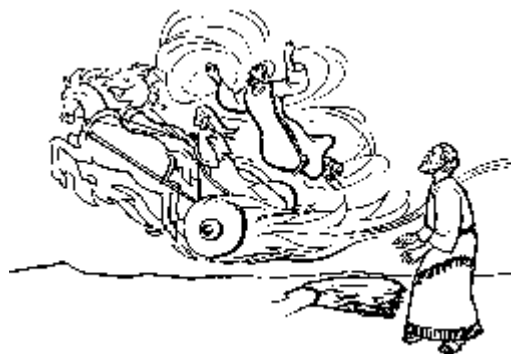
Picture 23

Aim

To show how God cared for Elijah when he became afraid and how He finally took him to heaven.

Reading: 1 Kings 19:1-21; 2 Kings 2:1-13

Memory Verse: Review Psalm 1



Lesson Plan

Introduction

If you have won a race or come high up in the examination results you feel very proud and full of joy. Everyone congratulates you. This goes on for a few days and then everything returns to normal and what you have done is forgotten. Sometimes a person can feel sad and lonely even after a great achievement.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. This happened to Elijah. He had won a great contest and defeated the false prophets of Baal. Queen Jezebel heard what Elijah had done and sent a message to him. She would kill him as he had killed Baal's prophets, 19:1,2.
2. *Show picture 22.* Elijah who had stood out against 450 false prophets of Baal was suddenly very frightened of the wicked queen. The power of evil is very great. Elijah ran away to another country and just wanted to die, 19:1,2.
3. God was very firm but very kind in the way He cared for Elijah. He gave him refreshing sleep and food and then sent him on the long journey away from his problems to Mount Sinai where God had spoken to Moses, 19:5-8.
4. God asked Elijah how he was. Elijah told God he was lonely and frightened. It is good to be honest with God. Then He can help us, 19:9,10.
5. God made some wonderful and frightening things happen in front of Elijah. He saw the power of God in the earthquake and fire. He experienced the presence of God when God used His still, small voice to speak to His servant. Then Elijah was no longer afraid. He went on with the work God gave him to do, 19:11-14.
6. God gave Elijah a companion called Elisha to help him and learn from him, 19:19-21.
7. Elijah was now an old man and it was time for him to die. Elijah tried to say goodbye to Elisha, but Elisha would not let him go. He kept following Elijah from place to place, even across a river, 2:1-9.
8. As they walked together Elisha saw a chariot of fire come between them and take Elijah away from him in a whirlwind. *Show picture 23.* Elisha never saw Elijah again. But as Elijah left, his cloak (the cloth he wrapped himself in) fell to the ground. Elisha picked it up. This was a sign that he was to take on Elijah's work.

Review Memory Verse

Psalm 1

Our Response to the Story

Think of the different ways God took care of Elijah: food, water, protection from Jezebel. He showed His presence to Elijah and then gave him Elisha. Review how God cares for us: food, shelter, friends, and hope of Heaven.

Lesson 24 Jesus Appears With Moses And Elijah

Picture 24

Aim

To show that the great servants of God were pointing us to Jesus by their example.

Reading: Luke 9:18-20,28-36; Philippians 2:5-11

Memory Verse: : Review Psalm 1 and 121

Lesson Plan

Introduction

When a new baby is born into a family everyone who comes to visit looks to see which member of the family the new baby resembles. This continues to happen as the child grows. People continue to look to see who he or she resembles.



Main Points of the Lesson

1. Jesus asked His disciples who people thought He was. They said people looked at the things He did and said He reminded them of Elijah or some of the other prophets of God, Luke 9:18,19.
2. Then Jesus took Peter and James and John up a mountain so they could be alone to pray. As Jesus prayed His face and clothes changed. Perhaps as He talked with God the Father, Jesus the Son became more like He is in Heaven, 9:28,29.
3. The disciples, surprisingly, were asleep! They woke up to see Moses and Elijah talking to Jesus about His coming death in Jerusalem. *Show picture 24.* 9:30-32.
4. Peter wanted this conversation to continue and suggested that homes were built there for Moses, Elijah and Jesus to stay in. But that was impossible. Moses' and Elijah's work on earth as servants was finished. Perhaps they had come to encourage Jesus, God's Son and most perfect servant, in the work He was soon to do.
5. Peter and the disciples were afraid as a cloud covered them. God spoke to them from the cloud: "This is my Son whom I have chosen. Listen to Him" 9:34,35.

Review Memory Verse

Psalm 1 and 121.

Our Response to the Story

God's words spoke to Peter, James and John. They remembered His words, obeyed them and wrote them down for us to obey and pass on. Jesus as the perfect servant sacrificed His life for the sins of all people. God raised Him from the dead. We are invited to believe in Jesus, become part of God's family and live with Him forever. Listen to Jesus and accept His invitation into His family so that you will resemble Him Philippians 2:5-11.