
Jesus

The Source of Living water

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Foreword

Men's evil manners live in brass, their virtues
We write in water. William Shakespeare.

According to Lamin Sanneh, water plays a prominent and providential role in the great narrative sweep of God's redemptive acts in creation and in all of life. In the phase following the creation of the heaven and the earth the Spirit of God "moved upon the face of the earth." (Gen. 1:2) The gathering of the waters into one place became the seas, and the seas brought forth abundant life to complete one creation cycle. Eventually, in the form first of vapor and then of rain and streams that "watered the whole face of the earth" vegetable life appeared to support life, including the creation of human life. (Gen. 2:5-8)

In the course of the Israelite's journey through the desert they were in dire need of water and complained thus to Moses for an answer. Moses' confidence in the promises of God, led him to strike the rock at Horeb with his rod as he was commanded, and water gushed out. It was proof, Moses testified, that "the Lord is among us." (Exod. 17:7; Ps 78:20; Is. 33:16; Is. 48:21) This significant episode was enough to serve as a symbol of God's faithfulness, especially when circumstances are dire and unpromising. (Deut.8:16)

Water is so important and essential in the very existence of every living thing. This is the reason that drives World Vision to ensure that every child, household, community, school and health facility receives clean and sustainable water supply, sanitation and hygiene. Jesus said, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water." (Jn. 7:38) The needy are exhorted to come to the waters to quench their thirst (Is. 55:1), an indication here of the spiritual power of water. The inherent relationship of water as a physical and spiritual good forms the basis of the development of this—Jesus: The Source of Living Water.

Jesus: The Source of Living Water is an effective tool in holistic transformation development aimed at the sustained wellbeing and spiritual nurture of children. The booklet integrates biblical teachings into WASH to provide material for use at household level in behavioral change that enhances a clean and safe natural environment for a healthy child. The provision of clean water, a good sanitary environment is integrated with the Scripture teachings about Jesus Christ who is the source of living water and subsequently assists to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of a child, family and community. The latter is intended to help the communities appreciate another angle of vision to natural water; the eternal perspective associated with it, to a resource they have always used for generations.

Jesus: The Source of Living Water English edition was first produced in Zambia in 2012 with financial support from Zambia's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Program. Prior to its implementation the booklet was pre-tested and piloted in a few ADPs before its roll out in two communities in the Southern part of the country. The impact was so great that there was a need to scale up its implementation in other communities in Zambia, the Southern Africa Region and beyond. However, at a meeting of stakeholders in Choma in March, 2015, the partners who attended the Christian Commitments and WASH integration Learning Event

agreed to strengthen the material and consider making translations to meet the needs of communities whose mother language is not English. Ever since, there have been translations in Ci-Chewa, Ci-Tonga and French and plans are underway to include other languages within the region and introduce audio products for children in our communities.

The revised booklet is user-friendly for both facilitators and learners since lessons are grouped according to specific age- ranges of beneficiaries. Facilitators and learners will find it easy to use owing to its compliance to age-appropriateness of a cross -section of community children, youth and adults. The booklet is further delineated according to related themes on water, sanitation and hygiene with further sub-divisions on salvation, spiritual growth, faith, kingdom values, hospitality and healing. Each lesson has an apt illustration of the story under discussion and a provision for an exercise for children to do to help put the lessons into practice. The practical part of the lessons inculcate in children and communities alike ways of preserving water, protecting water points and learning how to share it with others who may not have access to it.

This booklet is designed to be used at various community-led activities by a trained cadre of community members. Church leaders can apply lessons for their church members while children will access its lessons through trained Sunday/Sabbath School teachers. This is also a resource for WASH Clubs in schools and in communities where Good News Clubs are available. It is also handy for hygiene promoters; pastors will find it useful for public ministry at community gatherings where water wells are drilled. For others, this is suitable material for ministry at water points where women, girls and other community members meet to draw water.

Water as a priceless element of life is an appropriate symbol of the priceless salvation God has obtained for us through Jesus, The Source of Living Water. We thank everyone who contributed to the development and revision of the booklet especially Joyce Kaoma, Zambia Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) Director.

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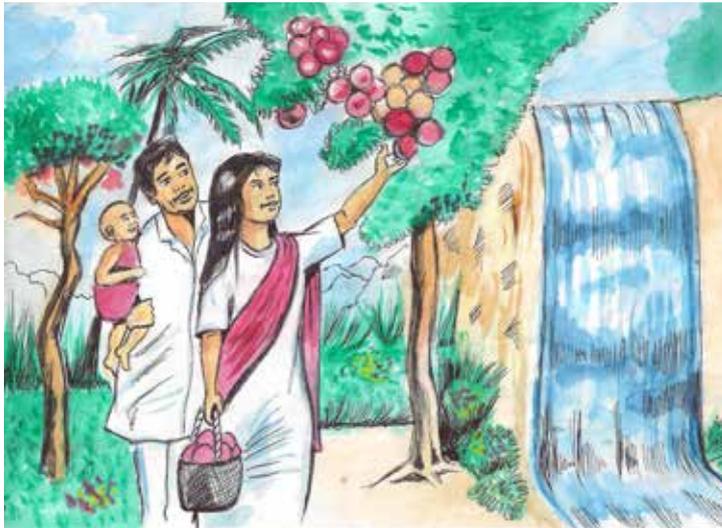
All Ages

WATER and SALVATION

Lesson 1: A place where you don't hunger nor thirst

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Revelation 7:9-17



Objective: The learner will value the importance of protecting water and appreciate the Living Water available to all, Jesus Christ.

Introduction

Usually when people work, they expect to get paid at the end of the month so that they will have food to eat. In town, it is not only about food but also paying the bills for electricity, water and rent etc. They have to continue working so that they can have food and water in their homes.

LINK: God showed John the disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ some of the things that will be in heaven. Heaven is a place where there is no hunger or thirst.

Progression of events

- A. The Lord showed John the writer of Revelation some of the things that will be in heaven. In heaven, he saw many people from every nation wearing white robes and praising God. (9-10)
- B. All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures worshipping God. (11-12)
- C. One of the elders asked John who the people were, John answered him, 'Sir, you know'. (13-14a)
- D. The elder said, they were people who had come from the great tribulation and their robes had been made white in the blood of the Lamb. (14b)

LINK: The people had come from the great tribulation on earth. Tribulation is suffering for Christ. People who don't believe in Christ sometimes mistreat Christians. These Christians had gone through suffering and were now in heaven.

Spiritual application for the saved

Their robes or clothes had been made white in the blood of the Lamb. The Lamb is the Lord Jesus Christ. He shed His blood so that He could make people clean before God. White robes are a symbol of purity. Purity is being free from sin. If you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, you are pure in the eyes of God because Jesus His Son has come to live in you. When God looks at you, He sees His son Jesus who is pure. You are clothed in white robes. You can rejoice and be glad that one day you will also live with God in heaven.

LINK: The people from all nations that John saw were pure. That is why they wore white robes.

- E. They were before the throne of God and served Him day and night in His temple and He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. (15)
- F. They would never hunger or thirst and the sun would never scorch them with the heat. (16)

LINK: To hunger and thirst is to be without food and water.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Hunger and thirst show that a person is spiritually in need of God. Sin leaves a vacuum in a person's heart or emptiness that can only be filled when we allow God into our hearts. Sin is everything that displeases God. You can displease God by doing what you are not supposed to do and also not doing what you are supposed to do. If you see a needy person and turn away that person even when you can do something for that person, it is sin because you have not done what you are supposed to do. If you steal, it is sin because you have done what you are not supposed to do. The Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23) Death is the punishment for sin. The punishment for sin is to be in a place where there is always thirst and hunger. After the final judgement, it will be too late for God to forgive sin.

LINK: You do not need to be in a place of hunger and thirst forever.

G. The Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their Shepherd and He will lead them to the springs of Living Water and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. (17)

LINK: The Living Water is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is at the moment seated on the throne at the right hand side of the Father in heaven. He will be coming again to take those who have believed in Him and be in heaven with Him forever.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus the Perfect Son of God came from heaven and lived a perfect life. He shed His blood on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins. His blood washes people's sins as white as snow. "Come now let us reason together," says the Lord, "though your sins are as red as scarlet, they will be as white as snow..." (Isaiah 1:18a) Jesus is able to wash you as white as snow if you believe in Him. He died to take away the punishment for your sin. Jesus did not remain dead forever, He rose from the grave and many people saw Him. He lived on earth for another 40 days and went to heaven. If you believe in Him, you will receive the free gift of Living Water and live forever with God. I John 5:12 says, "He who has the Son has life but he who does not have the Son does not have life."

Will you choose to believe in the Son and have the Living Water? When you have the living water, you will live with God in heaven a place without hunger and thirst.

Challenge: If you have the Son of God in your heart, remember to thank Him for the Living Water and tell others about Him.

Invitation: Will you choose to let the Son of God come into your heart for your Living Water?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. What is spiritual hunger and thirst?
- ii. How can we make sure that we have the Living Water?
- iii. Who gives the Living Water?
- iv. What specific benefits of water are mentioned in this passage?
- v. Are there ways in which we can better protect water to more fully enjoy its benefits?
- vi. What promises are made about Jesus and water to those with Him in heaven?

Lesson 2: Fishers of men

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11



Objective: The learner will desire to fully commit himself to God.

Introduction

Fishing has been known for a long time among various communities in history. Fishing provides a business to people as well as a career. To some it is simply an act of passing time or entertainment. How many of you have gone fishing before?

LINK: Jesus invited His disciples to become fishers of men.

Progression of events:

- A. Crowds pressed around Jesus to hear Him teach by the lake. (1)
- B. Jesus climbed into Simon's boat and asked him to push the boat out into the water so Jesus could sit and teach the people gathered on shore.
- C. When Jesus finished teaching, He told Simon to launch his boat into the deep water and let down his nets to catch fish. (4)
- D. Having fished all night and catching nothing, Simon reluctantly obeyed Jesus. (5)

LINK: What a seemingly strange thing Jesus asked Simon to do! Any experienced fisherman knew that the most effective time for fishing was at night and in the shallow water! Simon had to simply trust and obey Jesus to do something that seemed unworkable.

Spiritual application for the saved

Simon needed to commit himself to the Lord. Commitment is not giving part of yourself, but giving your all to someone or something. Some people commit themselves to getting lots of money and nice things. Others will commit themselves to a human leader who does not teach the truth and they would be so strongly committed that they will do whatever the leader tells them to do whether right or wrong. You must be careful what commitments you make. The best commitment you can make is to commit yourself to God. If you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, you can commit your life to God by faith. The Bible says in Proverbs 3:5. "Commit all your ways to the Lord and lean not on your own understanding." This means you must rely on God completely and not depend only on what you know.

LINK: You can commit yourself to the Lord. Simon also committed himself to the Lord by obeying what He said.

- E. So many fish were caught that the net began to break (6)
- F. The fishermen signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help, filling both boats with fish to the point of sinking. (7)

LINK: The fishermen were amazed at how much fish they caught as they struggled to pull out the net. They were glad that they had obeyed and committed themselves to

what Jesus had told them to do. Their commitment yielded great results beyond their expectations.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you know Jesus as your Saviour, you can commit yourself to God by faith. That means giving Him your all, living to please Him in all you think, do and say. Commitment to God involves committing your time, your talents, your love and abilities. It means spending less time doing things you like best so that you may spend time with God. It can also involve spending less money on buying clothes or sweets so that you can have money to give in to others in need or in the church offering bag. Sometimes it may mean avoiding playing with friends who are not good for you because of their bad habits so that you use that time to help someone, attend church or spend time with God. The Bible says, if you commit yourself to pleasing God, you bring Him pleasure. "For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." (Philippians 2:13).

LINK: God will be pleased with you when you commit yourself to Him. The fishermen were blessed that they caught a lot of fish from the lake.

G. Simon fell to his knees, admitting his sin to the Lord Jesus. (8)

LINK: The miracle caused Simon to recognize his life as totally sinful in comparison to Jesus. If you do not know Jesus as your Lord and Savior you are no better than Simon because you also have sinned.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says in Romans 3:10, "There is none righteous no not one," which means all the people of the earth have sinned except Jesus Christ the perfect Son of God and God Himself. You deserve God's punishment for sin but God loves you so much He allowed His perfect Son, Jesus Christ to die for your sins and all the people of the world. On the cross He shed his blood which is necessary for the forgiveness of your sins. He died on the cross, was buried and rose from the grave on the third day. Jesus Christ will be coming again to take those who have recognized and forsaken their sinful acts and have believed in Him.

LINK: Today, you can believe in Him for the forgiveness of your sins. Simon recognized that he was a sinful person.

H. All of the fishermen were surprised at their catch of the fish. (9)

I. Jesus told the men not to fear, for now they would catch people. (10)

J. The fishermen left everything and followed Jesus. (11)

LINK: The fishermen followed Jesus because they decided to commit themselves to Jesus. If you have known Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, you can commit yourself to God.

Challenge: Think about what takes most of your time compared with God's work. It could be sport, leisure, playing with friends or watching movies. God wants you to commit yourself to Him. Will you choose to commit yourself totally to God?

Teacher: Draw a circle on the floor big enough for a person to stand in. Get in the circle and pray. Then, one by one, lead the children to pray this prayer.

'Dear God, today, I choose to give you everything in this circle as my total commitment to you. Use me to your glory. Thank you for receiving me.' In Jesus Name, Amen.

Invitation: If you have not known Jesus as your Saviour, you cannot say the prayer we have just had. First, you should receive Jesus as your Saviour then you can pray a prayer of commitment to God.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What does it mean to be a fisher of people?
- ii. What does a person need to do before becoming a fisher of people?
- iii. Why is it important to be a fisher of people rather than a fisherman?

Lesson 3: God promises to cleanse the Israelites.

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Ezekiel 36:25-27



Objective: The learner will see the importance of saying 'No' to sin.

Introduction

In the Old Testament, water was used for a lot of things, ranging from drinking to washing. In our Bible verse today, we will look at water being sprinkled (representing the blood of Jesus) for the cleansing of sins.

Progression of events

A. The children of Israel had sinned against God and God allowed them to be taken into captivity to Babylon.

LINK: The children of Israel sinned against God by disobeying Him. They turned to worship other gods and turned away from Him. You and I are also sinners.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin displeases God. It is thinking, saying and doing anything that displeases God like worshipping other gods, fighting, smoking, stealing, insulting and jealousy. You sin against God not because you want to but because you were born that way. Isaiah 48:8 says, "You were called a transgressor from the womb." To be a transgressor means to be a sinner or someone who breaks the law. God dislikes sin that is why sin separates you from God which means never to be with God in heaven.

LINK: Your sin displeases God. The Israelite's sin also displeased God.

- B. It was during the time of Ezekiel the prophet of God. Ezekiel was also in captivity.
- C. After a long time in captivity, God told the children of Israel that He would bring them back to their own land. (24)
- D. He promised the children of Israel that He would sprinkle water upon them and they would become clean including being cleansed from all their filthiness of idols. (25)

LINK: Just sprinkling some water on you cannot make you clean. But this sprinkling was a different one. Sometimes water in the Bible is a symbol of the blood of Jesus.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus Christ the Perfect Son of God shed his blood on the cross for the cleansing of your sins. God's love made Jesus die a shameful and sacrificial death so that your sins could be cleansed. On the cross the sins of all the people of the world were laid on Him. The blood which He shed is for the cleansing of your sin. "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from our sins." (1 John 1:7b) He died, was buried and rose again the third day. God loves you and He is the one who made you. He is without sin and punishes sin. He wants to live with you in heaven one day. Today, you can choose Him to cleanse you from all your sin.

LINK: Jesus can cleanse your sins with his blood. The Israelites would be cleansed by the sprinkling of the water.

- E. God told them that He would give them a new heart and a new spirit would be put within them. (26)
- F. He also promised them He would remove their hearts of stone hardened against God and give them a heart of flesh that wants to know God.(27)
- G. God's spirit would be put within them and cause them to walk in His statutes, and do them.

LINK: If your sins have been cleansed, God has put His Spirit in your heart.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Spirit of God lives in your heart and helps you to walk in the ways of God. He also helps you turn away from sin and have victory over sin. I Corinthians 15:57 says, "But thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." To have victory is to have power over sin. When you are tempted to sin, He will remind you to say 'No' to sin. You will obey God's commandment and please God.

LINK: You have the power to say 'NO' to sin.

Challenge: During this week, remember to listen to the Spirit of God. When you are tempted to do wrong, will you remember to say 'NO' to sin. Next week when you come, I want you to come and tell us how many times you will have said 'NO' to sin.

LINK: If your sins have not been cleansed, you do not have power to say 'NO' to sin.

Invitation: You should first choose Jesus to cleanse you of your sins. "...Repent and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel the children who respond.

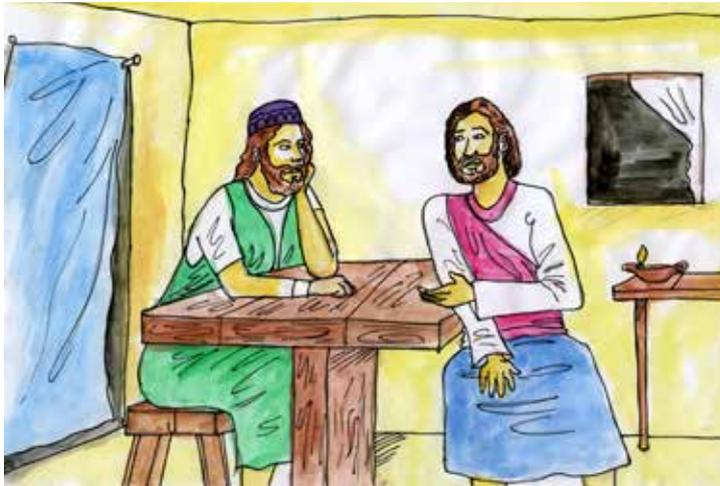
Application questions

- i. What makes you or your clothes dirty?
- ii. What makes our spiritual lives unworthy in the sight of God?
- iii. How can you have your spiritual lives cleansed?

Lesson 4: How can a man be born again?

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: John 3:1-15



Objective: The learner will have an opportunity of making a choice of being born again.

Introduction

How many times can a man be born?
How many times have you been born?

LINK: Let us see what the Lord Jesus had to say about this.

- A. There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews (1)
- B. The same came to Jesus by night, and said to him, Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that you do, except God be with him. (v.2)
- C. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say to you, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (v.3)
- D. Nicodemus said to him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? (v.4)
- E. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say to you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (v.5)

LINK: What is being born of water and of the Spirit? Every person is born first of water.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The first time you were born, you were born of water from your mother. The bag where the baby lives in the womb is mostly water. When that bag breaks, water comes out together with the baby. The second birth is when you believe in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. When you do so, you are born in the family of God. You are even known by His name as a child of God.

- F. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. (v.6)

LINK: If you have already believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, you have had your second birth.

Spiritual application for the saved

It means you are born again. You have been born of the Spirit. God wants you to live a life that is pleasing to Him. Things that are pleasing to God are: telling others about Christ, worshipping God, reading the Bible, living a holy life and avoiding sin at all costs, being good to others and making others exalt the name of God by your life. The Bible says in Amos 5:14a, "Seek good and hate evil that you may live." God wants you to do good and live longer because doing evil shortens your life span. E.g. sex before marriage may cause you to contract HIV and this can lead to an early death.

LINK: If you are born again you have a second birth.

- G. Marvel not that I said to you, you must be born again. (v.7)
- H. The wind blows where it wants and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes, and where it goes: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. (v.8)
- I. Nicodemus answered and said to him, How can these things be? (v.9)
- J. Jesus answered and said to him, Are you a master of Israel, and knows not these things? (v.10)
- K. Verily, verily, I say to you, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and you receive not our witness. (v.11)
- L. Jesus told Nicodemus if you don't understand earthly things, how would you understand heavenly things? (12)
- M. And no man has ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.(13)
- N. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (14-15)

LINK: If you are not born again, God wants you to be born again so that you can have eternal life.

Invitation: You can choose to be born again today by believing in Him and have eternal life.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond to the gospel.

Application questions

- i. How does a person become a member of the family?
- ii. How does a person become a member of the family of God?
- iii. What does it mean to be born again?

Lesson 5: Jesus is baptized

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-17



Objective: The learner will earnestly desire to bear good fruit.

Introduction

“Repent! For the kingdom of God is near” is the message which John the Baptist preached to the people during his time. Repentance is an action of turning away from sin and starting to follow God and His ways.

LINK: Why was John preaching that message? In our lesson we see Him preaching to the Israelites.

Progression of events

A. When the time was right, John the Baptist began preaching in the desert of Judea to prepare the way for Christ. He told the people to repent for the kingdom of God was near. (1-2)

LINK: John told the people to repent because the kingdom of God was near. If you have not repented from your sins, God wants you to do so.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is committed in various ways. Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God like thinking wrong about someone, gossiping and fighting and so on. You and I have sinned against God. Sin is punishable through separation from God forever. You and I sin because we were born sinners. The Bible says, “For all have sinned.” (Romans 3:23)

LINK: You and I have sinned. You need to repent by turning away from sin. The people during that time needed to repent for the forgiveness of their sins.

- B. The prophet Isaiah prophesied about John the Baptist as one who would make a way for Christ. (3)
- C. John wore clothes made of camel’s hair and a leather belt and ate locusts and honey. (4)
- D. People from Jerusalem, Judea and the whole region confessed their sins and were baptized by John. (5-6)
- E. He confronted the Pharisees who came to be baptized and claimed that Abraham was their father since God could raise children for Abraham. (7-9)
- F. He told them every tree that would not bear fruit would be cut off and be thrown into the fire. (10)

LINK: The Bible says that Jesus is the vine and you and I are the branches. If the tree does not bear fruit, it will be cut and thrown into fire.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you have repented from your sins, Jesus wants you to remain in Him. To remain in Him means to do God’s will. To live like a person who is in Christ. The Bible tells us that we must produce good fruit which is peace, joy, love, kindness, patience, long suffering, goodness and faithfulness (Galatians 5:22). As a person who has repented, God expects you to produce good fruit. Your outward and inward person

must change. It should be evident even to people who see you always that you are a changed person in your behaviour. Jesus has come into your life. You need to allow Him to help you produce good fruit.

LINK: You and I need to produce good fruit. John the Baptist spoke about a tree that had no fruit being thrown in the fire.

G. He told the people that he was baptizing them with water but there would be one who was coming whose sandals he was not worthy to untie. He would baptize them with the Holy Spirit and fire. (11)

LINK: John the Baptist spoke about the coming of Jesus who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

John felt unworthy to untie Jesus' sandals because he knew that Jesus was God the Son. Jesus came from heaven and was born by the power of the Holy Spirit through the Virgin Mary. He was not born from a natural father like you and me. He was born from God by the power of the Holy Spirit. He came down to die for your sins and my sins on the cross. He willingly took our place of punishment. He was our substitute. He bled and died but rose again on the third day. God loved you and sent His son Jesus because He is the one who made you and everything on earth. He lives in heaven and wants to live with you in heaven one day.

LINK: God loves you and sent His holy Son for you. John felt unworthy to untie Jesus' sandals.

H. He was coming to gather the wheat and burn the chaff with unquenchable fire. (12)

LINK: All the bad things you do are chaff to be burnt in unquenchable fire. If you have repented of your sins, God wants you to bear good fruit.

Challenge: Will you choose to let God help you live a life that bears good fruit? Examine yourself and see if there is anything God needs to remove from you so that you can bear good fruit. Pray and ask God to get rid of bad chaff in you.

Invitation: If you have not repented your sins, God wants you to do so in order for your sins to be forgiven (Acts 3:19).

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

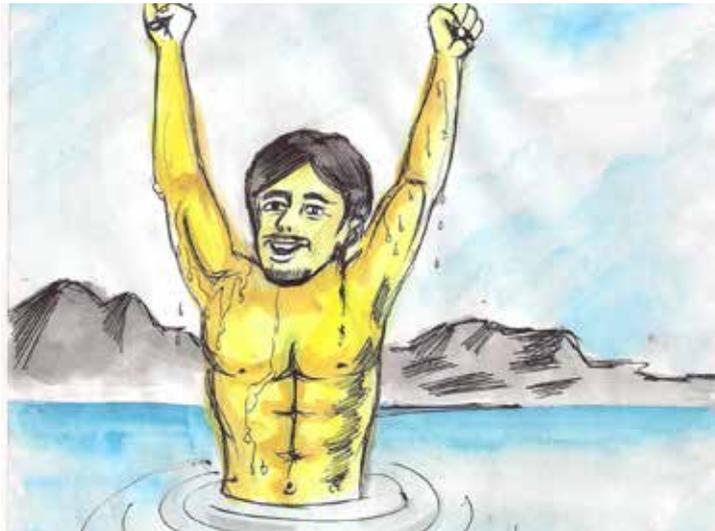
Application questions

- i. What was the regular message that John the Baptist preached to the Jewish people?
- ii. Why is repentance important?
- iii. What fruit should we have after we have repented our sins to God?

Lesson 6: Naaman follows God's instructions

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-16



Objective: The learner will appreciate how to obey God's instructions

Introduction

Have you ever had a problem which you did not know how to solve? This happened to a man whose name is Naaman from our Bible lesson today.

Progression of Events

A. Naaman, a general in the Syrian army, had leprosy. (1)

LINK: Leprosy is a very infectious disease which affects your nerves and skin. Sometimes a person can

lose fingers or toes if it is not cured. That was a very big problem for Naaman. You and I have a worse problem than leprosy. It is called sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is what you think, say or do which displeases God including hatred, lies and stealing. The Bible teaches that you and I are all born in sin. "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." (Psalms 51:5) You were born a sinner, prone to do evil. Sin separates you from God forever.

LINK: You and I have a problem of sin; Naaman had a problem of leprosy.

- B. An Israelite girl was captured and brought to Naaman's house as a servant. (2)
- C. The captive girl told Naaman's wife about a prophet who could heal leprosy in Israel. (3)

LINK: The captive girl talked about a prophet who could cure leprosy. If you are saved, God wants you to tell others about what God has done for you.

Spiritual application for the saved

God wants you tell others about what His Son did for you. Mark 16:15 says, "Go into the whole world and preach the Good News to all creation." You can invite your friend to the Good News Club so that they can hear about Jesus.

LINK: God wants you to tell others. The captive girl talked about the prophet.

- D. Naaman told the king of Syria what the girl had said and the king sent him to Israel with a letter but the king of Israel misunderstood the Syrian king's letter. (4-7)

LINK: The king loved Naaman and sent him to Israel. Do you know that there is someone who loved Naaman more than the king and that is God? God also loves you more than anyone else.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you. He is the one who created you and everything such as trees, animals, sun and moon etc. He is without sin and lives in heaven, a perfect place where He wants to be with you one day.

LINK: God loves you very much. He also loved Naaman. That is why the king sent him to Israel to be healed.

- E. Elisha learnt about the problem and sent for Naaman. (8) When Naaman arrived, Elisha told his servant to give Naaman the instructions. (9-10)
- F. Elisha's servant told Naaman to wash in the Jordan river seven times to be healed but Naaman felt insulted and got angry. (10-12)

LINK: Naaman felt insulted to wash in the Jordan river because for the Syrian's it was considered to be a dirty river. But for him to be healed of his leprosy, he had to wash in the Jordan river seven times.

Spiritual application for unsaved

For your sins to be cleansed, you do not need to wash with ordinary water. You need the blood of Jesus Christ the perfect son of God. He came down from heaven and lived a holy life. He did good things when he grew up. But He allowed people who disliked him to arrest Him and kill Him by nailing Him on the cross. Blood came out from His head, hand and feet. The Bible says, "And the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7) It is only the blood of Jesus which can wash your sins away. He died, was buried and rose again the third day. He is now in heaven.

LINK: Only the blood of Jesus can wash your sins away. The only way Naaman could be healed of his leprosy was by washing in the Jordan River

- G. Naaman's servants convinced him to go to the Jordan and wash. (13) Naaman obeyed God and was cleansed from his leprosy. (14)
- H. Naaman recognised that there was no God in all the earth except in Israel. Naaman offered gifts to Elisha but Elisha refused them. (15-16)

LINK: Naaman was healed of his leprosy; you can have your sins forgiven by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Invitation: You can believe in Jesus and have your sins forgiven today. (Acts 10:43b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and counsel children who respond.

Challenge: If you have already believed, God wants you to tell others about Jesus. During this week, will you choose to tell someone about Jesus or invite someone to the Good News Club or church for them to hear from the teacher? Invite a friend who does not go to church or from a different culture or background.

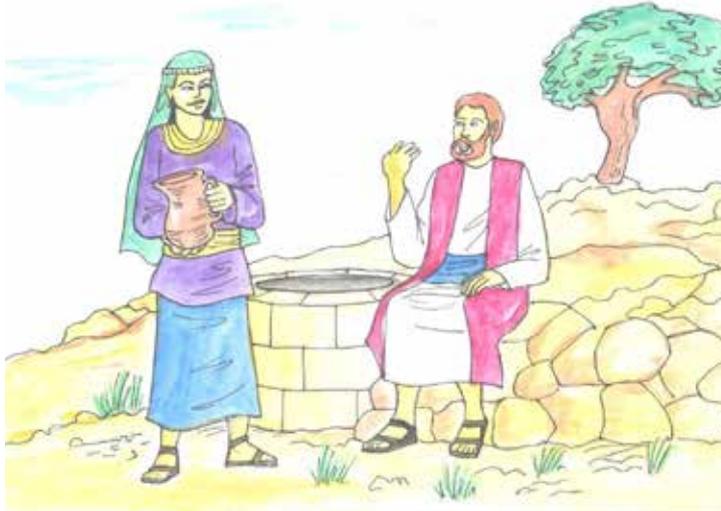
Application questions

- i. Why did Naaman doubt about washing in the Jordan river?
- ii. How many times did he go into the river in order to be healed of his leprosy?
- iii. What could have happened to him if he had not completed the number of times to wash in the Jordan river?

Lesson 7: The Samaritan woman finds the Living Water

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: John 4:1-26



Objective: The learner will know that Jesus is the Living Water.

Introduction

When you are thirsty, nothing tastes as good as a cold cup of water. Of course, that water can only satisfy you for a while. Then you need another cup of water. But Jesus said He could give you water that would last forever. He was not talking about tap water or water from a well, river, or borehole. Jesus was talking about a special kind of water that you and me cannot see – the water that bubbles up to eternal life. The life that Jesus gives constantly satisfies our needs and desires. You can have the ‘Living Water’ today by believing in Jesus Christ.

LINK: One day, Jesus met a woman at a well who needed this Living Water.

Progression of the story

- A. After preaching in Judea, Jesus decided to return to Galilee using a short route through Samaria. In Samaria, Jesus was left by the well by his disciples who went to buy food in the city. A Samaritan woman came to draw water when Jesus asked for a drink from her. (1-9)

LINK: The woman did not want to speak to Jesus because she was a Samaritan and Jesus was a Jew. Samaritans and Jews did not speak to each other. She did not know that this man was different from others.

Spiritual application

Jesus was the Perfect Son of God, and He loved the Samaritans. As God’s Son, He loves everyone, no matter what tribe they are. The Bible says, “God is Love.” (1 John 4:8) He loves you and me, too. He created you and loves you more than you can ever imagine. He created the whole world; the mountains, trees, rivers, flowers and everything. He is not only great, but He is also holy and pure.

LINK: The Samaritan woman did not realise that God cared about her. She had no idea that the one who was asking her for water was Jesus the Son of God who made the water she was going to draw.

- B. The woman misunderstood when Jesus assured her that if she knew who He was she would ask for Living Water. Jesus wanted the woman to know that he knew all about her life even what she thought was a secret such as the man she was living with who was not her husband. (10-18)

LINK: The woman came to draw water because she needed water to use and to quench her thirst. But she did not know that she had a much greater thirst, the Living Water (everlasting life) that only Jesus could give her.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says everyone is born into this world a sinner (Romans 5:12). You and I are not right with God in our hearts and that is why we have a 'spiritual thirst.' You cannot change yourself. Because you and I are sinners, we want our own way rather than God's right way. Can you think of some times when boys and girls know what is right and choose not to do it? The Bible says, "The wages (or pay) of sin is death." (to be separated from God forever) (Romans 6:23) When you are separated from God, it means you will be thirsty forever. You will be in a place where you will want to drink water but will not find it. You must be willing to admit you are a sinner and that you need the Lord Jesus to give you the 'Living Water,' (the everlasting life)

LINK: Jesus was trying to help the Samaritan woman see that she was a sinner in need of Jesus Christ as her Saviour

C. The woman tried to change the subject. She told Jesus that the coming Messiah would explain these things. But Jesus told her, "He was the coming Messiah." (19-25)

LINK: The woman was face to face with the Savior of the world, the Messiah. The Messiah or Christ means the 'Promised One.' Jesus was the one that people expected since the Old Testament time. The woman knew about that promise.

Spiritual Application

Jesus was the perfect Son of God who would die for the sin of the whole world. He was nailed to the cross by those who hated Him. He shed His own blood as an offering for sin – your sin and mine. He didn't need to die because He had never sinned, but He did not stay in the grave! (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) He rose to prove that His sin offering for the world had been accepted by a holy God.

Like the Samaritan woman, even if you drink the natural water every day, you will still want to drink water again. The natural water quenches your thirst for a short period of time. Jesus Christ the Perfect Son of God gives you a spring of water welling up to everlasting life.

LINK: If you believe and receive Him as your Lord and Saviour, He will come into your heart and be with you forever. You will not need to receive Him again. You will become a spring of living water. You will have everlasting life and live forever with Christ.

D. Immediately, the woman believed that Jesus was truly the Messiah, and she excitedly ran to the city to tell others about Him. Many of the Samaritans believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony.

LINK: The woman told others about Jesus. If you are saved, you can also tell others about Jesus.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says, "When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost of the world." (Acts 1:8) You can invite your friends to come to the Good News Club so that they can hear about Jesus and believe in Him.

LINK: The Samaritans understood that Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour of the world and they believed in Him as their Lord and Saviour. They came to know the 'Living Water.'

Invitation

What about you? Do you believe Jesus came to die for you? Do you know you are a sinner? Jesus will satisfy your 'spiritual thirst' and give you everlasting life. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him will have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

To believe is to know that you are a sinner, believe Jesus died for your sins and to choose Jesus to give you everlasting life. Everlasting life is the 'Living Water' which satisfies your spiritual thirst forever.

Close your eyes and think about what God wants you to do now.

If you are here and have never believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour to give you the 'Living Water', will you raise your hand? When you raise your hand, you are telling me that you want to believe and have the 'Living Water.'

If you raised your hand, you can see me and I will show you from the Bible how to receive the 'Living Water.'

Teacher: Counsel the children who respond to the Gospel invitation.

Application questions

- i. What is the difference between the ordinary water and the 'Living Water'?
- ii. Who gives the 'Living Water'?
- iii. Why is the 'Living Water' important?

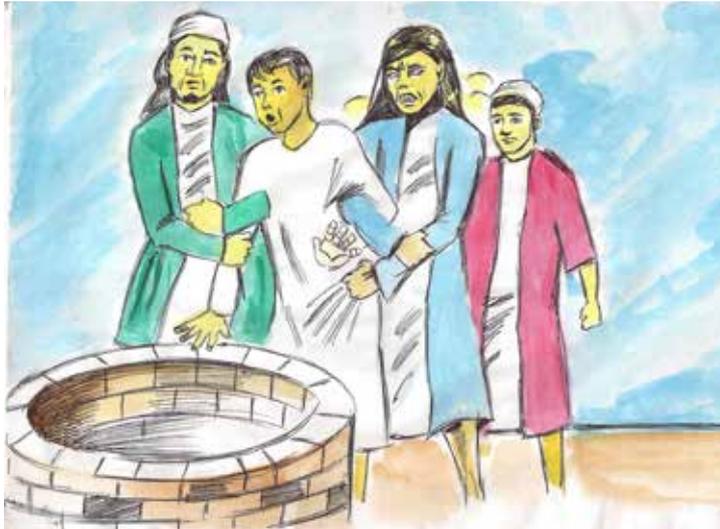
Activity

Teacher asks the children to draw a picture showing the importance of having something to draw water with.

Lesson 8: Set free from the waterless pit

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Zechariah 9:11



Objective: The learner will appreciate his/her salvation

Introduction

Before we are set free by Jesus Christ, we are all bound in the prison of sin. We cannot set ourselves free because we do not have power to get out of the grip of Satan. We need the power of a Savior to overcome the power of the devil. Jesus told His disciples that if the Son of God shall set you free, you will be free indeed. The freedom offered by Jesus Christ is freedom indeed and it is for eternity. It cannot be altered or withdrawn and no one can take it away.

It is important that we all experience the freedom given through our knowledge of the Son of God.

LINK: Our Bible verse today, is telling us that we can claim God's promises to set us free from the prison of sin.

Bible Verse: As for you also, because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Spiritual application for the saved

A covenant is an agreement between two or more people. In the Old Testament, people took an animal like a lamb, goat or calf to the priest to be killed for the forgiveness of their sins. It was the blood of the animal which was important for the forgiveness of the sins. When God looked at the blood of the animal, the sins were forgiven. The animal died on behalf of the sinner. The animal was the substitute. This means that when the animal died the sinner's penalty had been paid for and he/she would be treated as though he/she had not sinned. Every time that a person sinned, he needed to offer a sacrifice of the animal to God because without the blood of the animal the sins would not be forgiven.

But for you and me the blood of the covenant is the blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God which He shed when He died for the sins of all the people of the world. The blood of Jesus was shed once and for all. You do not need to take an animal, and Jesus does not need to die again. When you believe in Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven once and for all. Jesus took the punishment for your sin. He rose again on the third day. The blood which was shed on the cross cleanses from sin. (1 John 1:7) You can believe in Him and have all your sins forgiven. No sin is too hard or impossible for God to forgive. God can wash us from all sin.

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit

If you are not saved, you are a prisoner of sin. The Bible says, "Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin." (John 8:34) Sin separates you from God. When you are separated from God it means you will be in a waterless pit. A waterless pit is a place without water. You will be thirsty forever and crave for water but you will not find it. But God has promised to set you free from the prison of sin. He loved you and sent His Son Jesus to come and die for your sins. If you believe in Him, He will forgive your sins.

If you are saved, you have been set free from the waterless pit. But you have sisters, brothers and friends who are not yet free. You should tell them about Jesus so that they can also be set free from the prison of sin and the waterless pit. You can also invite them to come to the Good News Club. "...Go into the world and preach the gospel to all creation." (Mark 16:15)

Challenge: Will you bring your friends and sisters or brothers to the Good News Clubs so that they can hear the gospel?

Invitation: If you are not free from the prison of sin, you can believe in Jesus today. "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

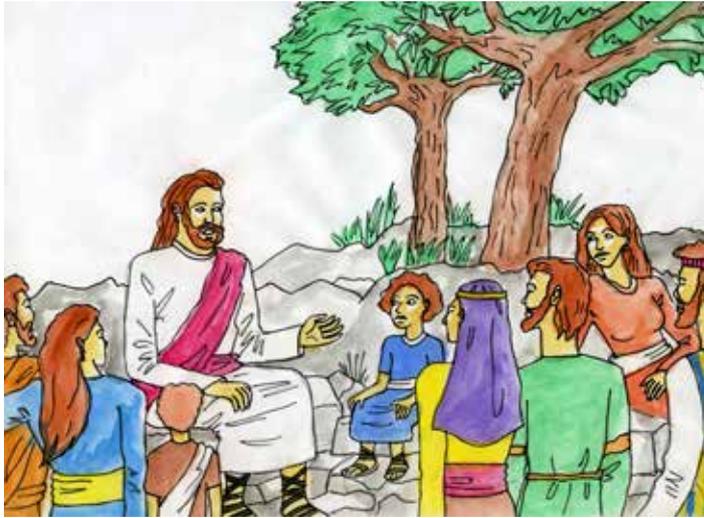
Application questions

- i. How can you get out of the trap of the problem of sin?
- ii. What did the sinner have to do in the Old Testament in order for his/her sins to be forgiven?
- iii. How can you help your friends to come to Jesus?

Lesson 9: Sins thrown in the depth of the sea

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Micah 7:19



Objective: The learner will appreciate God because God forgives sins.

Introduction

If you were thrown in the depth of the sea, would you manage to swim?

LINK: You would possibly drown if you did not know how to swim. In our verse today, we see how God loves us so much that He is willing to throw our sins in the depth of the sea.

Bible Verse: You will again have compassion on us; You will tread our sins

underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depth of the sea.

LINK: People who know how to swim can swim even at the deep end and come out safely.

Physical application

Children should not swim in the river because they can drown or contract water borne diseases. Some rivers can be shallow enough for you to swim in. Usually such kind of rivers have dirt or many germs in them. You should therefore be very careful and avoid bathing in such rivers. Diseases such as bilharzia are very common in such rivers.

LINK: Deep rivers are equally dangerous. But the prophet Micah prayed to God that He should hurl their sins in the depth of the sea.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The prophet prayed for their sins to be hurled into the depth of the sea. This means that the sins would be washed away completely. God forgives and forgets our sins completely when we ask for forgiveness. The Old Testament people took an animal like a goat or lamb or calf to the priest when they sinned. The priest would kill the lamb and its blood would be shed for the forgiveness of the people. But, for you and me to be forgiven of our sins, God loved us and sacrificed His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins on the cross. He died but He rose again the third day. He died for all the people. "So Christ was sacrificed once to take away sins of many people..." (Hebrews 9:28) If you are not a child of God, God can forgive your sins. He shed His blood more than 2,000 years ago to cleanse us from our sin. He will remember our sins no more.

LINK: If you are a child of God, your sins have been forgiven completely.

Spiritual application for the saved

You can thank God that your sins have been forgiven. You have been set free from the bondage of sin. The Bible says, "If the Son sets you free, you are truly free." (John 8:36) When you sin against Him, confess and agree with Him that you have sinned. He will forgive your sins.

Challenge: Will you always appreciate God for the forgiveness of your sins?

Invitation: Will you choose to believe in Him today? "...Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins..." (Acts 2: 38)

Teacher: Turn to Page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Why are forgiven sins thrown to the bottom of the sea?
- ii. What does God use to cleanse our sin?

Activity

Ask children what diseases they are mostly likely to contract if they swim in a dirty river.

Lesson 10: Springs without water

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: 2 Peter 2:17



Objective: The learner will keep close to the word of God and watch against false teachers.

Introduction

Imagine that you get to the well or borehole and find no water there. What would you do? You would be disappointed, wouldn't you? You would feel frustrated if you were thirsty and needed water for drinking or urgent use at home.

LINK: The Bible tells us about people who are springs without water in them.

Bible Verse: 2 Peter 2:17. These are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved.

LINK: Peter was making the Christians of his time to beware of false teachers. He described them as springs without water and mists for whom the darkness was reserved forever.

General application

It is useless to keep containers without water in your house because water is very important. You need water for various uses such as drinking, washing, bathing, cooking, and sometimes it can be used in an emergency when someone is dehydrated (loss of water from body tissues). If you have no water in the house, you will be susceptible to diseases like diarrhea. Therefore, remember to make sure there is water in the house all the time.

LINK: It is not good to have springs without water.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Springs without water means you don't have Jesus Christ in your life. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the Living Water. "Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life." (John 4:14) Jesus gives you the eternal life which you need if you believe in Him. Eternal life is living with God forever. Jesus the son of God came from heaven to come and live a perfect life on earth. God loves you and gave Him up to be crucified on the cross for your sins. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. "And without the shedding of blood is no forgiveness of sins." (Hebrews 9:22b) He died on the cross, was buried and rose the third day. He is now in heaven. If you believe in Him you will receive the springs of Living Water.

LINK: If you have eternal life, you should be careful of false teachers.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Mists driven by the storm are people who say they are Christians but do not have the Word of God

in their hearts and cannot choose between right and wrong. They believe anyone who comes their way; they will follow even if what they are told is not true. If you are a Christian, God wants you to be grounded in the things of God. “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 3:18a) To grow in Jesus Christ is to know Him better and do things which He wants you to do like reading and doing what the Bible says, telling others the good news about Jesus Christ, meeting with other Christians to worship God at church or Good News Club and showing kindness and love to others is the only way to grow spiritually.

LINK: If you are a Christian, God wants you to grow in the things of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Blackness or darkness is hell. Hell is a place which God has reserved for the devil, his angels and those who will refuse to believe in Jesus Christ. In hell there is no light, you live in total darkness and continue to be thirsty and hungry forever. Jesus told His disciples that there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth in hell. (Matthew 8:12) You only gnash your teeth when you are in pain and need water. People who will be in hell are people who will not have believed in Jesus Christ when He comes. “Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but he who does not believe stands condemned already.” (John 3:18) You and I are all sinners but God loved us and sent His son to come and die in our place so that we do not need to spend our lives in hell.

LINK: God does not want you to go to hell. He wants you to live with Him in heaven.

Invitation: Will you choose eternal life today? “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Challenge: Will you choose to study God’s word so that you are not driven away from the truth?

Application questions

- i. What kind of people are those like springs without water?
- ii. What does it mean to be a spring without water?
- iii. What does water represent in this verse?

Lesson 11: The experience of hell

Teaching: Water and Salvation

Scripture: Luke 16:19-31



Objective: The learner will see the urgency of speaking to others about Christ.

Introduction

A person cannot live in a place where there is no water for a long time.

LINK: There is a place God has prepared for everyone who has refused to believe in His son. It is a place without water. Let us learn about it.

Progression

- A. There was a rich man who had everything but did not know God (v. 19)
- B. There was also a poor man, his name Lazarus, who had nothing but was sickly but knew who God was. (v. 20)
- C. Lazarus was so poor that he only used to eat what was falling off from the rich man's table. (v. 21)
- D. The poor man died and went to feast with Abraham in heaven. The rich man died and was carried to hell. (v. 22)
- E. In hell, the rich man was in great pain. The rich man looked up and saw Abraham at the table with Lazarus. (v. 23)
- F. The rich man cried to Abraham to send Lazarus to dip a finger to go and cool off the rich man's tongue because he was in great pain in the fire. (v. 24)

LINK: Natural water can quench your thirst but it cannot quench your spiritual thirst.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

As long as you are alive, you have the chance to have your spiritual thirst quenched. When you die without Jesus, you will go to hell. Hell is a place God has prepared for the devil and his fallen angels and those who would not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Hell is a place of burning forever. But God loves you so much. He made you and wants you to live with Him in heaven forever. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins so that you should not go to hell. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. He will come back to take those whose sins have been forgiven. Sin separates you from God. You can believe in Jesus today and have eternal life. "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not have life, but will remain under God's punishment." (John 3:36)

LINK: God's punishment can make you thirsty forever. Natural water can quench your thirst.

- G. Abraham told the rich man that he had lived the good life while on earth. It was not possible for him to cross over to heaven or people in heaven cross over to him. (25-26)
- H. The rich man begged Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers but Abraham refused and said there were other prophets who could warn them. 27-29)

LINK: If you have already believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, God wants you to tell others about Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you do not tell your brothers, sisters and friends who have not believed in Jesus, they will go to hell. God wants you to tell them the Good News about what the Lord Jesus did for them. When they hear the Good News, they may believe and help them avoid going to hell.

LINK: God wants you to tell others. The rich man wanted Lazarus to go and tell his brothers.

- I. The rich man insisted that if someone came from the dead they would listen but Abraham answered him that they would not listen even if people from the dead spoke to them.

LINK: The man wanted his brothers to be saved though he was in hell. God also wants you to have eternal life and live with Him forever.

Invitation: You can believe in Him and receive eternal life today. (John 3:36) The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who disobeys the Son will not see life. Instead, the wrath of God remains on him.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Challenge: If you have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, will you choose to tell others about Him? During this week, will you share the Good News with your friends? When you come to church, share with us how many people you will have spoken to.?

Application questions

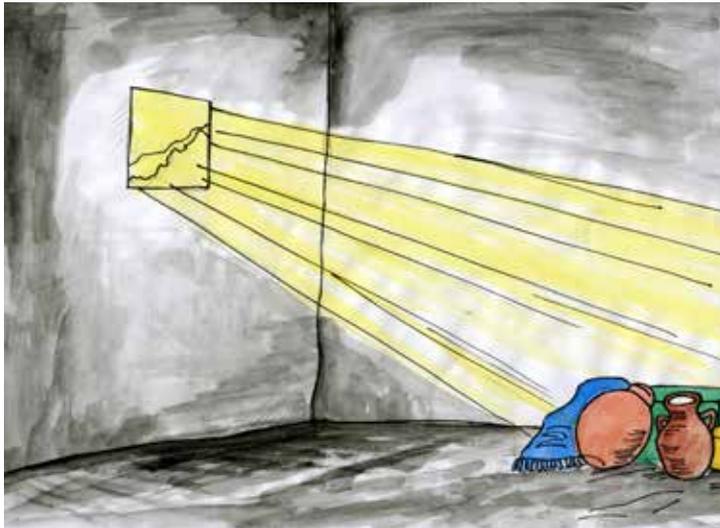
- i. What kind of people go to hell?
- ii. What kind of people go to heaven or Abraham's bosom?
- iii. What are the qualifications for you to go to heaven?
- iv. What makes you sure you are going to heaven?

SALVATION

Lesson 12: Jesus, the Light of the World

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Luke 18:35-43



Objective: The learner will decide to be saved and let his/her light shine.

Introduction

Would you please close your eyes? What do you see? (darkness!) Have you ever thought what it would be like not to be able to see – to always be in darkness?

Progression of events

A. Blind Bartimaeus sat by the roadside begging (v-35)

LINK: Bartimaeus had a problem of blindness, but you and I also have a problem of sin. What is sin?

Spiritual application to the unsaved

Sin is anything you think, say and do which does not please God. Thinking evil of others, insulting and fighting are all examples of sin. The Bible says in Romans 3: 23, “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” This means that you and I are sinners. You are born with a desire to do wrong things. Sin has a punishment. The punishment for sin is death which is to be separated from God forever.

LINK: Bartmaeus’ problem was that he was blind. But you and I have a problem of sin.

Physical Application

Blindness is no excuse to be a beggar. You may have parents who are blind and may want you to go with them in town to beg. It is not right for you to lead your parents to beg instead of going to school. If your parents love you, they will send you to school so that when you are educated, you will help them. Blindness is not a reason for begging, you need to work hard. You can work hard at school. You can also work hard in the garden so that even if your parents are blind, you will have enough food at home.

LINK: Sin is every person’s problem. Bartmaeus was blind and was a beggar.

- B. He heard a crowd of people passing by and asked what was happening. (v-36)
- C. They told him Jesus was passing by. (v-37)
- D. Bartimaeus called out to Jesus (v- 38)
- E. The people tried to stop him from calling for Jesus but he shouted the more. (v – 39)
- F. Jesus stopped and asked for Bartmaeus to be brought to him. (v-40)

LINK: Jesus stopped because He is God and loved Bartmaeus. Do you know that God loves you too?

Teaching about God

God loves everyone in the world. Do you know that He made every person and everything? God knows everything. Nothing is hidden from Him. In showing His love, he sent His son Jesus to come and die for us. (1 John 4:10). God loves you very much. He also loved Bartimaeus.

LINK: That is the reason why Jesus stopped for him.

G. Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted. (v-41a)

LINK: Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted because He was the only one who had the power to give Bartimaeus his eyesight.

Teaching about Jesus

Jesus has the power to take away the sin of your heart. You and I know that Jesus died on the cross to take away our sin. He is the only one who could do that because He never sinned. He shed his blood to set us free from the power of sin. (Colossians 1:13-14). He was buried but rose from the dead on the third day. In John 8:12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

LINK: Only Jesus has the power to forgive the darkness of your heart. He also had power to give Bartimaeus his eyesight.

H. Bartimaeus asked to receive his sight. (v-41b)

I. Jesus told him to receive his sight, his faith had made him well. (v-42)

J. Bartimaeus followed Jesus praising God. (v-43)

K. The people also praised God. (v-43)q

LINK: Bartimaeus received his sight because that is what he had asked for. You too can ask Jesus to forgive your sin. The Bible says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: turn to page 221 for a complete invitation

Challenge: If you have already believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, it means that the darkness of your heart has been taken away. Will you today decide to start helping your friends who may need to be helped no matter what condition they may be in? For you to shine for Jesus, you should be good to your friends and also invite them to the Good News Club so that they can hear the Good News about Jesus Christ.

Application Questions

- i. What makes light different from darkness?
- ii. Why is sin similar to darkness?
- iii. What do we need in order to remove sin from our hearts?

Lesson 13: The bronze serpent

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Numbers 21:1-9



Objective: The learner will learn how to confess his/her sins when he/she sins.

Introduction

Snakes are disliked by many people because they are dangerous reptiles. They cause death; snake bites can be so painful.

LINK: But in our lesson today, God used a bronze (metal) snake to save the children of Israel.

Progression of events

- A. God granted Israel victory over the Canaanites, whom they totally destroyed. (1-3)
- B. People complained against Moses because they lacked water and had grown tired of eating manna supplied by God each day. (4-5)

LINK: The Israelites sinned by complaining against Moses and God. You and I sometimes complain against God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Complaining is sin because you speak against God. Sin is what you think, say and do which is displeasing to God including hatred, complaining and stealing or disobeying your parents. Each person in the world is born with a sin problem. The Bible says, "For all have sinned." (Romans 3:23a) All means 'everybody'. This includes you, me, your parents and everyone else. Sin is punishable. The punishment is to be separated from God forever. That means you will never live with God.

LINK: God hates sin. He hated the sin the Israelites committed.

- C. God judged the sin of the people by sending poisonous serpents, which began to bite and kill the complainers. (6)
- D. The people admitted their sin to Moses and asked him to pray to God to remove the serpents. (7)

LINK: The people admitted their sin to God. If you are not God's child you must admit your sin and seek God's forgiveness.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says, "If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just and will cleanse us from all our unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) This verse is talking to you who has eternal life and is a child of God. To confess is to admit to God that you have sinned. Each time you sin, you must go before God and admit your sin to Him. You should mention the sin you have committed and tell God you are sorry for sinning against Him. When you do that, God will forgive you and you will become as if you never sinned at all. All your sin will be wiped out. You should not sin deliberately just because God forgives. God has given you the power to do right.

LINK: You should admit your sin to God. The Israelites admitted and asked Moses to pray for them so that God would remove the snakes.

- E. Moses prayed for the people, and God heard his prayer. (7b)
- F. God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent and hang it on a pole. Whoever looked at the bronze snake on the pole would live. (8-9)

LINK: Whoever looked to the bronze snake would live. The snake on the pole was a picture of what God would do later through Christ dying on the cross.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you. He made you and everything you see around you and beyond. He is holy which means He is without sin. He hates sin and punishes sin. He lives in heaven and would like to live with you in heaven one day. He loves you, "For God so loved the world" (John 3:16a). God sent His Son Jesus to come and live a perfect life and later die for the sins of all the people of the world. He willingly took your place of punishment by shedding His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. When He died, he was buried and on the third day, He rose; He is now in heaven. One day he will come to take those who have believed in Him.

LINK: You can choose to believe in Him today.

- G. The Israelites continued on their journey. (10)

LINK: You can choose to believe in Jesus today. Remember that you have sinned and deserve God's punishment.

Invitation: Will you choose to believe in Him and have everlasting life? "Whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:15)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Challenge: During this week, will you remember that God has given you power to do right but if you wrong Him, remember to admit your sin to Him and ask Him to help you not to sin again?

Application questions

- i. Why did Moses erect a bronze serpent in the wilderness?
- ii. What did the bronze serpent represent?

Lesson 14: The paralyzed man

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Luke 5:17-26



Objective: The learner will show godly love for people around him.

Introduction

Have you ever been so sick as to fail to walk on your own?

LINK: In our lesson today, there is a man who was so sick that he could not do anything for himself.

Progression:

A. Jesus was teaching a large crowd of people in a house in Capernaum as the Pharisees and teachers of the law watched and listened.(v-17)

B. Some men brought a paralysed friend on a bed to be healed by Jesus. (v-18)

LINK: The men who brought their paralysed friend to the Lord Jesus were showing great love and concern for their friend. They also showed such great faith that their friend would be healed if they took him to Jesus.

Spiritual application for the saved

If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, God wants you to show love and concern for the people around you. The people around you could be your family members, your friends at school or in the neighbourhood or friends that you go to draw water with. How can you show love and concern for the people around you?

1. You can draw water for the elderly members of the community.
2. At the well, you could help people who are carrying water jars to lift them up onto their heads.
3. You should care for the sick by visiting and encouraging them through prayer.
4. You should share what you have with those who do not have.

You can show love and concern for the members of your community in many and various ways. The Bible says, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:11)

LINK: You could show love and concern for the members of your community in various ways. The men who brought their paralysed friend were showing love to him.

C. The men could not bring their friend into the house because of the crowd, so they lowered him down through the roof as he lay on his bed. (v-19)

LINK: The paralysed man had a big problem. He could not help himself. You too have a problem with sin and you cannot save yourself.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is a terrible problem for everyone. Nobody ever teaches anybody how to insult, tell lies or how to fight. We all know these things because that is how we are born. Sin is going against God's law like doing things that do not please Him. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23) Death means that you are separated from God forever.

LINK: Remember sin is mankind's problem. The sick man's problem was that he was paralysed.

D. When Jesus saw their faith, He told the sick man that his sins were forgiven. (v.20)

LINK: When Jesus said this the teachers of the law and the Pharisees were surprised. They said who could forgive sin but God?

Teaching about Jesus

Oh, how right they were! Nobody can forgive sin, but the problem was that they did not believe that Jesus is God the Son. He is the one God sent to come and die for the sins of the whole world. He came down from heaven and lived a life just like you and me and yet He never sinned. He shed His blood so that your sins could be forgiven. He was crucified, died and was buried but rose from the dead on the third day. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) Jesus Christ is alive today and would like to save you from your sins if you believe in Him.

LINK: Only Jesus has the power to forgive sin. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees thought Jesus was lying because they did not really know who He was.

- E. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees thought Jesus had blasphemed by saying He could forgive sin. (v-21)
- F. Knowing their thoughts, Jesus asked the religious leaders why they struggled with this issue. (v-22)
- G. Jesus asked them which was easier to say a man's sins are forgiven or that he is healed. (v.23)
- H. To show them His authority and power as God the Son, Jesus commanded the man to walk. (v-24)
- I. Immediately, the man stood up and took his mat and walked away. (v-25)
- J. The people glorified God for what they had seen. (v-26).

LINK: Jesus, the son of God, wants to meet your greatest need too. He came to forgive your sins.

Invitation: Maybe you realise today that your sins separate you from God. You must believe Jesus died on the cross for your sins. The Bible says, "Whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:15) If you completely trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross for you as the only way your sins can be forgiven, you will not have to be separated from God forever. He will forgive your sins and you will be able to live with Him forever. Would you like to believe in the Lord Jesus today?

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

Challenge.

If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, God wants you to show love and concern for the people around you. Will you this week show love and concern to any two members of your community? Come and share the testimony next week.

Application questions

- i. The problem of the paralytic could only be dealt with by Jesus Christ. What great problem should be taken to Jesus for cleansing?
- ii. Why was there a need to trust God for the healing of the paralytic?

Lesson 15: Washing of your sins

Teacher: Salvation

Scripture: Revelation 1:5b



Objective: Just as his clothes should be washed, the learner will desire to have his sins washed with the blood of Jesus Christ.

Introduction

Usually, when you think of washing, you think of washing your clothes with soap and water.

LINK: But our verse is talking about washing our sins with the blood of Jesus Christ.

Bible verse: To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

LINK: Before we look at what this verse means, we will look at the importance of washing clothes.

General application: It is important for every person to wear clean clothes. For you to wear clean clothes you need to wash them with washing soap and water. If you do not, you will have a bad smell. A person is supposed to wear clean clothes not only to look clean but also prevent skin diseases on their bodies.

LINK: Water and soap will make your clothes clean. But to do this you must take off your clothes every time. The blood of Jesus washes our sins once and for all.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible verse tells us that to Him who loved us. 'To Him' refers to Jesus Christ the Perfect Son of God. He loved us by leaving heaven and coming down on earth to die for our sin. Sin cannot be washed with soap and water because it is in the heart of a person. It cannot be seen. Sin makes it impossible for us to please God and it makes us do things that hurt us and hurt other people such as lying, stealing, killing, bribing, denying people their rights and many other such deeds. God hates sin and sin has to be punished and the punishment of sin is separation from God forever. God does not want you to be punished. He sent Jesus who shed His blood on the cross. His blood washes you from all your sin. It washes the sin forever when you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Your sins are forgiven and you are as if you never sinned. "Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins." (Acts 2:38) Remission of sins is forgiveness of sins.

LINK: Will you choose to repent and have your sins forgiven and washed today?

Invitation: To repent is to admit that you are a sinner in need of salvation, believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins. And then invite him in your heart.

Challenge: If your sins have been washed, will you tell others about Jesus Christ so that their sins can also be washed away?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What comes to your mind when you hear of washing?
- ii. How are sins of people washed away?
- iii. Why is it good to have our sins washed away?

Lesson 16: Which part of you is clean?

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: John 13:11.



Objective: The learner will not only want to be clean outwardly but also inwardly.

Introduction

Can a person be considered clean if he/she is only clean on one part of his/her body? When is a person said to be clean?

LINK: Let us see what Jesus taught about this.

Jesus was just about to wash the feet of His disciples. His goal was not really to make them clean. It was to give them an

example of how they should carry out His ministry or work after he had gone back to heaven. He was showing them that He did not come to be served but to serve. He was more interested in the state of their heart much more than their physical appearance.

LINK: If you are already saved, you will be considered clean when you do things that please God.

Spiritual application to the saved

Some of the things that please God include obeying your parents, attending Sunday school, serving others, visiting the sick and so on. Spending enough time with God in prayer and the study of God's word is also one of the things that pleases our Father in heaven.

God is much more interested in the cleanliness of your heart. "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7) This means that your heart must be right with God. Then you will be considered clean.

LINK: Jesus told his disciples that not all of them were clean. Jesus is God. He is not only able to see the outward appearance, but also the heart. He knew the disciple who was going to betray Him.

Washing of the visitor's feet was usually performed by a servant. When guests arrived their feet were dirty. The servant would be at the door to wash their feet. This also helped to refresh the visitor and keep the house clean.

LINK: It is important to keep your body and the surroundings clean all the time. Is it possible to keep yourself clean all the time?

Yes, you can do so by doing the following:

1. Take a bath at least once a day
2. Wash your clothes
3. Wash your feet or body before you go to sleep

4. Keep your room and your surroundings clean
5. Get rid of stagnant water to kill mosquito larvae.

LINK: When you keep yourself this way, then you will be considered clean. You can be clean on the outside but if you are not saved you are still unclean.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

To be unclean is to be sinful. You and I are both sinful. You were born a sinner. "They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies." (Psalms 58:3) Sin separates you from God. God sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins. He loved you by allowing His Son to die a sacrificial death. He suffered for you and me and shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins. (Hebrews 9:22b) On the third day He rose from the grave. He is now in heaven.

Invitation: You can invite Him to come in to your heart and make Him your Saviour. Ask Him to save you from your sins. (Acts 16:31)

Challenge: If you are already saved, God does not only want you to be clean outwardly but also inwardly. Your heart should always be right with God. This week remember to keep your heart and your outward appearance clean.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

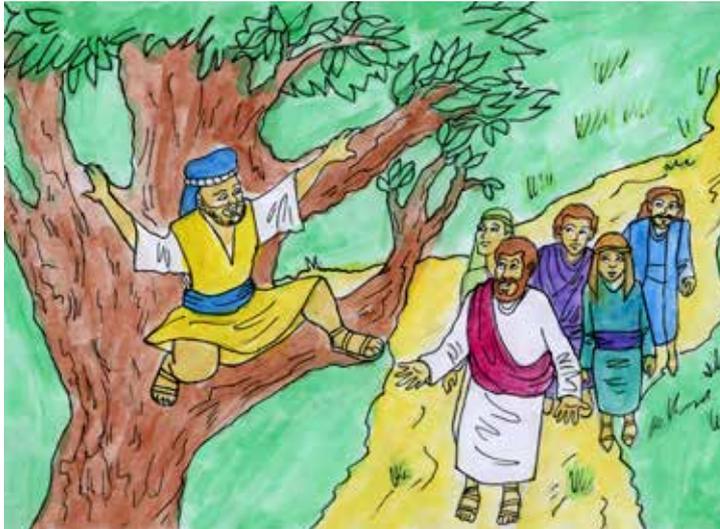
Application questions

- i. What makes a person clean in the eyes of God?
- ii. What makes us fully and truly clean?

Lesson 17: Zacchaeus receives his salvation

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10



Objective: The learner will desire to turn away from sin completely and become a better person.

Introduction: Sometimes you may be faced with a challenge to get something beyond your reach because it is far above. You may stand on a stool or some other item in order to increase your height. Sometimes you may want to see far off but you can't because of your small stature. In such times what do you do?

LINK: In our story today, one man did something in order to receive his salvation.

Progression of events

- A. As Jesus entered and passed through Jericho, there was Zacchaeus a rich chief tax collector. (1-2)
- B. He sought to see Jesus but he couldn't because there were so many people and he was a short person. (3)

LINK: The problem which Zacchaeus had was not only being short, it was being a tax collector because the tax collectors of those days over charged and stole from people. Because of this, many people hated them.

Spiritual application for the unsaved: Teaching about sin

Sin displeases God because God is holy. It separates you from God forever. The Bible says in Isaiah 59:2, "Your sins have separated you from God." To be separated means, you will never live with God. Sin is thinking, saying, and doing what displeases God like thinking wrong about someone, gossiping and disobeying your parents. You are born wanting to do wrong rather than good. People are not taught how to sin in the same way a healthy baby is not taught how to walk – the baby crawls and then one day he/she stands on her feet and takes the first steps.

LINK: Sin separates you from God. Zacchaeus was hated by the people because he stole from them.

- C. He ran to go and climb a sycamore tree as Jesus was going to pass through there. (4)
- D. Jesus went to the place and told Zacchaeus to come down and he was going to his house that day. (5)

LINK: Jesus went to Zacchaeus because He loved Zacchaeus although he was a sinner who cheated people. Jesus also loves you even though you are a sinner.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you. "We love Him because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19) God made you and everything you see. He is holy and without sin. He lives in heaven and would like to live with you in heaven one day.

LINK: God loves you very much. He also loved Zacchaeus. He went to the tree and told him to come down.

- E. He quickly came down and received Jesus rejoicing. (6)
- F. When the crowd saw that, they complained that Jesus was going to a sinner's house. (7)

LINK: The crowd complained because Jesus was going to a sinner's house. They didn't know that Jesus came for people like Zacchaeus. Jesus also came for people like you.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus Christ left heaven, a beautiful place to come and be born into this world through the Virgin Mary. Even when He was a child, He never thought, spoke or did anything displeasing to God because He is God the Son. He died on the cross and paid for your sins. He shed His blood so that you could be saved from your sin. "The blood of His Son Jesus cleanses us from our sin." (1 John 1:7) He was buried but rose again on the third day. He is now in heaven.

LINK: Jesus died to save you from your sin. He also came to save Zacchaeus. He wanted to go to Zacchaeus' House.

- G. Zacchaeus stood up and told Jesus that he would give half of his possessions to the poor and return back what he had stolen four times back. (8)

LINK: Zacchaeus promised to make things right with the people he had wronged. He changed completely.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to change completely. That is to live a changed life that is pleasing to God. The Bible says, "Behold you are a new creation. Behold the past has gone and the new has come." (2 Corinthians 5:17) This means that you stop everything wrong you used to do and begin to do right like loving people, being kind to others, obeying your parents and going to church.

LINK: God wants you to live a new life as a new creature. Zacchaeus also changed completely.

- H. Jesus said, salvation had come to that house because Zacchaeus was also a son of Abraham. (9)
- I. The son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost. (10)

Invitation: Jesus came to save the lost. If you are not saved, you are lost. You need to believe in Jesus so that He can save you from your sin. You can choose to believe in him today. (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Challenge: If you are saved, God wants you to be changed completely. Think about the sin that troubles you much and ask God to help you resist. Remind yourself that you have been forgiven by God through the blood of Jesus his son. Come and share how God is going to help you next week

Application questions

- i. What are you supposed to do about that the sins trouble you so much?
- ii. What are you supposed to tell God about this situation?
- iii. The teacher gets a large clean sheet of paper and puts a black dot in the middle of it. He/she allows the children to discuss what it means in relation to sin and righteousness.

WATER and GROWTH

Lesson 18: Being well watered

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Psalm 104:16a. The trees of the Lord are well watered.



Objective: The learner will know that God wants him/her to grow as he/she is reading God's Word.

Introduction

Well-watered trees are trees which look green all the time. They are probably planted along the river.

LINK: Your life can also be well watered if you do what God wants you to do. If you are a child of God, God wants you to be well watered in your spirit.

Spiritual application for the saved

To be well watered means to grow in the things of God. Getting to know God better and following His commandments. For you to know God better you must do the following:

Confess your sins when you do something wrong. To confess is to agree with God that what you have done is wrong and you are willing to turn away from sin because sin causes God not to hear your prayers. (Isaiah 59:2)

- a. Read the Bible everyday to know more about who God is.
 - b. Each time you read find out what the verse is saying about God and who He is.
 - c. Find out what God wants you to do and what He does not want you to do. Do what God wants you to do and stop doing what he does not want you to do
 - d. Find out what sin to confess from the verse and confess it
 - e. Find out what promise God is offering you and claim it or make it yours
 - f. Memorise the verse and use it in your daily Christian life
1. Pray to God every day. Prayer is talking to God
 - a. You can talk to Him by giving thanks to Him
 - b. Talk to Him about your needs
 - c. And talk to Him about your sin
 2. Witness or tell others about Jesus Christ
 - a. You can tell them what Jesus has done for you
 - b. You can invite them to come to the Good News Club
 - c. You can show good behavior to them so that you can point them towards Jesus.

LINK: If you are saved and do what we have talked about, you will be well watered in your soul and spirit. You will grow to be like God. But if you are not saved, even if you do all these things, it will not do you any good.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not as a result of work so that no man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9) It means you and I cannot

serve ourselves. We are saved by believing that God loved us and sent His Son to come and die for our sins. Ephesians 5:2b says, "Just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." He was a perfect person but, He willingly took your place of punishment on the cross where He shed his blood, died and rose the third day. He died because of your sin. Sin separates you from God. You can never be in a place which God has prepared for those who have believed in His son.

LINK: You can choose to believe in Him so that your sins can be forgiven and become saved.

Invitation: Romans 10:10 says, "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." Will you choose to believe and be saved today?

Challenge for the saved: If you want to be well watered, will you follow the steps that you have been taught so that you can get to know God better?

Teacher: Turn to page 221 and for sample invitation

Application questions

- i. What are the signs of a tree which is well watered?
- ii. As children of God, what should you do to look like a tree which is planted by the river?
- iii. What are some of the fruits (good things) of living a committed Christian life?

Activity

If possible let children visit trees which grow along the river so that they can compare them to other trees far from the river. The children should be accompanied by the teacher.

Lesson 19: Hungry and thirsty for God

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Matthew 5:6



Objective: The learner will seek to know the Word of God.

Introduction

When someone talks about being hungry and being thirsty, one would think of physical food and water to fill the stomach. One has to eat food and drink water to take away the hunger and quench the thirst. If you do not do this, you will be weak and dehydrated (reduction of water from the body tissues). Although there is hunger and thirst for the body, there is also hunger and thirst for the soul.

LINK: The Lord Jesus Christ spoke about being blessed if you hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Bible Verse: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Spiritual application for the saved

To be blessed is to be happy. Some people think money will satisfy them. Others think they need more fun and pleasure. Others think of eating a lot of food and drinking. Jesus says the only thing that can satisfy you is to hunger and thirst for righteousness. Righteousness is doing right. To hunger and thirst for righteousness is to have a desire for a right relationship with God. You must be a child of God only by believing in Jesus Christ the Son of God. Hunger and thirst means that you start doing what God wants you to do such as spending time with Him during your quiet time. Quiet time or devotion is a time you have alone with God. During that time you pray to God and God talks back to you through his Word. You ask yourself questions like: 1. What does the passage say? 2. Who were the original listeners to the Word or message? 3. What is He saying to me? Who is God in this passage? 4. What does God want me to do or not do? 5. What promise is God giving me? 6. What sin can I confess? You will also enjoy going to church and meeting with other Christians. As you do that, God will give you true inner happiness. You will enjoy the righteousness that is given to you by God.

LINK: But if you are not a child of God you can never do anything right before God because your unforgiven sins separate you from God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you and wants you to be His child. You can become a child of God by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God. "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31) Jesus Christ took your punishment for sin on the cross. He was separated from His Father on the cross when your sins were laid on Him. He bled and shed his blood for your sins to be forgiven. You can choose to believe on Jesus Christ and also have the right to hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Invitation: Will you choose to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ today? (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Challenge: Will you hunger and thirst for the Word of God and pray to God?

Application questions

- i. What is the meaning of being hungry for righteousness?
- ii. Why is this hunger and thirst important?
- iii. What has God promised to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?

Lesson 20: Returning to the Lord

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Amos 4: 7-8



Objective: The learner will know the importance of water.

Introduction: God gives us rain which is very important for drinking, plants and crops.

LINK: God allowed the children of Israel to live without enough water so that they could turn back to Him.

Progression of events

God wanted the children of Israel to repent and go back to Him but they did not. This is what He told Amos to tell the children of Israel.

- A. I also withheld rain from you when the harvest was still three months away. (7a)
- B. I sent rain on one town but withheld it from another. One field had rain another had none and dried up. (7b)
- C. People staggered from town to town for water but did not get enough to drink. (8a)

LINK: People went from place to place to look for water because water is very important.

General application

Water is very important in our day-to-day lives. We need water for drinking, washing, bathing, cleaning various items and even watering the garden. You must thank God for the water which is available to you. You do not need to go from place to place looking for it. It is very expensive to make water available that is why it is important for you to look after it. The water sources should be swept and kept clean and make sure that there is no dirt to make the water unclean.

LINK: You must remember that others in your town or country do not have the water nearby therefore it is important to look after the water very well.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Just like the people had to go from town to town looking for water, if you are not saved, you also look for pleasures of this world from place to place including the internet. It is a spiritual thirst and is called sin. Sin separates you from God. It makes you want to have things that you think would satisfy you but they do not.

God gives you water which you do not need to look for from place to place. God loves you and gives you the Living Water. That water is the spiritual water, the Lord Jesus Christ, the perfect Son of God. If you believe in Him you will be given the Living Water. (John 4:10) Jesus Christ is the Living Water. When He comes into your heart, you do not need to look for another Saviour.

LINK: With Jesus in your heart, you do not need to look for spiritual water everywhere; the Israelites looked for water everywhere because they did not have enough. God ensured they did not have it.

D. Yet you have not returned to me declares the Lord. (b)

LINK: God denied Israelites water because He wanted them to return to Him but they did not.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved and you have turned from the Lord, God wants you to come back to him. Turning away from God is living worldly. You may be saved but you begin to steal, to fight, disobey your teachers and parents, telling lies and doing other wrong things. If you do that you make God unhappy. The bad things will not satisfy your soul. You need to remember that God loves you and wants you to return to Him. “Come now let us reason together,” says the Lord, “though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow...” (Isaiah 1:18) This means that it does not matter how far you have turned from God, He is waiting for you to go back to Him and He will forgive and forget your sins and be as if you never sinned.

LINK: God wants you to go back to Him. He also wanted the Israelites to go back to Him.

Challenge: You may be a saved person and you have not been living a godly life, it is not too late for you. God wants you to God back to Him. Will you choose to turn away from your sins and go to God?

Invitation: Physical water cannot satisfy you completely. Only Jesus can give you satisfaction. Will you choose to believe in Him today? “Whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:15)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Why did God withhold water from the people of Israel?
- ii. What does this teach us about obedience to God?

Activity

The teacher requests the children to clean the surroundings of the water source by picking litter and uprooting weeds which animals may follow and leave their droppings in the water.

Lesson 21: Reviving your spirit

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Joel 1: 20



Objective: The learner will continue to seek God even in moments of discouragement.

Introduction

How do you feel when you walk through the bush that has just been burning? You feel hot, choked and thirsty for water, don't you?

LINK: Joel the prophet prayed to God for help because the fire had devoured pastures of the wilderness and the flames had burned up all the trees of the field.

Bible Verse: Even the beasts of the field pant for you; for the water brooks are dried up and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

LINK: Water is very important because even nature needs it. The Prophet Joel cried to God for mercy because the land had become dry.

General Application

Living in a dry place without water can be very dangerous because all living things need water for different uses. They need water for drinking, washing, bathing, plants etc. Because you live in a place where water is free and easily available, you must thank God for the water and look after the water sources like borehole, taps and rivers properly. If you do not look after them properly, they will become faulty and problems of water will trouble your community. The animals will die and the plants will dry up. Human beings will lack food and starve.

LINK: The people of Israel faced a situation where the water brooks dried up. Water brooks are places where you find water in the bush. You may have the water to drink but you may be facing problems with spiritual dryness.

Spiritual application for the saved

Spiritual dryness is feeling dry in your spirit. You feel like you do not want to pray, to read the Bible, to fellowship with others or feel as if God is far away from you. When you begin to feel that way, you must remember that you are like a dried up brook. Your spiritual life needs to be watered. Do not wait until you get worse before you can seek God when you feel spiritually dry. Ask God to revive you. To be revived is to be restored back to life because when you are spiritually dry, you are like a plant that needs water. After giving it water, it becomes alive again. The Bible says, "Will you not yourself revive us again?" (Psalms 85:6a) The sons of Korah asked God to revive them because they had become spiritually dry. If you are saved, God wants you to be revived all the time. When you begin to feel dry in your spirit, tell God about it and ask Him to revive you, examine yourself in areas where you are not doing well spiritually. Thank God for reminding you and answering your prayer and begin to do what you are supposed to do.

LINK: If you are not saved, you cannot be revived. You need to believe in Jesus and be saved because without Him you are spiritually dead.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus brings life in your spirit. You become awake and then you can ask for revival when you feel dry. Jesus came down from heaven because God loves you and sent Him to come and die for your sins on the cross. The Bible says, "That God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." (Romans 5:8) Without your sins being forgiven, you are dead and cannot please God. Your sins separate you from God. Jesus died and rose for you. Today, you can choose to believe in Him.

LINK: Will you choose to believe in Jesus today?

Invitation: "...Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31)

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to be revived. Will you do what He wants you to so that you can continue to be revived?

Challenge: When you feel discouraged in your spirit, will you go against your feelings and continue to seek God.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions:

- i. Why is vegetation important to human beings and animals?
- ii. How can you conserve water so that it can be kept for a long time?

Activity

The teacher leads the children in a prayer of thanks giving to God. "Dear God, thank you for the rains which give us water in the Name of Jesus Christ," Amen.

Lesson 22: Thirsting for God like a deer

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Psalms 42:1-2. As a deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul thirsts for God, for the living God.



Objective: The learner will take time to read his/her Bible and pray.

Introduction

A deer is a wild animal that pants for water especially when there is a drought. Panting is a deep longing, thirsting for water

LINK: The psalmist tells us that he also pants not only for water but for God. Let us learn from the Psalmist

Spiritual application for the saved

The Psalmist tells us that just like the deer pants for water that is how he also thirsts for God. As a child of God you must thirst for God. To be thirsty for God means to seek to be in the presence of God. Sometimes you may find yourself feeling as if God is far away, or during hardships you may feel neglected or forsaken by God. When you feel that way:

1. You must seek God's presence more than ever before. To be in the presence of God is to spend time with God in prayer.
2. You must read the Bible and hear what God wants you to know and do from His Word.
3. Talk to God through prayer - In your prayer, worship God and tell Him how you love and adore Him; thank Him for His presence. Even though you may not feel His presence, the Bible tells us that God will never leave or forsake us. The Bible says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)

LINK: God wants you to seek Him. You should not only pant for water but for God. If you are not saved, you can pant for God and invite him to take away your spiritual thirst. That is receiving Jesus Christ so that He may make you God's child.

Spiritual application for the unsaved and invitation

The Bible says, "Yet to all who received Him, He gave the right to become children of God even to those who believed in His name." (John 1:12) You can become a child of God by receiving Jesus in your heart. You and I have sinned. You should agree with God that you cannot save yourself. Believe that only Jesus His Son can take away your spiritual thirst. When you do that, He will make you God's child. Then you can also seek His presence. Will you choose to let God make you His child by receiving Him?

LINK: Do what the above verse says and become God's child for your spiritual thirst to be quenched.

Challenge: For you who is already a child of God set aside time to spend with God, pray and read His Word. Come and tell us next week what you will read and what God says to you from His Word.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why should you long for God the same way the deer longs for water?
- ii. How should you spend time with God?

Activity

Teacher: Use the devotional book to show children how to spend time with God.

Lesson 23: Water as a symbol of spiritual growth

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Psalms 1: 1-3. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither.



Objective: The learner will learn to have devotions using a devotional book and the Bible.

Introduction

When you go in the bush to pick mushrooms, masuku (wild fruits) or just to play about, you may find a place where trees look different from others. The trees look greener. When you see such trees you should know that there is a river or stream nearby. Trees look greener because of water.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God would like you to always be green in your spiritual life. In our Bible passage today, we see that a tree planted by the streams of water yields its fruit and its leaf does not wither.

Spiritual application for the saved

What is it that is needed to make a tree or crops look green every day? Yes, you are right! Water is needed for growing plants. In the same way, a Christian needs spiritual nourishment. This means that you need to read your Bible every day. When you read the Word of God every day you will notice the following:

1. You will like to play and be found in the company of friends who also like to read God's Word. That means your company or group of friends will change
2. Instead of thinking about things that may take you away from God you will begin to think more and more about the word of God
3. You will discover you are more respectful and obedient to your parents than ever before; you will also be growing in things of God
4. People will start speaking highly of you and say that you are a good person and will soon become an example for others.

You will begin to grow in the Lord every day. You will be just like a tree which is planted by the river which receives and drinks from the water of the river and is ever green. You too will be "ever green" as you continue feeding on the Word of God. The Bible says, "Whoever believes in me should drink the Living Water." As the scripture says, "Streams of Living Water will flow from within him." (John 7:38)

Challenge: If you are already a child of God, God wants you to continue growing by 'drinking' from His Word, the Bible.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, you cannot grow even when you drink from the water of life because you are not yet planted in God. The Bible says that whoever believes in Him should drink from the water of life. Scripture further says, "If anyone believes in Me, streams of life-giving water will pour out from his side." (John 7:38)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Why do trees that grow near water give fruit continually?
- ii. Why should the righteous person be like the tree planted near water?

Activity

The teacher takes children to the water sources so that they can see the difference between the plants near the water sources and those that are far from the water sources.

Lesson 24: Thirsty and you gave me water to drink

Teaching: Water and Growth

Scripture: Matthew 25: 35, 40



Objective: The learner will understand the importance of helping the needy

Introduction

How many of you drink water? How do you feel when you are very thirsty and someone denies you a cup of water? Disappointed, don't you?

LINK: In the Bible Jesus told His disciples about giving water to a stranger.

Bible Verse: I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in. (35) And the King will answer and say to them, Assuredly I say to you, in as much as you did it to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.

General application

To be thirsty is to yearn for a cold cup of water; some people even faint if they have not taken water. When you are thirsty, you need the water to replace the fluids that have been lost through urine or sweat. The urine and sweat also contain some minerals which are lost from your body. You need to drink at least 1-2 liters of water per day to keep yourself healthy.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Lord Jesus Christ told His disciples that those who would give to strangers water when they are thirsty, they would receive a reward from Him. To be thirsty does not only mean a longing for water, it would also mean to be in need of something important like school fees, school uniform, school books or even food and water. As a child of God, if you find someone with a need, you should help the person. It is like giving that person water. Some of you have things which you do not need like shoes and clothes. You can ask your parents if they can allow you to give to those who need them. By doing so, it is like giving water to the thirsty as we have learnt in our lesson today

Spiritual application for the unsaved

If you are not a child of God, helping others will not do much; you first need Jesus so that when you help others you do so with the right motive. God wants you to become His child. He gave Jesus Christ His Son to come and die for your sins. He was buried and on the third day He arose. He is now in heaven.

Invitation: Today you can receive Him and become His child. "Yet to all who received Him, He gave them the right to become children of God..." (John 1:12)

Will you choose to receive the Lord Jesus and become God's child?

Challenge: Will you remember to give to the needy? It could be school uniform, shoes, money or sharing water with a friend or neighbor.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why is it important to share water?
- ii. How would you show love to people as proof of your love for God?
- iii. How do you feel about someone who says, 'I love God,' but people don't see their care for others in need? How does God feel about such people?

Activity

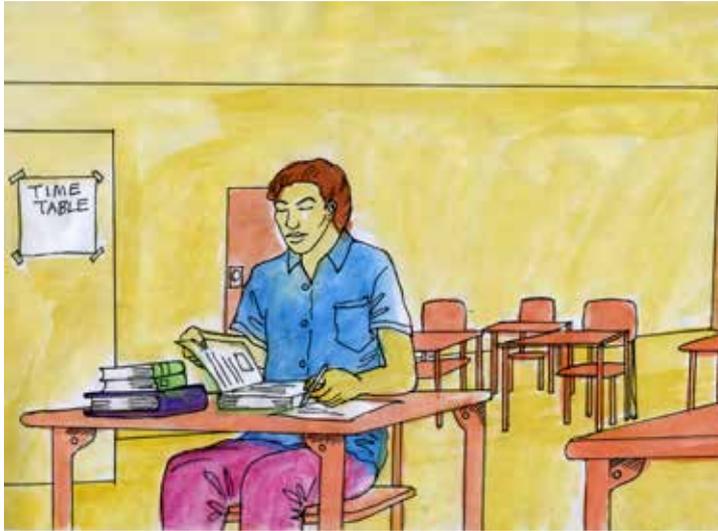
With prior arrangement the teacher walks to the well/borehole with children each of them carrying a clean container to draw water for parents, the elderly and the disabled.

GROWTH

Lesson 25: Loving instructions

Teaching: Growth

Scripture: Proverbs 12:1. Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.



Objective: The learner will see the need for instruction from the Word of God and wise people.

Introduction

People receive instructions from others from time to time. Sometimes, instructions have been rejected because of pride or simply because of hardness of heart. Can you recall the times that you may have rejected instruction when people older or wiser than you advised you?

LINK: The Bible says a person who rejects instruction is stupid.

Explanation: ‘loving instruction’ and ‘loving knowledge’ means wanting to know more about various subjects. It can be learning about science, geography, hygiene, cookery, sport and many other disciplines but above all, learning more about God and His Word. From God’s Word you will learn about everything you want to know concerning God and yourself. The Word will tell you that without God you cannot live forever and the Word will also show you how to live with God forever. You will know how to avoid sin, how to draw encouragement from God and you will also learn to praise God for who He is. The Word will correct you, teach you, encourage you, train you and help you to be well equipped for his service.

Hating correction

‘Hating instruction’ means, you do not want to be told that what you have done is wrong even when you know you are wrong. It could be your parents, telling you how to keep yourself clean but you may not want to listen to them. When they tell you to do something good, you talk back rudely and even ignore them. Doing that is very wrong and sinful before the eyes of God. The Bible says whoever does this is stupid or foolish. To be stupid means you are a fool. You have no knowledge and you are unwise. A wise person will accept rebuke and become wiser.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to love instruction and knowledge. You will become wiser and you will know a lot of things and succeed in your life. People will love you and want you to give them advice when they need wisdom.

LINK: The wisest thing that you can do is to be saved before you can love instruction.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Even if you are knowledgeable, if you do not have Jesus Christ in your heart, you are as good as foolish because to refuse Christ is foolishness to God. You and I have sinned and deserve to be punished, but God loved you and sent His Son Jesus Christ who had never sinned to come and die for our sins. “God

demonstrated His love for us in this, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8) If you pray and admit to God that you have sinned, believe that only Jesus can save you from your sins and invite Him to come into your heart; your sins will be forgiven. Then you can have a desire for instruction and knowledge.

LINK: Will you choose to believe in Jesus Christ and become saved today?

Invitation: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. (Acts 16:31)

Challenge: Will you decide to seek instruction and wisdom from others and become wiser?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

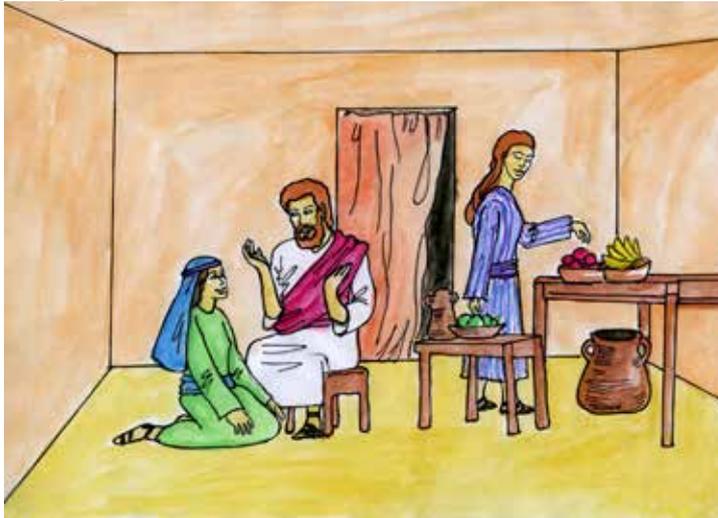
Application questions

- i. What is instruction?
- ii. How do we receive instruction?
- iii. What is correction?
- iv. Why is correction important?

Lesson 26: Mary and Martha

Teaching: Growth

Scripture: Luke 10: 38-42



Objective: The learner will choose what is best for his life.

Introduction

How often do you spend time with God? Even in Bible times, some people did not know how to use their time. There is a difference between spending time doing God's work and spending time with God. The two are very different.

LINK: The Lord Jesus helped Mary and Martha to choose the best for their lives.

Progression of events

- A. Jesus went into the village and a woman called Martha welcomed Him into her house. (38)
- B. Martha had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word. (39)
- C. Martha was distracted with much serving and approached Jesus telling Him to tell Mary to help her. (40)

LINK: Martha was distracted by doing many things trying to serve Jesus. You and I are also sometimes distracted by many things.

Spiritual application for the saved

Serving people is not a bad thing to do. But you must know when to do other important things. You may be distracted by cleaning up, cooking, washing, or even entertaining people. If you are saved, God wants you to value him more than any other thing. Doing other things instead of listening to God is like worshipping what you are doing. Whatever you put first before God is what you worship. God wants you to worship Him only. The Bible in Exodus 20: 3 says, "You shall have no other gods before Me." God is pleased when we love him more than anything else. One way we show our love for God is to spend time with him. You should set aside a time when you can be alone with God to talk to Him through prayer, singing and learning from the Bible how to please him. Learn the Word of God by heart and use it throughout the day. In that way, you will be pleasing God by spending time with Him. Spending time with God is more important than just doing work for him.

LINK: God wants you to have time with Him but Martha was distracted by many things trying to serve Jesus Christ.

- D. Jesus answered her that she was distracted by many things but Mary had chosen the good thing which would not be taken from her.

LINK: Mary chose what cannot be taken away from her. You can also choose what cannot be taken away from you—the Lord Jesus Christ.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The only thing that cannot be taken from you is Jesus Christ the Perfect son of God. When you receive Him, He comes into your heart and promises never to leave you (Hebrews 13:5b). You and I have sinned. You were born wanting to do wrong more than doing what is right. We have gone our own way. "We all are like sheep and have gone astray." (Isaiah 53: 6) Sin is punishable and that involves separation from God forever. God sent His Son Jesus to come and pay for the punishment which you and I were supposed to pay. He willingly gave up his life for you by shedding his blood from His head, hands, feet, and whole body for your sins to be forgiven. When He died, He was buried and rose the third day. If you call on His Name, He will come into your heart and live with you forever.

Invitation: "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13) Will you choose Jesus today?

Challenge: Will you learn from Mary and choose to be at Jesus' feet? You can do so by setting aside some free time when you can spend time with God. During that time, you can pray and talk to God and read from the Bible.

Teacher: For the unsaved, go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. How can you know what to choose for your life?
- ii. In what ways can you spend time with God?
- iii. Can you think of something that is distracting you from spending time with Jesus Christ?
What is it?

Lesson 27: Obeying the voice of God

Teaching: Growth

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:1-28; 2:12-21; 3:1-20.



Objective: The learner will study, read and obey the Bible.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:1-28; 2:12-21; 3:1-20.

Do you obey your parents? When your mother or father is calling you, do you respond immediately?

LINK: In our lesson today, there is a boy who heard his name being called but did not know exactly who was calling him. Who is this boy?

Progression of Events

- A. Hannah, who had been childless for many years, cried out to the Lord and vowed if God gave her a son, she would dedicate him to God's service. (1:1-11)
- B. When Eli the priest saw her praying, he misunderstood at first then wished her God's best. (1:12-18)
- C. God answered Hannah's prayer, giving her a son. Hannah kept her vow, dedicating her son Samuel to God. (1:19-28)
- D. Eli had two sons who sinned against God in their service to Him. (2:12-17)

LINK: The sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, disobeyed God and their father Eli. They were guilty of sinning against God.

Teaching for the unsaved

The Bible says everyone has sinned and that includes you. Sin is not just the things you do that are wrong but also refusing to do what is right. When you are not kind to your brother, you sin. When you do not show respect to your mother and father, you sin. When you do not love others as you love yourself, you sin. The Bible says, "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin." (James 4:17) God says you deserve to be punished for your sin and that punishment is total separation from God forever in a place called hell.

God planned for His son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come on earth in human body. He was born as a baby and grew up and yet never sinned. He died on the cross and blood came out of His body. The Bible says, "The blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7) God punished His son in your place. Jesus took the punishment you deserve for your sin. If you believe in what Jesus did for you, you will be forgiven of your sin.

LINK: You are guilty of sinning against God if you do not believe in Jesus. Eli's children were guilty of sin because they disobeyed God and their father.

- E. As Samuel grew he obediently ministered with Eli. (2:18-21)
- F. One night God called Samuel but Samuel thought it was Eli calling him. (3:1-8)
- G. After the third time, Eli knew it was God calling Samuel and he told Samuel how to answer. (3:9)

LINK: If you have believed on the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you need to listen to God and obey Him.

Teaching for the saved

In the Bible God spoke to people in a voice they could hear. But today God speaks to His children by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances that he brings their way and through other believers in Christ. We need to listen carefully to the Holy Spirit speaking to us through all these ways. The Bible is the main way that God speaks to us. Many Christian boys and girls (and adults too!) never take time to read God's Word and let Him speak to their hearts. Maybe you have been so busy doing things and having fun that you never spend time reading the Bible and listening to God speak to you. If you do not take time to read God's Word and listen to Him, how will you know what He wants you to do? How can you obey God if you have not taken time to listen to Him? James 1:22 says, "But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

LINK: You need to listen to God and obey Him.

- H. When God called again, Samuel answered as Eli had instructed him and God gave Samuel a hard message to deliver to Eli. (3:10-15)
- I. Eli urged Samuel to deliver God's message and Samuel told Eli that God was going to punish his sons for their sin. (3:16-18)

LINK: If you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, listen to God and obey Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

To listen to God means to spend time reading His Word and to stop and think about what you have read. Maybe there is a command God wants you to obey or a promise to claim. Maybe there is something that God wants you to change in your life. Listen and let God speak to your heart.

After you have stopped to listen to God, you need to give up your own way and be willing to obey God. Ask God to help you. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22) Sometimes God may ask you to do something difficult. He may ask you to be kind to someone you do not like or do a job without complaining. If you obey Him, he will help you do whatever He asks of you.

LINK: If you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, listen to God and obey Him.

- J. Because Samuel continued to listen to Him, God used Samuel as His messenger. (3:19)
- K. Soon all Israel recognised that Samuel was God's prophet. (3:20)

LINK: If you have believed on the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, will you listen to God and obey Him?

Challenge: Will you take time each day to read God's Word then stop and think about what you have read? Ask God to help you obey Him even when it is hard. Ask God to help you be a doer of His Word and not just a hearer. (James 1:22.) Listen to God and obey Him. God is pleased when you obey Him.

Invitation: If you have not yet believed on the Lord Jesus, what you need to do is to hear His Word and believe in Him for everlasting life. "... He who hears My Word and believes in Him who sent me has everlasting life." (John 5:24)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

Application questions

- i. In what ways does God communicate with us?
- ii. Why do people sometimes miss the voice of God?
- iii. Have you ever heard God speak to you in your life?
- iv. If He has, how did He speak?

Lesson 28: Worshipping God

Teaching: Growth

Scripture: Psalm 34:3; Psalms 95



Objective: The learner will appreciate what it means to worship God.

Introduction

Worshipping God is not just sitting and listening to someone preaching or singing. It is thinking about God and meditating on Him. It involves taking time to appreciate who God is, what He has done, and what He is doing. It is responding to Him with reverence, praise and joy.

LINK: The following are ways in which you can appreciate God if you are saved:

1. Grateful acceptance of God's gift for us - You can appreciate God for saving you from your sins through His Son who took away the punishment for your sin.
2. Worship God with others - God wants you to worship Him with other believers. In Psalm 43:3 David calls us to worship, saying, "Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His Name together." Going to church alone or Good News Club does not mean worshipping God. You worship by thinking about God as you sing, pray, and learn His Word. Focus on God and join others to worship Him. Worshipping means focusing our hearts on God and lifting Him up for who He is and for what He has done.
3. Worship God when you are alone - You can worship God anytime anywhere. Look at the wonders of His mighty works like stars, sun, moon, birds, rivers, and meditate on Him as the Creator of the things you see. Thank Him for giving you the gift of life which others have not received today and tell Him how glad you are for his love and the promises he has for you.
4. Let God's Word help you to worship Him - Use God's Word to worship Him. Most of the Psalms will help you to worship God. Read some verses from the Psalms each day and think about how powerful His Word is as you worship Him.
5. Worship God in Prayer - Another part of worship is telling God how wonderful He is. You can say, for example, 'God I love you,' 'I praise you because you are great and powerful,' 'You are good to me and all the people' etc.
6. Singing is a way of worship: - Use songs like, 'How great thou art,' 'Thank you Lord,' 'Come let us adore him,' and other songs that are being composed to worship God etc.
7. Make giving an act of worship - We can worship God by giving. We can give God our entire lives, our money, our time, talents and minds. You can do service to others and worship God. (Romans 2:1)

Challenge: Will you take time to worship God in one of the ways discussed above? You will discover how close God is to you when you worship Him.

Invitation: If you are not saved, you can accept His Son as your Saviour and begin to understand what worshipping God is. Will you choose to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ first and have power to worship God? The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31) When you are saved you can freely worship God because you are now His own child.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What does worship mean and what does it involve?
- ii. Explain how you have been able to worship God in your life.
- iii. Why is it important to worship God?

WATER and FAITH

Lesson 29: Asking for rain from the Lord

Teaching: Water and Faith

Scripture: Zechariah 10:1



Objective: The learner will appreciate the source and value of rain.

Introduction

Rain is very important especially to the farmer but it is important for all of us because it is from the rainy water that we get water in rivers, seas, wells and boreholes.

Bible verse: Ask rain from the Lord at the time of spring rain. The Lord who makes the storm clouds, and He will give them the showers of rain, vegetation in the field to each man.

LINK: Zechariah the prophet of God told the children of Israel to pray for the rain. They needed the rain for the vegetation. This happened when King Cyrus of Persia allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem.

General application

If there is no rain in your area, it is very worrying because you cannot have enough water to drink, wash, bathe and grow crops. Whether you are a child of God or not you need water. It is very important in our daily life. It is a blessing from God. Food becomes very expensive because few crops grow when there is little rain. Crops are grown in places where you can find water.

If you are a child of God, you can do what Zechariah told the children of Israel. He told them to ask God for the rain. God is the one who makes the storm clouds and makes the rain to fall. You can pray so that God gives rain to your area. Because God is faithful, He will make the rain fall. The Bible says there will be vegetation for every person. Which means you will have enough food grown in your area or country.

Sometimes rain is a symbol of blessings in one's life. It can be a blessing in good health, peace, success, possessions and good family relationships. You can ask God to bless you like Jabez did in 1 Chronicles 4:9-10. "Oh God that you may bless me..." and his request was granted.

If you are not a child of God, you may be blessed physically or materially but the blessings are short-lived. God wants you to have the true everlasting blessing of living with Him forever. John 3:15 says, "That whoever believes in Him will have everlasting life." Jesus Christ the Son of God gives you the true blessing of life if you believe in Him. He died to take the punishment of your sin away. He shed His blood on the cross and after He died He was buried and rose the third day. He will come back to take those who have believed in Him.

Invitation: Will you choose to believe in Jesus today? "... whoever believes in Him will have everlasting life." (John 3:15)

Challenge: Will you remember to pray for anything you need from God. When you are in need pray to God and when He gives you what you need, come and share with us.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. What are the various sources of getting water in your community?
- ii. Why is water important in your home or in your community?
- iii. Is prayer important? Are there things you have prayed to God for in your life?
- iv. Are there ways that your community could work to have better access to water?
- v. Are there ways that rainy water could be wisely used in your community?

Activity

The teacher allows the children to visit two gardens or areas, one which is well watered and another which is not in order to notice the difference.

Lesson 30: Jesus and Peter walk on water

Teaching: Water and Faith

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33



Objective: The learner will learn to put his trust in God all the time.

Introduction: Is it possible for you to walk on water?

LINK: It is not possible for you to walk on water because water is a liquid. Science and experience tell us that if you walked on water, you would sink and die. Only Jesus was able to walk on water because He is God.

Progression of events

- A. Jesus sent the people away and made the disciples to get into the boat to go across the Sea of Galilee. Jesus went up to the mountain to pray. (22-23)
- B. When the disciples were about 6 kms out to sea, a strong storm arose. (24)
- C. Jesus approached the disciples, walking on the water. (25)

LINK: Jesus walked on the water because He has power to walk on water. He is God. Just like He has the power to walk on water, He also has power to forgive your sins.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is anything you think, say or do that does not please God. God loves you and gave His Son to die for your sins on the cross. But God has shown us how much he loves us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us! (Romans 5:8) He died and rose again, and has the power to forgive your sins. He wants you to come to Him for your forgiveness. You can believe in Him today.

LINK: Jesus has the power to do anything. He could even walk on the water.

- D. The disciples were greatly afraid when they saw a shadow moving towards them until Jesus said it was him. (26-27)
- E. When Peter asked Jesus to let him walk on water, He said, come! Looking at the waves tossing around, Peter began to sink. (28-30a)

LINK: Peter began to sink because he looked away from Jesus to the waves because he was afraid.

Spiritual application for the saved

Do you ever look at things around you and become afraid? Falling sick or parents fighting, or moving to a new village, or not having friends can make you afraid. If you are a Christian, you need to look to Jesus when you are afraid. The Bible says, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" (Hebrews 13:6) This means you should look to God for help and not be afraid when you face a problem. When you are afraid remember what the Bible says and trust God to help you; thank Him when you are no longer afraid.

LINK: If you are a Christian, God wants you to look to Him when you are afraid.

F. As he began to sink, Peter cried out to the Lord for help. (30b)

LINK: Water can be very dangerous.

Physical application

If you do not know how to swim, do not try to walk or swim in deep water. You could drown and die. Do not play near a well or a river, or even, push your friend into the river or swimming pool. These are rivers which have crocodiles and can eat you up.

LINK: Water can be dangerous. Do not play with water

G. Immediately, Jesus reached out to save Peter. Jesus asked Peter why he had feared instead of having faith. (31)

H. Once he looked to Jesus, Peter found himself safe again in the boat. The storm stopped and the disciples worshipped Jesus and believed Jesus and His mighty power. (32-33)

LINK: Jesus is All Powerful.

Challenge: Jesus is truly God's Son. He is All Powerful. He is with you to help you in time of need. If you are a Christian, God wants you to look to Him when you are afraid. During this week, will you remember to trust God when you are afraid?

Invitation: If you are not saved, you will need to believe in Jesus for you to become a Christian and look to God when you are afraid. You can choose to believe in Him today.

Teacher: Go to page 221 and check on the sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why is it not possible to walk on water?
- ii. Why did Peter manage to walk on water without sinking?
- iii. What do we need to do in order for us to receive a miracle from God?

Activity

Children are asked to write things they should not do when they are near the river or swimming pool.

Lesson 31: Jesus calms the storm

Teacher: Water and Faith

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41



Objective: The learner will entrust himself/herself to God without being afraid.

Introduction

There are many things that make children like you to be afraid. Sometimes you are afraid of dogs or of the dark.

LINK: There are also things that make even adults become afraid. The people in our lesson today were adults but were afraid that they were going to die.

Progression

- A. On that day, when evening had come, Jesus told His disciples to go to the other side of the lake. (4:35)
- B. And leaving the crowd, the disciple took Jesus with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. (4:36)

LINK: They got into the boat as easy as you and I get on the mini bus, bicycle, or oxcart when we want to go somewhere.

General Application

If you live near a big river, I am sure you have seen people travel on the water using boats or dugout canoes. Rivers are very important because not only do they provide a means of transportation but also a source of the fish we eat. Some of the boats can only carry one or two people but others are able to carry several people at the same time. Apart from the fisher men, many people use boats as a means of transport to travel from one place to another. You can be living near a river which also is used for transportation.

LINK: Jesus and His disciples got on the boat to get to the other side of the lake.

- C. As they were travelling, a great windstorm arose and the waves began to break into the boat. The boat began filling up. (4:37)
- D. The disciples woke Jesus up who was sleeping in the boat and asked Him if He did not care that they were about to die. (4:38)

LINK: The disciples were so afraid that they were going to die. Sometimes even when Christ is your Saviour, there will be things that will make you afraid.

Spiritual application for the saved

What things make boys and girls like you afraid? You can be afraid when your parents are fighting in the house maybe because your mother or your father is very sick. You could also be afraid of the dark or lightning. If Jesus is your Saviour, God wants you to remember that Jesus is always with you. Hebrews

13:5b says, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:6 says, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear." This means that the Lord Jesus Christ has promised to be with you all the time and that will help you. All you have to do is tell Him. Do not be afraid to speak to Jesus anytime. He loves you and only wants the best for you.

LINK: You should always remember to ask Jesus to help you. The disciples woke Jesus up because they knew He had the power to help them.

- E. Jesus commanded the wind and the storm to stop and it obeyed Him. (4:39)
- F. Jesus asked the disciples why they were afraid. He rebuked them because they did not have faith.
- G. The disciples were afraid because they saw that even the winds and the storm obeyed Jesus. (4:40,41)

LINK: Jesus has the power to help you even when you are afraid. Trust Him to help you.

Challenge: If Jesus is your Saviour, God wants you to remember that Jesus is always with you to help you. (Hebrews 13:5-6). Pray and ask Him to help you.

Invitation: If Jesus Christ is not your Saviour, He is not with you to help you. You need to choose Jesus to save you from your sin. (Acts 16:31).

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

Application questions

- i. Explain why sometimes you develop fear of some things and situations.
- ii. Should a Christian ever be afraid of anything?
- iii. What power does a person receive when he becomes a Christian?

Lesson 32: Moses after the red sea

Teaching: Water and Faith

Scripture: Exodus 15:22- 27



Objective: The learner will value treated water as much as having a clean heart.

Introduction

People do not live in a village where there is no source of water. People will always live in places where there is water.

LINK: After the children of Israel crossed the red sea, they had to look for a place with water to rest.

Progression

- A. Moses led the children of Israel away from the red sea into the desert of Shur (v.22a)
- B. For three days they walked through the desert, but found no water. (v.22b)
- C. They came to a place called Marah but the water there was bitter and could not be drunk (v.23)
- D. The people complained to Moses because there was no water to drink. (v.24)

LINK: The people complained because there was no water to drink. Complaining is sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Do you know that you and I have also sinned? Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God like hating your friend, complaining, and disobedience. The Bible says, "For all have sinned." (Romans 3:23) You were born wanting to do more wrong than do what is good. Sin separates you from God forever, which means you will never have a chance to live with God.

LINK: Complaining is a sin. The people sinned because they complained against Moses.

- E. Moses prayed to the Lord. (v. 25a)
- F. The Lord showed Moses what to do. The Lord showed Moses a piece of wood to put in the water and the water became good to drink. (v.25b)

LINK: Not all water is good for drinking. Some water could be contaminated with things that can make you sick if you drink it.

Physical application

This is the reason why God told Moses to treat the water with the piece of wood. The water we drink today is also treated with chemicals. Chlorine is one common chemical we use to treat water. And if you do not have money, water can also be treated by boiling it and leaving it to cool before you drink it.

LINK. You should always make sure that the water you are drinking is clean. God showed Moses how to make the water good for drinking.

- G. The Lord gave them the law to live by and tested them there. (v.25c)
- H. The Lord told the people to obey and keep His commandments so that He would not bring upon them the diseases He had brought on the Egyptians. (v. 26a)
- I. God told them that he was their healer. (v. 26b)

LINK: If you are saved, God is also your Healer.

Spiritual application for the saved

He can heal you from any sickness you could have. When you feel sick, you should remember to pray and ask Him to heal you. He promised the children of Israel to be their healer. The promise is also for you.

LINK: God is your Healer. He was also the Healer for the Israelites.

- J. From Marah, they came to Elim where they found twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees and camped there. (27)

LINK: God made them find the twelve springs of water and palm trees where they camped because He loved them. He wanted them to be in a place where they could have water available. Do you know that God loves you too?

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you and sent Jesus His Perfect Son who came from heaven and lived a perfect life. He willingly took your place of punishment so that you do not have to be punished for your sins. He shed His blood and died on the cross, then the third day He rose from the grave. He is now in heaven. One day He is coming again to take those who have believed in Him. God the Creator of everything loves you and wants you to live with Him forever. He is holy and without sin.

LINK: God loves you, He also loved the Israelites. He made them camp at a place where there were twelve springs of water.

Invitation: Because God sent His Son to come and die for your sins, you can choose to believe in his Son Jesus to save you from your sins. (Acts 16:31)

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember that God is your Healer? Will you remember to drink treated water.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What makes people complain against God?
- ii. Should Christians ever complain against God?
- iii. Do you think that complaining is a sin?

Activity

With prior arrangement, the teacher demonstrates how water is treated by boiling it.

Lesson 33: Elijah and the prophets of Baal

Teaching: Water and Faith

Scripture: 1 Kings 18:1, 2; 17-46



Objective: The learner will know that God is All Powerful.

Introduction:

Are you afraid when you are challenged concerning your faith in God?

LINK: In our lesson today, the prophet challenged some people concerning their faith.

Progression

A. As the drought came to an end, the Lord instructed Elijah to go to king Ahab with the message that God would send the rain. (1-2)

B. King Ahab blamed Elijah for the drought, but Elijah reminded him that God had sent it because Ahab had led people to serve idols. (17,18)

LINK: Why do you think Ahab blamed Elijah for the drought?

Physical application

In a drought situation there is no rain to let the crops grow or fill the rivers, lakes, seas and oceans with water. It means people will go hungry because they have no food and very thirsty because there is no water to drink and even to do other household chores like washing clothes, bathing, and cooking etc. Some people may even die of hunger because food cannot grow if there is no rainy water to make the crops grow.

Ahab blamed Elijah because they passed through a very hard time. Just one year without water is enough to bring hunger in the country but there was no rain for three and a half years at that time for the children of Israel. Maybe his people began to blame him for the drought.

Maybe you have not experienced a drought before and you do not value water. You must thank God for the water because there are others who are experiencing droughts and have to walk long distances to find water. Sometimes the water becomes very expensive during the drought. God wants you to appreciate the free water in your community; remember that there are people who do not have water.

LINK: A drought brings problems. Ahab blamed Elijah for the drought.

- C. Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah to a contest on mount Carmel.(19)
- D. As the people gathered at Mount Carmel, Elijah told them to decide between God and Baal. (20-21)
- E. Elijah explained how the challenge would be carried out. (22-25)
- F. Baal's prophets prayed, but received no answer (26-29)
- G. Elijah repaired the broken altar of God with twelve stones then he prepared his sacrifice and poured water on it. (30-35)
- H. Elijah prayed asking God to show the people that He was the true God. (36-37)
- I. God sent fire, completely consuming Elijah's sacrifice. (38)

LINK: Usually when you want to burn something, you do not want water nearby because the water will put out the fire. But Elijah poured water so that the people could see the power of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God is the one who made everything including water. He has power over it. Fire was sent from heaven by God to burn the sacrifice. Even the water which was poured three times on the sacrifice was consumed by the fire from heaven together with the sacrifice. If you are saved God wants you to know that He even has power over the water and everything here on earth and in heaven. The Bible says, "Our Lord is like a consuming fire." (Hebrews 12:29)

Just like He consumed the sacrifice and the water poured on the sacrifice God wants you to know that He does not tolerate sin. People who reject Jesus Christ as their Saviour will one day be judged by God. God's final judgement for any one whose name is not written in His Book of Life is that they will be thrown into the lake of fire, which is the second death. (Revelation 20:11-15) No amount of water can quench the fire in hell. God has made a way for you so that you do not have to be thrown into the lake of fire. He sent His son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins and save you from hell. He shed His blood, died and was buried. But on the third day He rose from the grave. You can believe in Him to give you eternal life.

LINK: God is like a consuming fire. Elijah poured water on the sacrifice to show the great power of God.

- J. Convinced by what they saw, the people bowed in worship, exclaiming, "The Lord, He is God." (39)
- K. The prophets of Baal were put to death. (40)
- L. Announcing the end of the drought, Elijah sent Ahab to Jezreel; then he went up to the mountain, where he prayed for the rain. God sent heavy rains, ending the drought. (41-46)

LINK: God sent heavy rains to end the drought and people were able to have water again and grow food. He loved the people and heard Elijah's prayer.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved you should always remember that God is all powerful. He has power over everything including nature. He ended the drought and sent rain for the people. He saved them from dying of thirst. He can also help you to have victory over any problem. Elijah stood for the truth.

LINK: Elijah stood for the truth; if you believe in God, He will save you from your sins.

Invitation: Acts 16:31 says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember to thank God for the water He has given you and remember that He is an All Powerful God?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. In the story we just read, why did God send the drought on the people?
- ii. What are some of the problems we experience when there is no rain?
- iii. Have you ever felt the desire to stand up for God?
- iv. How can we prevent drought in our community and the nation?

FAITH

Lesson 34: Abraham's faith is tested

Teaching: Faith

Scripture: Genesis 21:1-8; 22:1-14



Objective: The learner will learn to trust God during hard times.

Introduction

Suppose God gave you something you really wanted, something you had even prayed for many times. Then God tells you to give it back to Him. How would you feel about God? Would you have faith and obey Him? Perhaps you would think that it is the devil tempting you or you would not be able to surrender that God given gift.

LINK: Will the man in our story today have faith to obey God in hard tests?

This happened when Abraham was asked to sacrifice his one and only son. as a sacrifice to God.

Progression of events

- A. God fulfilled His promise to Abraham and Sarah by giving them a son Isaac. (1-7)
- B. Sometime later, God tested Abraham by ordering him to offer his promised son on Mount Moriah as a burnt sacrifice. (1-2)

LINK: God's request to Abraham to offer his son Isaac as a burnt sacrifice was pointing to the future when God himself would give His Son Jesus to come and die for the sins of all the people of the world.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus sacrificed His life when He died on the cross. You and I were supposed to be punished because we have sinned. Jesus willingly died in your place for your sins to be forgiven. God hates sin but He loves the sinner. God's punishment for sin is to be separated from Him forever. But you don't need to be punished because Jesus did it for you when He died in your place and shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins and the sins of all the people of the world. He didn't stay in the grave forever. He rose again on the third day and is now in heaven. Romans 5:8 says, "God demonstrated His love in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us."

LINK: Your sins can be forgiven because Jesus sacrificed His life for you. Abraham had to obey God when He asked him to take his son to Mount Moriah and sacrifice Isaac even though God stopped him from actually doing it when he saw Abraham's willingness.

- C. Abraham obeyed, beginning the journey the next morning. (3)

LINK: The Bible does not tell us why God gave him such a hard test. God may also give you a hard test.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God may allow you to go through a test. A test is a trial to see if you can obey God. Maybe you could have something which you love very much taken away like your parents, sisters, brothers, or even a car, house, clothes etc. Because God is a jealous God, He may test you to see if you truly love him more than all the other things or the other people. Loving the things or family members is not sin but, if you put more value in them than God, He may test you so that you look to Him. He may want you to give what you love to your friend or sister, or brother or even as a gift to church. Or a person in your family may become very sick, or even die or you may lose a job or be kicked out of your house because you don't have money to pay for rent. You may be tempted to be angry with God when such things happen to you. When such things happen, you must remember what the Bible says about trials. "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials." (James 1:2)

LINK: It is not easy to go through tests. Even Abraham went through a test but he obeyed God and decided to sacrifice His son.

- D. Three days later, he arrived at Mt Moriah and instructed his servants to wait while he and Isaac went up the mountain to worship. (4-6)
- E. Abraham responded in faith to Isaac's question (7-8)
- F. Abraham built an altar and tied his only son to it. (9)
- G. As Abraham raised the knife to kill Isaac, the Lord stopped him. (10-12)

LINK: Abraham showed his faith by obeying God without questioning Him. If you are saved, God wants you to obey Him even when it is hard to do so.

Spiritual application for the saved

You may go through hard times. When you go through the hard times, you should not be angry with God but thank Him knowing that He is faithful to help you in such times. Remember what the Word of God says in James 1:2. Pray and talk to Him about your problem and trust Him to help you. Know that God is always in control of what happens to you. When He helps you, thank God for helping you in hard times. Because He cares for you, He will give you strength, peace and joy as you go through the tests. The Lord will later reward you for not turning against Him when you passed through the hard times. You will become more mature in your faith.

LINK: Tests for our faith can be very painful and hard. But if you are saved, God wants you to obey Him by faith. Abraham trusted God and God stopped him from killing his son.

- H. Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in a bush by his horns. (13)
- I. Abraham named the place "The Lord will provide." (YHWH Yireh) (14)

LINK: Abraham obeyed God even though the test was so hard. Imagine how glad he was for God to spare his son for a ram. He had faith in God and trusted God for Isaac's life even if it meant raising him from the dead.

Challenge: If you are saved, you can also trust in God to help you even if the test is too hard for you. The teacher should have a special prayer time so that the children will pray and ask God to deepen their faith as a result of the test they are going through.

Invitation: If you are not saved, it is not possible for you to trust God during hard times. You should first trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour, then God will give you power to trust in Him. The Bible says, "Call on the Name of the Lord, and you shall be saved (Romans 10:13)."

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Abraham was tested by God, by asking him to offer his son as a sacrifice. What was God looking for in testing Abraham?
- ii. Did Abraham pass the test? Explain what happened?
- iii. Has your faith in God been tested since you became a Christian? Share your experience.
- iv. What are some of the tests that you have experienced in your life?

Lesson 35: God is concerned about you personally

Teaching: Faith

Scripture: Psalm 139



Objective: The learner will appreciate God for being personally concerned for him.

Introduction

Children play various types of games and one of them is 'hide and seek'. Have you ever played 'hide and seek' before? In 'hide and seek' you hide from your friends and they are expected to find out where you are. Sometimes they will find you but sometimes they will not. In addition, there are times when we try to hide from people when we have done something wrong. Sometimes, we get caught and sometimes we are never caught.

LINK: Do you know that there is someone whom you cannot hide from? That is God. Everything that we do is known by God.

Progression of events

A. David realised that God is Omniscient (He knows every aspect of our lives.) (1-6)

Spiritual application for the saved

God knows everything you do and everything you think about. He knows your thoughts even before you think and He knows where you are at all times. If you are a child of God, you should be comforted to know that God knows everything about you. He knows the plans you have for each day as you wake up, go to school, write your test, wash your clothes, go to church or attend Good News Club. Whatever will happen to you in your life is not a surprise to Him. He knows what is in your heart and the words that you are going to say.

LINK: God is concerned about you personally.

B. David realised that God is Omnipresent (He is everywhere at all times) (7-12)

LINK: There is no place you can hide from God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Perhaps there were times when David wanted to hide from God so that he could do whatever he wanted and perhaps there are times when you feel like hiding from God because you want to go your own way. God always sees the sinful things that you do even in your secret places because He is everywhere. He knows that you have not yet believed on His son and His desire is that you may come to Him through His Son who died and rose again for our sins. He knows that you were born a sinner and you cannot save yourself from the punishment of your sins. In your sinfulness you are separated from God, but if you believe that His Son Jesus died for your sins, Jesus can come in your heart and save you from your sins. God loves you and is aware of everywhere you go because he is everywhere. The Bible says that His presence fills all the earth.

LINK: If you are a Christian you can be comforted to know that God is Omnipresent. He is with you everywhere you go. Even in the darkest place or times of your life when nothing seems to be going right, God is always with you and willing to help you.

C. David realised that God is Omnipotent (God is all powerful). (13-17)

Spiritual application for the saved

God is All Powerful. He has power over heaven and earth. There is nothing in the universe that is beyond God's power. Nothing is impossible with God. God can do anything. Jesus said about the blind man in John 9:3, "...This happened so the power of God could be seen in Him." No matter your condition or how you were born, God has a purpose for your life. He can defeat all enemies. He has control over your life. He can help you in every situation. He uses His power to do the best for your life.

D. David knew that God would act justly towards his enemies and understanding that God was concerned for Him personally, He thanked God and asked God to control his life. (19-24)

Challenge: During this week, will you remember that God is concerned about your life and thank Him for His concern? Thank Him for His being All Powerful (Omnipotence), for being present at all times everywhere (Omnipresence) and for his knowledge of everything (Omniscience).

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, will you choose to become one today? (John 1:12)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. How would you feel if nobody cared about you and what you were going through?
- ii. Now that you know that God cares about you and is concerned about what you are going through, how do you feel about that?
- iii. What should be your attitude towards God who has been so good to you?
- iv. What kind of things are bad for people's minds or bodies or make them sick in our community?
- v. How can we help one another avoid the kind of things that would defile us or make us sad or sick?

Lesson 36: Lightning and thunder

Teaching: Faith

Scriptures: Jeremiah 10:12-13



Objective: The learner will appreciate the Power of God and His wisdom in creation.

Introduction: What comes to your mind when you hear peals of thunder or see lightening in the sky? Some of you probably hide under the bed or even cover yourselves with a blanket? Where do you think thunder or lightning come from? In our society, sometimes lightning and thunder are associated with witchcraft.

LINK: In our lesson today, we will look at God's mighty power over thunder and lightning.

Progression

Jeremiah 10:12: The LORD made the earth by his power; by his wisdom he created the world and stretched out the heavens.

LINK: God is the Creator. This means He is the one that made everything. Things that you can see, and things that you can't see. He is the one who made you, too.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you. That is why He made you. He is Holy which means He is without sin. He wants you to live with Him in heaven one day. Heaven is a nice place which God prepares for those who have believed in His Son. Because of sin, you cannot live in heaven with God. Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God including hatred, insults and fighting. You and I have sinned because we are prone to sin; our hearts are inclined to do evil. Sin separates us from God for ever but, because God loves us, He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for our sins. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins "...and without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins." (Hebrews 9:22b) He died, was buried and rose again the third day. He is now in heaven on the right hand of the Father, praying for all of us.

LINK: Jesus died for your sins so that you could be forgiven. God sent Him to die for your sins because He loves you.

Jeremiah 10:13. At His command the waters above the sky roar; he brings clouds from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning flash in the rain and sends the wind from his storeroom.

LINK: God is the one who makes lightning.

General application

Science teaches that when hot air and cold air meet, they make lightning and thunder. It is like what happens when you put a drop of cold water on a hot pan. It makes a hissing sound which could be frightening. This is likened to the weather pattern that God has created. When lightning sometimes hits the ground and if there is a tree nearby, a house, a borehole or even a human being, it can do a lot of damage because it has very high electric voltage.

When there is a storm or thunder and lightning, the following are the things you should do to protect yourself:

1. Avoid standing under trees.
2. Avoid being in an open ground.
3. Avoid using a phone.
4. Avoid taking a bath or shower or standing in the water.
5. Avoid using electrical appliances like stoves, pressing iron etc.

LINK: If a borehole or other water source was hit by lightning, the lightning is gone, and you can still drink the water from the borehole. It is still safe to drink.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to know that you do not have to fear thunder, lightning or even witchcraft because God is more powerful than witchcraft. The Bible says in Psalms 91:14, "I will rescue those who love Me. I will protect those who trust in my Name." This means that God's protection is always with you. When you are tempted to fear, you should always remember that God is All Powerful. He has power over witchcraft and lightning or thunder. You can pray and ask God to help you not to fear and trust Him for His help. Remember what the Bible says about His power and protection and thank Him for His protection. Even if lightning strikes a borehole, you don't need to be afraid to use it. A borehole or well is a helpful source of safe and clean water and is not permanently affected by lightning.

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to know that He is All Powerful.

Challenge: When you are faced with lightning, thunder or witchcraft, will you remember to ask God to help you not to be afraid? Remember what the Bible says about His protection for you. (1 John 4:4)

Invitation: If you are not saved, you cannot count on God's protection. You need to be saved first then you can be sure of His protection. (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. As a child of God, why should you not be afraid of witchcraft, lightning and thunder?
- ii. What do you need to avoid when there is a storm of lightning and thunder?
- iii. Why are people, especially in your area, afraid of lightning and thunder?

Lesson 37: The benefit of trusting in the Lord

Teaching: Faith

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-8



Objective: The learner will put his trust in the Lord not on himself or other people.

Introduction

Have you ever been let down by a person that you trusted so much? There is a song that was sung a long time ago.

This song goes like this, in part:

Jesus never fails (x2)

A man of this world will let you down
but Jesus never fails.

Your father will let you down
Your mother will let you down
A man of this world will let you down
but Jesus never fails

And the song goes on!

LINK: It is true that a man or woman of this world will let you down but Jesus never fails.

Progression of events

- A. Trust in the Lord with all your heart (v-5a)
- B. Do not lean on your own understanding. (v-5b)

LINK: If you have never trusted or believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you are leaning on your own understanding.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

You need to put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation. To trust is to put your confidence in God and His promises. Every person is born a sinner and no matter how good your understanding may be, you cannot save yourself from the punishment of sin. God has promised in His Word that, "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." (John 3:36). 'Whoever' is referring to anybody. It could be you today if you have never believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. The Son is the Lord Jesus who came and died for your sins. He took your place of punishment on the cross.

LINK: You need to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved rather than leaning on your own understanding because you cannot save yourself.

- C. In all your ways acknowledge him (v-6a)
- D. and he will make straight your paths.(v-6b)
- E. Be not wise in your own eyes (v-7a)
- F. Fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. (v-7b)

LINK: If you have already put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, God wants you to turn away from evil.

Spiritual application for the saved

You cannot trust in Jesus and still continue in your old life of evil. God wants you to obey Him even when it is hard to do so. This means that if you used to insult, you must not insult any more. If you used to refuse when your parents asked you to do something, you must change and become obedient. If you were a fighter, you must change and be a peace-maker. The Bible in 1 John 1:6 says, "If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." This means that you cannot claim to have trusted in Jesus and yet continue in the life of sin. When you are in a situation of sin or temptation, you must walk or run away from sin. Ask God to help you say 'NO' to sin.

LINK: God wants you to turn away from your sin if you have already put your trust in the Lord.

G. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. (v-8)

Challenge: If you have already put your trust in the Lord Jesus, God wants you to turn away from your sin. Remember 1 John 1:6. You cannot claim to have put your trust in the Lord and yet continue living a life of sin. Will you decide today to do away with a life of sin?

Invitation: If you have never trusted or believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you are leaning on your own understanding. You need to put your trust in the Lord so that you can be saved. To trust means to believe in Jesus. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (Joh 3:16) 'Whoever', is referring to you today. To believe is to admit that you are a sinner, believe that Jesus Christ died for your sin and He rose from the dead; so choose Jesus today to save you from sin. When you do that, you will receive eternal life. Eternal life is the life that has no end. Would you like to do this right now?

Application questions

- i. What does it mean to trust in the Lord?
- ii. What does it mean to lean on one's own understanding?
- iii. Why is it important to trust in the Lord?
- iv. What is eternal life?

KINGDOM VALUES

Lesson 38: Ananias and Sapphira lie to God

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Acts 4:32- 5:11



Objective: The learner will understand the importance of being truthful.

Introduction

There are times when we are tempted to hide things from other people so that they do not know what we have done so that we can avoid consequences of our sinful actions. But when it comes to God, we cannot hide anything from him.

LINK: In our lesson today, two people thought they could hide from God.

Progression of events

- A. The early church had experienced a tremendous growth as many people got saved from the day of Pentecost and the days that followed. Many people turned to the Lord. The increase in the number of believers also meant that the number of problems increased and people needed help. The apostles were moved by the leading of the Holy Spirit to request people to donate money and other things to help those in need. Some of them sold their property and took their belongings to the apostles to share with other believers. (4:32-37)

LINK: The Holy Spirit convicted the people during the early church and caused them to give to the church generously after they were converted.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

To be converted is to experience change inside your heart and become a new person. When Jesus comes into your heart, you become a new person. You and I have sinned and deserve punishment from God. God loves you and sent his Son Jesus to come and die for your sin. He willingly took our place of punishment and died a painful and shameful death so that we can know God. The Bible says, “Repent and be converted”. (Acts 3:19) To repent is to ask God to forgive your sins and believe that His Son Jesus died for you and rose from the dead and decide to live your life for Him.

LINK: You can choose to be converted. The people during the early church were converted and shared their belongings with others.

- B. Ananias and Sapphira his wife also sold their piece of land. (1)
C. They planned not to give everything they sold and pretended that was all (2)

LINK: Ananias and his wife thought they could get away with the sin of pretense when they took part of the money to the apostles and kept some of it. Do you sometimes also pretend or tell lies so that people will like you?

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to be truthful because you can never lie to God. The Bible says “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked.” (Galatians 6:7) Whatever you do in secret God knows. He knows everything that you have done because He is All Knowing. He wants you to tell the truth and not

pretend so that others would like you. When you do that the Bible says, “You are deceiving yourself.” To deceive yourself is to cheat yourself. It is sin before God. God wants you to say the truth because the truth will set you free.

LINK: You cannot deceive God. Ananias and his wife could not deceive God. Peter sensed that they had lied against God.

- D. Ananias went ahead of Sapphira his wife and pretended he was giving everything.
- E. Peter confronted him and asked him why he decided to lie to the Holy Spirit when he knew the piece of land was his even before he sold it. (3-4)
- F. After hearing Peter’s words, Ananias fell down and died. People present were filled with fear. (5)
- G. Young men carried him to the grave and buried him. (6)
- H. His wife came in three hours later without knowing what had happened. (7)
- I. Peter asked her if they had sold the land at the price which her husband had mentioned and she agreed. (8)
- J. Peter asked her how she could agree with her husband to lie against God. He told her that the people who had buried her husband were coming to take her also. (9)

LINK: Ananias and his wife tried to impress others with their generosity. Planning to sin by telling a lie or any other way is against God. It is making God look like He doesn’t know what you do in secret.

Spiritual application for the saved

When you are tempted to lie or sin against God in any way, remember what the Bible says in Galatians 6:7. Ask God to help you not to sin and say ‘No’ to sin. Choose to tell the truth and remember that God knows everything you do in secret or public.

LINK: God knows everything. Ananias and his wife thought they could deceive God and the others.

- K. Immediately she fell down and died and the same young men took her and buried her. (10)
- L. Great fear came upon the church and all who heard about the story. (11)

Challenge: Fear came upon the people because they realized that they could not hide from God. When you are tempted to lie against God, will you remember what the Bible says and say the truth instead of a lie. During this week, count how many times you will remember to tell the truth and come, share with us in the next class.

Invitation: You can choose to be converted and become saved today. (Acts 3:19)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Why do people tell lies?
- ii. Instead of telling lies, what should we do?
- iii. Does telling the truth help us or put us into trouble?
- iv. What damage can come from lying to the person or others?

Lesson 39: Confessing sin

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Psalm 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.



Objective: The learner will understand the need to confess sins each time he/she does wrong.

Introduction

Water is used for many things but it is also used for washing. In the Bible it is also used as a symbol of washing away sin.

LINK: In our Bible verse today, we are going to look at washing. Not washing clothes but having our sins washed away by God.

Background

After David sinned against God by sleeping with Bathsheba the wife of Uriah, God sent a prophet who told him about his sin and that God was displeased with David. In our Bible verse, David realized his sin and asked God to wash him thoroughly from his sin.

LINK: David asked to be washed of his sin because he was a child of God. If you are saved, you too are a child of God. You can ask for forgiveness from God whenever you sin.

Spiritual application for the saved

In as much as water is used for washing, it can never wash your sin. If you are saved you have the power to say 'No' to sin. However, if you do sin, God wants you to know that He can forgive you if you confess your sins. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." This means that:

- A. 1. If we confess our sins - name your sin to God and agree with Him that it is sin.
- B. 2. He is faithful - remember God always keeps His Word.
- C. 3. And to forgive us our sins - it means God will forget about your confessed sins.
- D. 4. And to cleanse us from all unrighteousness - God will make you clean from all sin and become as if you never sinned.

As you admit to God what you have done, also ask Him to help you not to do it again, and remember to thank Him for His forgiveness.

LINK: You can ask for forgiveness from God whenever you sin, because you are His child. If you are not saved, you can ask God to save you from your sins.

Spiritual teaching for the unsaved

If you are not saved, you do not have the power to say 'No' to sin. In order to have power, you must first believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved, then you will have the power to say 'No' to sin because of the Holy Spirit of God living in you. You and I were all born sinners, we want to do more wrong than right. We are not taught to do wrong. God hates sin and the punishment for sin is to be separated from God forever. But God loves you and sent His Son Jesus Christ to take away the punishment for your sin. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. He died, was buried and rose again the third day. "...that Christ died for your sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried and rose the third day according to the Scriptures." (1 Corinthians 15:3b-4)

Invitation: You can choose Him to save you today. Romans 10:9 says, "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." You can admit your sin to God and invite Jesus to save you from your sin today.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Challenge: Will you always remember to confess your sin to God each time you remember that what you have done is sin?

Activity: Teacher: Ask the children to ask God to forgive them in a silent prayer to God. They can say this prayer to God. "Dear God, I am sorry for having done.... which is wrong to you. Forgive me and help me to do right and help me to say 'No' to sin and 'Yes' to obeying you. In Jesus' Name." Amen.

Application questions

- i. What can wash your sins away?
- ii. Why do you and I do wrong things?
- iii. Why is it important for you and I to confess our sins when we do wrong?

Lesson 40: Do not covet

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Exodus 20:17



Objective: The learner will appreciate how to be content with what he/she has.

Introduction: Sometimes we have friends who have more than what we have and begin to take time thinking about what they have and wish those things were ours. The Bible says that is coveting.

Bible Verse: You shall not covet.

Explanation: To covet is to selfishly want or desire what another person has in a bad way. It could be a friend's house, a toy, clothes, mother, sister, wife, husband or a car etc. If you covet, you will begin

to feel bad and become jealous of your friend. Jealousy is sin.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to be content with what you have. The Bible teaches that you and I should be content with what we have. Luke 12: 15 says, "...Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in abundance of the things he possesses." To be content is to appreciate what you have and to be happy. We should not covet what others have. Sometimes you may be tempted to covet what your friend has, when you are tempted, remember what the Bible says about covetousness and say no to it. Ask God to help you not to covet, think of what God has given you and thank Him, work hard in your studies or business so that God will help you to have the things you want in future.

Challenge: When you are tempted to covet this week, will you remember to thank God for what He has given you?

Spiritual application for the unsaved

To covet is sin. Sin is what you think, say, and do that is displeasing God like coveting, jealousy, fighting, stealing etc. You and I have sinned because we were born sinners. We are born wanting to do more wrong than good. The Bible says, "For all have sinned..." (Romans 3:23a). God hates sin and punishes sin but He loves you as a sinner. He wants you to be saved. He wants you to believe in Jesus Christ His Son who came from heaven and died a very painful and shameful death. He took your place of punishment and shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins (Hebrews 9:22b). He died, was buried and rose the third day. Today, you can choose Him for the forgiveness of your sins by praying and admitting to God that you have sinned and deserve to be punished, believe that Jesus died for you and rose and invite Him to come in your heart for the forgiveness of your sins.

Invitation: Will you choose Jesus to come into your heart today? (Acts 10:43b)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

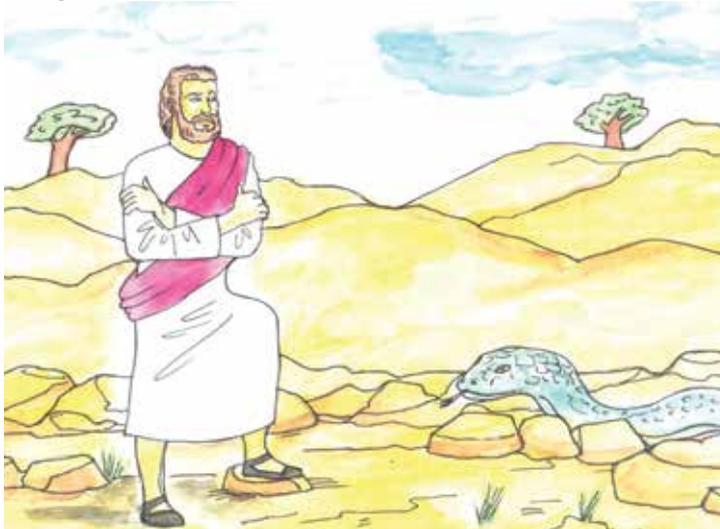
Application questions

- i. What is to covet?
- ii. Why is it a sin to covet things that belong to others?
- iii. What should we do when we do not have something that we need in our life?

Lesson 4I: Jesus is tempted

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11



Objective: The learner will use God's Word to resist temptation.

Introduction

All of us get tempted from time to time. A temptation is when you are being attracted to do something that is not right. Sometimes we manage to resist the temptation and sometimes we fail to resist. When we fail to resist a temptation, we end up sinning. In order to resist a temptation, we need to use the Word of God. This means that we should be able to memorize the Word of God in our hearts because we will not always have the Bible with us at all

times. The Word in our hearts is important. How many of you memorize the Word of God?

LINK: Jesus used the memorized Word of God to resist temptation.

Progression of events

- A. After being baptized, Jesus was led immediately into the wilderness by the Spirit of God to be tempted by the devil. (1)
- B. The temptation began after Jesus had fasted for forty days and was very hungry. (2)
- C. Satan challenged the Lord Jesus to turn stones into bread. (3)

LINK: Satan was trying to make the Lord Jesus Christ to disobey His Father. But Jesus would not disobey His Father because he is the Perfect Son of God.

Spiritual application for the saved

Do you know that if you are a child of God, the devil will tempt you too? Satan hates God and His children. By tempting you the devil is trying to make you fall into sin. Think about ways in which Satan tempts you. (The teacher pauses to allow children to give answers) The Bible says, "Be sober. Be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour". (1 Peter 5:8) This means that the devil always looks for chances to cause you to sin. It is not a sin to be tempted, but it is sin to give in to wrong things Satan wants us to do. If you are a child of God, God will use His Word to help you resist temptation. Resisting Satan means saying 'NO' to him and 'YES' to God. Satan will try to make you disobey God. He also tempted Jesus by suggesting to Him to turn stones into bread in order to prove that he was the Son of God.

LINK: Jesus would not disobey His Father. Satan tried to tempt Him.

- D. Jesus answered, "Man shall not live by bread alone" (4)
- E. Satan took Jesus to the highest point of the temple and tempted Him to prove He was the son of God by throwing Himself down (5-6)

LINK: The devil was misusing Psalm 91:11-12, just like he misused the other Bible passages. Jesus answered him every time with Bible passages that said the right thing God expected of Him.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The plan of God was that the Messiah should come and be born in the flesh through the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. He was to come and live a perfect life and die for the sins of all the people of the earth. He sacrificially shed His blood for the cleansing of your sins (1 John 1:7). He died and was buried but rose again on the third day. He is now in heaven. That was the plan of God but the devil wanted to frustrate the plans of God by making Jesus throw Himself down. Jesus needed to die a specific death for him to deliver people from their sins.

LINK: The devil could not cause Jesus to throw Himself down. He was the Perfect Son of God.

- F. Jesus reminded Satan, “you shall not tempt the Lord your God” (7)
- G. Satan led Jesus up on a very high mountain to offer Him the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would worship him. (8-9)
- H. Jesus resisted Satan, “You shall worship the Lord your God” (10)

LINK: This was the third time Jesus said ‘NO’ to the devil. Each time He used the Word of God (the verses which He had learnt) to resist him.

The Bible says that the Word of God is the Sword of the spirit (Ephesians 6:17). When we know God’s Word and quote it, the Holy Spirit uses it like a sword against Satan.

LINK: God’s Word is powerful when you use it. God will help you resist temptation.

- I. Jesus resisted Satan by using God’s Word and finally the devil left Him.
- J. Angels ministered to Jesus.

LINK: If you are not a child of God, you do not have God’s power to resist Satan. He tries many times to come into your life to keep you from trusting Jesus or from following God.

Invitation: The Bible says, “Yet to all who received Him, he gave them power to become children of God.” (John 1:12)

Challenge: If you are a child of God, God will use His Word to help you resist Satan.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

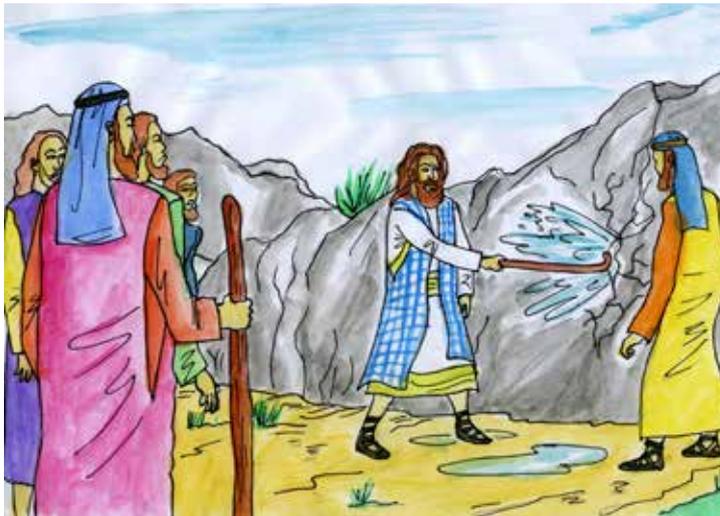
Application questions

- i. What does it mean to be baptized?
- ii. Who tempted Jesus after the baptism?
- iii. How did Jesus respond to the temptations?
- iv. What did Jesus use to resist temptations?

Lesson 42: Moses and Aaron disobey God

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Numbers 20: 1-13



Objective: The learner will have a desire to obey God at all times.

Introduction

We are usually confronted with challenges of obedience. Obedience to God is very important because God is above all. Can a man of God disobey God? The answer to this question should be negative but unfortunately we see men and women of God that disobey God.

LINK: In our lesson today, a man of God disobeyed God.

Progression of events

- A. The Israelites came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month. They stayed at Kadesh and Miriam died there. (1)
- B. There was no water and the children of Israel complained against Moses, Aaron and God asking Moses why he took them out of Egypt where they ate meat but were now eating manna only. (2-5)

LINK: The children of Israel sinned against God by complaining against Moses and God. If you are saved, God wants you to be thankful instead of complaining.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

We should be thankful to God instead of complaining; complaining is sin. Sin is everything you think, say and do which displeases God. Sin is not taught to anybody but everyone has sinned against God from the time they are born or conceived. "Behold I was sinful from the time of birth, from the time I was conceived." (Psalms 51:5) You and I deserve punishment because God hates sin but God loves you so much. The Bible says, "How great is the love the father has lavished on us." (1 John 3:1) God loves you, so much that He sacrificed and gave His son up to be killed by wicked people for you to become children of God. Jesus had never sinned but He became sin on the cross so that you and I could become righteous people, which means God would not look at you as a sinful person when Jesus comes into your heart (2Cor.5:21). He willingly took your place of punishment. You were supposed to suffer but He suffered in your place. Blood was shed from His head, hands, feet and body when He was nailed on the cross. He was buried after He died but rose again the third day. He will be coming back again.

LINK: God loves you and sent His Son to die for your sins. God hates sin. The children of Israel sinned against Him by complaining.

- C. Moses and Aaron went to the Lord and fell on their faces. The glory of God appeared to them (6)
- D. God told Moses to take his rod and go with Aaron before the Israelites and speak to the rock then water would come out for them and their animals to drink (7-8)
- E. Moses took the rod and stood before the rock as the Lord commanded him. (9)
- F. Moses struck the rock twice instead of talking to it and water came out of the rock abundantly. God told Moses and Aaron, because they did not believe in God and decided to disgrace Him in the eyes of the Israelites they would not take the children of Israel to the Promised Land. (11-12)

LINK: What a shame that Moses and Aaron would not take the children of Israel to the Promised Land because they disobeyed God. You and I may lose the blessings of God if we disobey Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

Moses struck the rock instead of speaking to it. It means that he thought he also had power to bring out water on his own. Sometimes you and I decide to go our own way instead of trusting or obeying God. To obey God is to do what He tells you to do. He may tell you to attend a church meeting, to preach the gospel on the street, to help the poor or trust Him for everything but you decide maybe to watch TV or video/DVD or go and play with your friend. That is disobedience and God hates it. The Bible says, "Obedience is better than sacrifice." Which means God wants you to do what He tells you to do and not what you want. When you are tempted to disobey, remember what the Bible says about disobedience, pray that God may help you to obey Him, do what he tells you to do and thank Him for helping you to obey Him.

LINK: God is an All-Powerful God. Only He has the power to do anything. It was wrong for Moses to strike the rock instead of speaking to it because that was disobedience. Now He would miss the blessing of taking the children of Israel to the Promised Land.

G. The place was called Meribah because the children of Israel contended against God and He showed Himself holy among them. (13)

Challenge: Think about many times that you have disobeyed God in various ways. Will you choose to obey God during this week? Count the times when you will be tempted to disobey and how many times you will remember to obey God. Next week come and share how you will have obeyed God.

Invitation: If you are not saved it is not possible for you to obey God. You first need the power which God gives you when you receive Jesus Christ for you to obey Him. Will you choose to believe in Him today? (John 1:12)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What does it mean to disobey God?
- ii. Can a Christian disobey God?
- iii. Why is it a sin to disobey God?

Lesson 43: The Pharisee and the tax collector

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Luke 18: 9-17



Objective: The learner will humble himself/herself before God.

Introduction

The tax collector was a very important person during those days because he collected tax on behalf of government. But he was also terribly hated because sometimes people were overcharged and ended up paying more taxes. The action of the tax collector showed a great humility by the way that he presented himself before Jesus Christ. There was a man who was a Pharisee who thought himself more righteous than any other person. He boasted of

the things he had done and thought that God should accept him.

LINK: In this parable, one person was accepted and the other was rejected by God when they both went to the temple to pray.

Progression of events

- A. Jesus spoke this parable to some who trusted themselves that they were more righteous and also despised others. (9)
- B. Two men went to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. (10)
- C. The Pharisee stood and prayed thanking God that he was not like adulterers, unjust or as the tax collector next to him. (11)

LINK: Pharisees were very educated Jews in the law of the Lord and usually thought themselves better than others. They showed outward righteousness but in their hearts they were evil.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to humble yourself. To be humble means to lower yourself before God and to treat others with the kindness and respect that you also expect from others. It is to know that you are not a perfect person and that sometimes you also do wrong things. The Bible says, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8) Perhaps you have boasted that you are better than your friends just because you are saved or maybe you have boasted about your riches or how you look. To exalt yourself is to regard yourself higher than others. It also means to lift yourself higher than you really are.

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to humble yourself. The Pharisee did not humble himself.

- D. He went on to say that he fasted and gave a tenth of all he possessed. (12)
The tax collector would not even look up and asked for mercy from God as a sinner. He humbled himself before God. (13)

LINK: The tax collector realised that he was a sinner and pleaded for mercy from God. If you are not saved, God wants you to realize that you are a sinner and ask for mercy from Him.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Everyone is a sinner. "For all have sinned." (Romans 3:23a). You and I have sinned because we were all born wanting to do wrong rather than do good and we deserve God's punishment for our sin. The punishment for sin is being separated from God forever. But God loves you. He made you and everything you see. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins. He willingly shed His blood and died so that you do not have to be punished for your sins. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins..." (Ephesians 1:7a). When you admit you have sinned and ask for God's mercy upon you, God will justify you. This means you will be declared free from the punishment of sin.

LINK: If you are not saved God wants you to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. The tax collector asked God for mercy because he knew he had sinned and God justified him.

- E. Jesus said the tax collector went home justified than the other man. (14a)
- F. For whoever exalts himself is humbled and he who humbles himself will be exalted. (14b)

LINK: The Bible says that God resists the proud and exalts the humble (1 Peter 5:5c). If you are saved God wants you to humble yourself.

Challenge: Remember that God wants you to humble yourself by respecting others and also realizing that you are not perfect. Ask God to help you not to exalt yourself and thank God for giving you what makes you proud. When you feel like you want to exalt yourself, will you remember what the Bible says about it? During this week, count how many times you will be tempted to exalt yourself and how God will help you to humble yourself.

Invitation: If you are not saved, you can humble yourself by realizing that you are a sinner and ask God to forgive your sins. He will forgive you and cleanse you from all your sins. "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Which of the two people that went to the temple to pray was rejected by God?
- ii. Which of the two people that went to the temple to pray was accepted?
- iii. What made the difference?

Lesson 44: Elisha is mocked

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: 2 Kings 2:23-25



Objective: The learner will have an opportunity to know how to respect everyone especially the elderly.

Introduction

We respect people for various reasons: their age, leadership, wisdom and because we know that this is the right thing to do. One day, I met a group of boys who were laughing at elderly people.

LINK: Even in the Bible there were youths who jeered at a man of God.

Progression of events

- A. After healing the water in Jericho, Elisha went up to Bethel. (23a)
- B. As he was walking along the road, some youths came out of the town and jeered at him saying, “go on up you baldhead” (23b)

LINK: The youths sinned against God by jeering at the man of God. If you are saved, God wants you to respect all kinds of people.

Spiritual application for the saved

Laughing or jeering at your elders is disrespectful. Disrespect could be when you do not do what your parents tell you to do, or when you laugh at people who are poor, disabled, old or not listening to what the teacher tells you to do in Sunday school or even at your government school. To respect people is to treat them politely and listen to what they tell you including men and women who teach you the Word of God. The Bible says, “Obey them that have rule over you, and submit yourselves.” (Hebrews 13:17). This means that you must be willing to obey what you are taught from the Word of God by teachers.

LINK: God wants you to obey the people who are teaching you to love God and to obey Him. The youths were very wrong when they jeered at Elisha. It was a sign of disrespect.

- C. He looked at them and called a curse down on them in the name of the Lord. (24a)

LINK: Elisha used the Name of the Lord to curse the youths. But you can also call on the Name of the Lord for the forgiveness of your sins.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

You and I have a tendency to go our own way and disobey God. That is called sin. Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God such as cheating lying and talking back. Because God is holy, your sins must be punished. The punishment is to be separated from God forever. But God loves you. He made a way for you so that you can have your sins forgiven. The way is through Jesus Christ His Son, who died on the cross for your sins. He was perfect but your sin and my sin and the sins of all the people in the world were laid on Him on the cross. He bled and died for you. Ephesians 1:7 says, “In Him we have

redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.” He willingly took your place of punishment and died. He was buried and on the third day He rose again.

LINK: Jesus will come back again to take those who have believed in Him. You can call on His name today and be saved or have your sins forgiven. Elisha called on the Lord to curse the youths.

D. Then two bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the youths. (24b)

LINK: You may not be mauled by a bear but disrespecting people who are above you can bring out a lot of problems to you.

Spiritual application for the saved

The forty-two youths were killed. That was a punishment for insulting, intimidating and opposing Elisha while on his way to do what God wanted him to do. If you are saved, God wants you to respect others especially people who are helping you to know God or your parents and elders. Not respecting people who are older than you can make you miss God’s blessings. You can respect them by being polite and kind to them, by listening and obeying them when they are teaching you. When you see a disabled person, do not laugh at the person but feel sorry and help or pray for the person. You can also obey your parents by doing what they tell you to do and not talk back or try to argue with them. Remember what the Bible says, “Obey them that have rule over you, and submit yourselves.” (Hebrews 13:17) When you are able to do this, thank God for helping you.

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to respect others. The youths were killed by the bears.

E. He went on to Mount Carmel and from there returned to Samaria. (25)

Challenge: If you are saved, God wants you to respect all who teach you to obey God just like Elisha was teaching people to obey God. You should also treat all people with respect. During this week, will you list down how many times you will show respect for other people. Come and share how you will do this.

Invitation: If you are not saved, God wants you to call on the Name of the Lord Jesus and be saved. “Whoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13) To call is to pray and tell God that you want Him to save you.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why do you think respect for elderly people is important?
- ii. How did the young people show disrespect to Elisha?
- iii. How did the young people get punished or judged by God for their disrespect?
- iv. What do you learn from this story about the young people who were punished for their actions?
- v. Why is respect for godly people important?
- vi. Who else should we show respect to?

WATER and KINDNESS

Lesson 45: Getting a reward by giving water to a stranger

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Mark 9:41



Objective: The learner will be willing to share anything with anybody including strangers.

Introduction

Have you ever been asked for water by a person you do not know?

LINK: The Lord Jesus Christ promised to give a reward to any person who would offer the disciples a cup of water.

Mark 9:41 “For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.”

LINK: Jesus Christ spoke these words to His disciples to teach them to be friendly and to be kind to others doing the work of God regardless of who they are. You may also be found in a situation where you will find children from other Good News Clubs visit your area and ask you for some water.

General application

If you are a child of God, God wants you to share the water with others. They may ask you for some water when they visit your village, you as a child of God should give them the water to drink. Jesus told His disciples that whoever would give them a cup of water would receive a reward. A reward is what you get for doing good. It may be here on earth or it may be in heaven. You may think it is only a small gift, but Jesus Christ values the gift because He knows how it feels to be thirsty and be given water to drink. Which means if you share with others, God will reward you. Mathew 25:40 says, “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’” If you give a cup of water to a stranger it is as good as giving it to Jesus.

LINK: When a stranger asks you for some water, willingly give it to him/her. If you are not a child of God, even if you give a stranger water, it will not count for you in the eyes of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God”. (Ephesians. 2:8-9) This means you cannot please God by doing good. God wants you to have faith in Him. To have faith in Him means, you admit that you have sinned and you cannot save yourself, believe Jesus died for you on the cross to take away the punishment of your sin. He was buried and rose again the third day.

LINK: You cannot please God by doing good, if you are not saved. Will you choose to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ today?

Challenge: Will you remember to willingly share water with anybody that asks you?

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

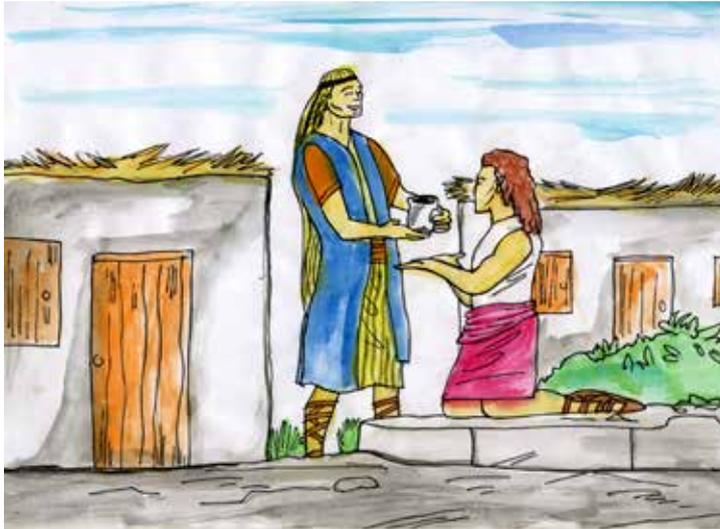
Application questions

- i. Giving water to a stranger seems to be a very little help and yet it is very important. Why is water so important to a stranger?
- ii. Why do people find it difficult to help strangers?
- iii. What is the benefit of helping a stranger?

Lesson 46: Giving water even to your enemy

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Proverbs 25:21



Objective: The learner will know that helping an enemy will bring a reward.

Introduction

If your enemy asks you for water, will you give him? The Bible tells us that if your enemy is thirsty, give him water to drink.

Bible Verse: If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty give him water to drink.

LINK: Who is an enemy?

Spiritual application for the saved

An enemy is a person whom you are not in good terms with. You want nothing to do with the person. You do not talk to them or even share anything with themselves. If they ask for water, you will not give them any. The Bible teaches that you must give to them. A person cannot live without water. If you refuse to give them water he or she will die. There will be times when they may be stranded and ask for water from you. He or she could be at their home without water, or they could be at the borehole and not be able to draw water or without a container for water. If they ask you for water, please give to them. If you are a child of God, God wants you to love your enemies and not repay evil for evil but repay good for evil. "Therefore if your enemy is hungry, feed him, if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." (Romans 12: 20)

If you do what the Bible says your enemy will be ashamed and respect you. He will also come to God, because you have done what God wants you to do. Later he may even become your friend.

LINK: God wants you to give water to your enemy if he is thirsty. If you are not saved you are an enemy of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

If you have not received Jesus as your Saviour, you are regarded as God's enemy because your sin has separated you from God. God is Holy and hates sin. He punishes sin by letting people who refuse to receive His Son go to hell. He does not want any person to go to hell. He loves everybody and wants everybody to live with Him in heaven. He made a way for you so that your sins cannot be punished. He sent Jesus Christ His Perfect Son, who left heaven and was born here on earth through the Virgin Mary. When He was a child He never thought, did, or said anything which displeased God. When He grew up, He willingly allowed Himself to die a shameful death on the cross so that your sins can be forgiven and have an entrance into heaven if you believe in Him. That is the only way which God made so that you and I could be reconciled back to God. To reconcile is to end enmity between two or more people. The Bible says, "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. (Romans 5:10) NKJV. Jesus died on the cross and rose the third day so that you could be reconciled to God. If you receive or believe in Jesus today, God will make you His child and become a friend of God and not an enemy anymore.

LINK: Will you choose to become a friend of God today?

Invitation: You can become a friend if you choose to believe in Jesus Christ today. The Bible says, “Yet to all who received Him, He gave the power to become children of God even to those who believed in His name.” (John 1:12)

Challenge: Do you have enemies? God does not want you to have enemies. But if you do have one, will you choose to do good to your enemy this week? Come and tell us how you will be kind to your enemy next week.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. How do you feel giving something to an enemy?
- ii. What comes into your mind when you think about your enemy?
- iii. Why is it important for us to do good to our enemies?
- iv. Has God ever blessed you even though you don't deserve it?

Lesson 47: Giving water to the weary

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Job 22:7



Objective: The learner will learn to memorise God's Word.

Introduction

What makes people feel weak? Sickness, hunger and thirst can make a person feel weak.

LINK: Our verse is talking about not giving water to the weak.

Bible Verse: "To the weary you have given no water to drink."

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to help the weary with water. To be weary means to be weak or tired.

General application

Vomiting, diarrhea and other diseases can make the body weak. The body will also become weak when you have not taken enough water. It could be after running, after walking a long distance, after doing hard work like lifting heavy things, digging or even carrying a bucket of water. When you do hard work, you use the energy in your body. Water and food give energy. After doing hard work you sweat and water and other minerals come out of your body; you become weak. If you have a friend who has become weak because of the above activities, you can give your friend a cup of water to drink. If a person has diarrhea, you may need to add some sugar and salt to the water because sugar and salt have glucose and sodium chloride which you lose through diarrhea. If you are a child of God, you please God by doing so because He wants you to help the weak. The Bible says, "...help the weak..." (1 Thessalonians 5:14b)

LINK: You can help the weak with water if they need it. But if you are a child of God and do not read the Word, you will also be spiritually weak.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you do not read the Word of God you will be spiritually weak because the Word of God makes you strong spiritually. The devil does not want you to read the Word of God. If you do that he attacks you in many ways like tempting you to do wrong or wasting your time. God has given us his Word to keep us alert and also make us strong in knowing what to do when we are tempted. The Bible says, "Man shall not live by bread alone but on every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4) This means you should not only concentrate on eating food and drinking water which are just good for your physical body but you must also 'drink' or 'eat' the Word of God which is good for your soul. The soul is your inner person inside your heart.

LINK: Even if you memorise the verses, but you are not a child of God, it will not do you any good. You need to have the Spirit of God living in you.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says, "But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned." This means that the

Word will not do you any good because you do not have Jesus Christ in your heart. You should first believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and become a child of God for you to understand the Word of God. You and I have sinned. Without Christ you cannot be with God in heaven. But God loves you. He wants you to be with Him. He sent Jesus His Son who lived a perfect life on earth. He shed His blood on the cross, died and was buried. On the third day, He rose again and is now in heaven. He wants you to believe in Him and become His child.

Invitation: Will you choose to do that today? “Yet to all who received Him, he gave them power to become children of God, even to those who believed in His name.” (John 1:12)

Challenge: As a child of God you will need to hear from Him through His Word. Memorise at least one verse a day or in a week. Learn what God is saying to you through his Word and practice using the Word throughout your life. When you do, you will become strong in the Lord. Will you choose to read the Word of God every day? During this week, I want you to memorise Matthew 4:4 and when you come next week tell us what the verse says by heart.

Do you have a Bible? If not, ask your parents to use their Bible. If you do not have a Bible at home, start to ask God where and how you can get a Bible. May be you have to start saving to buy a Bible, or ask for a church where you can get a Bible.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for a sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. A weary person is a tired person. Why do you think such a person needs water?
- ii. Usually a weary person may only ask for a cup of water, not a full bucket, and yet some people fail to give water to a weary person. Why do you think they act in this way?
- iii. We need something more than water in order to live. What is it?

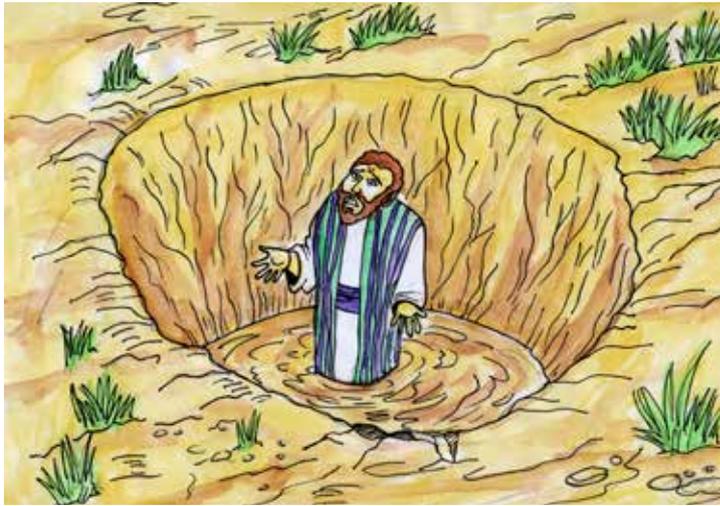
Activity

The teacher demonstrates how to make oral rehydration salt using water and sugar or use a sachet from the clinic.

Lesson 48: Jeremiah thrown in a dungeon

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Jeremiah 38:1-13



Objective: The learner will be bold to tell the truth at all times.

Introduction

Imagine you are buried in mud. Mud can be very dangerous if you are buried in it because it would make you sink and die of exhaustion.

LINK: The prophet Jeremiah was thrown in a well which was full of mud. What happened?

Progression of events

- A. Shephatiah, Gedaliah, Jucal and Pashur disliked the prophet Jeremiah because He told them the truth about what God said. (1)
- B. Jeremiah told the Israelites that whoever would be left in Israel and not go to Babylon would not live but suffer. (2-3)
- C. The princes told the king that Jeremiah should be put to death since he was scaring people by telling them they should go to Babylon. (4)
- D. The king told the princes to go ahead and they took Jeremiah and threw him in a dungeon where there was no water but mud and Jeremiah sank in the mud. (5-6)

LINK: It was very dangerous for the princes to throw Jeremiah into the dungeon.

General application

A dungeon is a hole or well where there is no water but very thick mud. It would mean that a person thrown there would die of hunger, cold and tiredness and even drown in the mud because it is not possible to get out.

No one should play near a dungeon. Older people should bury the pits or cover it with thorny branches to prevent you from falling into it.

LINK: It was very evil of the princes to throw Jeremiah into the dungeon because he would have died of hunger and cold after a long time.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, you should not be like the princes. They threw Jeremiah into a dungeon because he spoke the truth about what God said. You must listen to people who tell you the truth. You can find yourself in a situation where you join a bad gang which would make you turn away from God and begin to bully your friends who are obedient to the law of the land. If you find yourself in such a company or friends, you must repent and confess to God. Refuse to go or play with them. Avoid them and pray for them. Pray that they will listen to you. The Bible says, "Love is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way, it is not irritable or resentful." (1 Corinthians 13:4-5) This means you must do good. When you see some children bullying others, help them to know that God hates sin.

LINK: God hates sin. The princes sinned by throwing Jeremiah into the pit.

- E. Ebed-Melech an Ethiopian, who was one of the eunuchs heard what the princes did and went to the king. (7-8)
- F. Ebed-Melech told the king that what the princes had done was evil because Jeremiah would die of hunger. (9)

LINK: It was very good of Ebed-Melech to go to the king and tell him that what the princes did was evil.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Evil is anything you do which displeases God. Doing evil is of the devil. The devil is Satan the one who incites people to do evil when they obey him. If you are not saved from your sins, you are under the authority of the devil. The Bible says God has prepared a place for the devil and his angels and for those whose names are not found in the book of life. That is punishment for Satan and those who are not saved from their sins. You and I have sinned because we were born sinners but God sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for your sins and be saved from eternal punishment. Jesus bled from His head, hands and feet and the whole body. His blood washes you from all your sins if you believe in Him. He died and was buried and after three days He rose from the grave. You can choose to believe in Him.

LINK: Choose to believe in Jesus so that He can save you from all evil.

- G. The king told Ebed-Melech to take thirty men and go to remove Jeremiah from the pit. (10)
- H. Ebed-Melech took the men and took old clothes to help Jeremiah come out. (11)
- I. Ebed-Melech told Jeremiah to put the clothes under his arm pits which he did and they pulled him out using the ropes but took him back to prison.

LINK: They took Jeremiah out of the muddy well. If you are saved God wants you to be good and help others and not do evil like what the princes did.

Challenge: Will you decide to be part of the children who do what is good and not bully others?

Invitation: You can be saved from evil. God wants you to believe in Jesus and be saved. Will you decide to be saved today? "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Application questions

- i. Why was it wrong to throw Jeremiah into the dungeon of mud?
- ii. We all get stuck in the mud of sin. How can we get out of it?
- iii. What should we do when our friends are in a difficult situation that is unsafe?

Activity

The teacher asks children to tell the class about an open pit which they know that needs covering either by working together or telling their parents so that they can do something about it.

Lesson 49: Jesus washes the disciple's feet

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: John 13:1-13



Objective: The learner will learn to be humble and serve others.

Introduction

Imagine an honourable visitor coming to wash your feet after playing in the dirt. Would you allow him?

LINK: The Bible tells us of an honourable person who washed the feet of his servants.

Progression of events

- A. Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave the world and go back to His Father. (1)
- B. It was supper time and the devil had entered Judas who was going to betray Him. (2)

LINK: Jesus knew He was going to be betrayed by one of His disciples.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus also knew that he would be denied by another, deserted by all of them for a time. Still He now showed the disciples the full extent of His love. God knows you completely as Jesus knew His disciples. He knows the sins you have committed and the ones you are yet to commit. Still, He loves you. How do you respond to that kind of love? The Bible says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love." (Jeremiah 31:3) God's love for you is forever. He showed us this love and grace when He sent his Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. He died a very painful death and took all the punishment of sin for all the people of the world including you and me. He was buried, and rose again the third day. He died for your sin. Sin separates you from God that is why God gave us His son to save you if you believe in Him.

LINK: Jesus knows all about you. He knew all about His disciples.

- C. Jesus knew that the Father had given Him authority over everything and He would be going to the Father. (3)
- D. Jesus got up, took off His robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, poured water into the basin and began to wash the disciple's feet. (4-5)

LINK: Jesus washed their feet not only because they were dirty, but because He wanted to show them an example of humility. He stripped off His status and identity as a leader.

Spiritual application for the saved

Jesus was the model servant, and He showed the spirit of servanthood to His disciples. Washing guest's feet was a job for a household servant to carry out when guests arrived. Jesus wrapped a towel around His waist, as the lowliest slave would do, and washed and dried His disciple's feet. Even if He was God in the flesh He was willing to serve. We the followers of Christ must also be servants, willing to serve in any way that glorifies God. Are you willing to follow Christ's example of serving? Whom can you serve today? There is a special blessing for those who serve in Christ's ministry. If you are saved, God wants you to follow Jesus' example.

LINK: Jesus left an example of humility for His disciples by washing their feet.

- E. When He came to Peter's feet, Peter asked Him why Jesus was going to wash His feet. (6)
- F. Jesus told Him that he would understand later but Peter protested to have Jesus wash His feet. (7)
- G. Jesus told Peter, if He didn't wash his feet then, he would not belong to Jesus. (8)
- H. Then Peter said Jesus should wash his head and hands as well. (9)
- I. Jesus replied, a person who had bathed all over did not need to wash but his feet to be entirely clean. (10a)

LINK: Jesus said a person who has bathed did not need to bathe again but Jesus was giving them an example of humility by washing the disciple's feet.

Physical application

In order for you to be healthy, you must take a bath at least once a day. If you do not want to bathe in the evening, you should at least wash your feet before you go to sleep. This will help keep your beddings clean. If you did not bathe in the evening, then please do so the next morning. Bathing helps you feel fresh and clean all the time.

LINK: Jesus was showing his disciples how to be humble. That is why He did not need to wash their whole body.

- J. It wasn't true that everyone was clean therefore Jesus knew who would betray Him. (10-11)
- K. After washing their feet, he put His robe on and asked them if they understood what He was doing. (12)
- L. Jesus told them that He gave them an example by washing their feet so that they would also wash each other's feet. (13-14)
- M. He later told them to do what they were taught to do so they could be blessed. (16-17)

Challenge: If you are saved, God wants you to follow Jesus' example by showing humility to everyone especially to the elderly people. Know how to answer when your parents call you. Learn to say 'thank you' when somebody gives you something. This week, will you remember to show humility to at least two people especially those that are disadvantaged? Next week, we will expect you to tell us how you showed humility.

Invitation: You can choose Him to wash your sins away. (Acts 3:19)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why did Jesus wash the disciple's feet?
- ii. The people who washed the feet of others were mainly slaves or servants in the home. When Jesus demonstrated humility, He washed the feet of his disciples. Can you show how you would demonstrate humility in your culture or community by doing something for a person in your community or home?

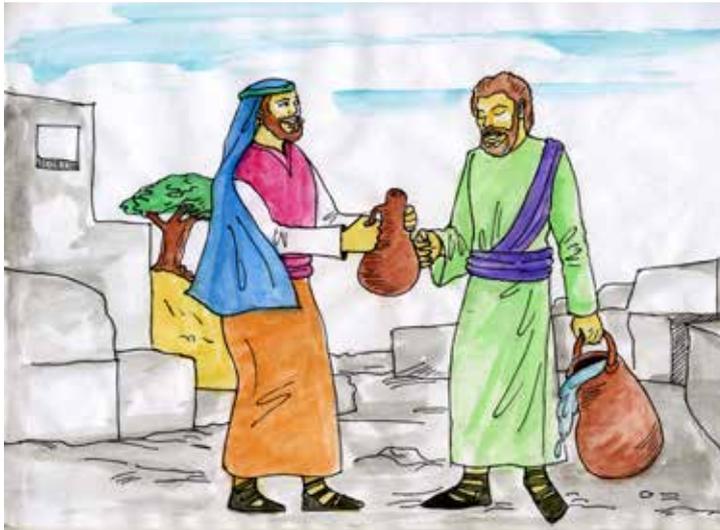
Activity

The teacher asks children to remember to take a bath at least once a day.

Lesson 50: Sharing water with others

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Exodus 2: 11-20



Objective: The learner will learn how to show kindness to people in need.

Introduction

If you had little water and your friend was very thirsty, would you share your water or would you leave your friend to die from thirst?

LINK: In our lesson today, we will see how our friend helped the girls to draw the water after driving others away.

Progression

A. This happened when Moses fled to Midian running away from Pharaoh who wanted to kill him. Moses had killed an Egyptian. He fled to Midian and sat by the well. A well is like a borehole but you need a bucket to draw the water. The seven daughters of the priest came to draw water for their father's flock. Then the shepherds came and drove them away. (11-17a)

LINK: Chasing the girls away from the well was not right. It was sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God, like fighting others when they come to draw water at the well. Sin is punishable. This means you will be separated from God forever. (Romans 6:23) God made you and loves you. He sent Jesus Christ His perfect Son to come and die for you on the cross so that you can have eternal life. Eternal life is the life that you need for you to live with God forever.

LINK: Jesus died for your sins. The shepherds sinned by chasing the girls away.

B. When the shepherds drove the girls away, Moses stood up to help them. (17b)

LINK: The girls were chased away by the shepherds because they were looked down on by the shepherds.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, God wants you to share water with others. There will be other people who may come from other areas to come and draw water from here. Because you do not know them, you may be tempted to chase them away. The Bible says, "Always considering others better than yourself. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another." (Philippians 2:3) To be selfish means, you do not want to share with others.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God wants you to share the water with others.

C. Moses stood up and helped the girls to draw water for them. The girls went home and their father asked them why they came home early. They explained to him that a man from Egypt helped them to draw water. (17-19)

LINK: What Moses did was very good. He helped the girls to draw water.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, God wants you to share the water with others. There will be other people who may come from another area to come and draw water from here. Because you do not know them, you may be tempted to chase them away. The Bible says, "And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own." (Philippians 2:4). When you are tempted to do wrong to others remember what the Bible says about not being selfish. Also, be kind and give a hand to those who may need your help. Stop others boys and girls from doing wrong and play with other kind boys who may help you to share the water with others. Remember that this water should be shared by everyone who lives in this community. By sharing the water, you will be sharing your love with others.

LINK: God wants you to share with others. Moses helped the girls to draw water.

D. When the girls told their father about Moses, he asked them to call him. They called him and Zipporah one of the girls was given to Moses to marry. He had a son with her whom he named as Gershom because he was a stranger in a foreign land. (20-22)

LINK: Moses was given a wife because he helped the girls to draw water. God wants you to share the water with others. When you do that God will give you a reward.

Challenge: When you are tempted to do wrong at the well, will you remember to do what God wants you to do?

Invitation

If you are not a child of God, God wants you to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour so that you can also become a child of God and begin to share water with others. You will need to receive Jesus who is the Water of Life. The Bible says, "To those who received Him, he gave them power to become children of God." (John 1:12) To receive Him is to pray and tell God you know that you have sinned and you believe Jesus died for you then invite Him to come in your heart and make you God's child.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Application questions

- i. Are girls treated differently in your community? Why and how?
- ii. Why should girls be helped when there is a need?

Activity

The teacher asks children to go home and help someone by drawing water for them as an act of showing kindness. The teacher asks the children to tell the class about it in the next lesson.

Lesson 51: Simon Peter partners with Jesus

Teaching: Water and Kindness

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11



Objective: The learner will choose to do what God wants him/her to do even though it may not make sense.

Introduction

What would you do if you were made to do something which does not make sense to you like cooking food without water in a big pot?

LINK: The man in our lesson today was made to do something which did not make sense to him and the people around him. This happened in the early days of Jesus ministry when He was on earth.

Progression

- A. One day Jesus was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret while the people pushed their way up to him to listen to the word of God. (1)
- B. He saw two boats pulled up on the beach; the fishermen had left them and were washing the nets. (2)
- C. Jesus got into one of the boats—it belonged to Simon—and asked him to push off a little from the shore. Jesus sat in the boat and taught the crowd. (3)

LINK: Jesus taught the crowd because He loved the people. God loves you too.

Spiritual application

God loves you. "...God is love..." (1 John 4:8) He made everything and He made you. He is without sin and lives in heaven preparing a place for you and me.

LINK: God loves you. He also loved the crowd. Jesus taught the crowd.

- D. When he finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Push the boat out further to the deep water, and you and your partners let down your nets for a catch." (4)
- E. "Master," Simon answered, "we worked hard all night long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will let down the nets." (5)

LINK: Simon was told to do something which looked impossible because no one did fishing during the day. You and I may sometimes be made to do something that may look foolish to others.

Teaching for the saved

If you are saved, sometimes God may ask you to do things that others think is foolish. He may ask you to be a friend to somebody you do not like. Maybe because he comes from a different community or background; or He may ask you to go to witness to people who belong to a different faith; or He may ask you to give what you value most like your car, television, bicycle or anything else. If you do so, people may think you are a foolish person. But God wants you to obey Him. The Bible says, "Obedience is better than sacrifice..." (1 Samuel 15:22) This means that God wants you to obey Him and do what

he wants you to do even though it may not make sense to you. If He asks you, obey Him and ask Him to help you to obey. Thank Him for helping you to obey Him when you do.

LINK: God wants you to obey Him even when He asks you to do something which is hard for you to do. He also asked Simon to do something which did not make sense to the fishermen in those days.

- F. They let them down and caught such a large number of fish that the nets were about to break. (6)
- G. So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats so full of fish that the boats were about to sink. (7)
- H. When Simon Peter saw what had happened, he fell on his knees before Jesus and said, "Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!" (8)

LINK: Just as Simon looked at himself as a sinner, you and I are also sinners.

Teaching about sin:

Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God like jealousy, insulting and stealing. You and I are prone to sin, wanting to do wrong rather than good. The Bible says, "Evildoers go wrong all their lives; they tell lies from the day they are born." (Psalms 58:3) Sin is punishable. That is to be separated from God forever.

LINK: You and I have sinned. Simon also looked at himself as a sinner.

- I. Simon and the others with him were all amazed at the large number of fish they had caught. (9)

LINK: Only God can do such a big miracle. Only God can save you from your sins through His Son.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus is the Perfect Son of God who willingly came from heaven to take away the sin of the world. He shed His blood and died for the forgiveness of our sins. He was buried and rose from the grave the third day. (Hebrews 9:22b)

LINK: Only Jesus can save you from your sins. Only God can do such a big miracle.

- J. The same was true of Simon's partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." (10)
- K. They pulled the boats up on the beach, left everything, and followed Jesus. (11)

LINK: Simon and his partners followed Jesus when they saw His power. If you are saved, God wants you to obey Him even if what He tells you does not make sense.

Challenge: When God asks you to do something which may not make sense to you and others, will you remember what the Bible says and obey Him?

LINK: If Jesus is not your Saviour, you should choose to believe in Him to save you from your sins.

Invitation: "...believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

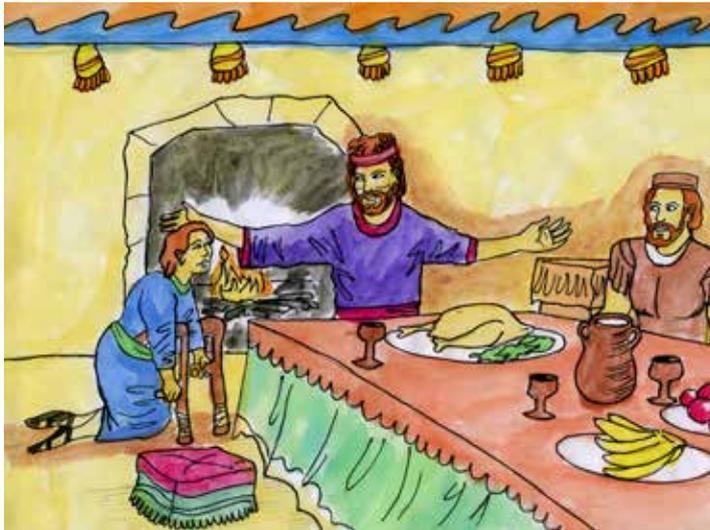
- i. What are some of the situations in which God may ask you to do something which may not make sense?
- ii. What does God want you to do when He asks you to do something?

KINDNESS

Lesson 52: David and Mephibosheth

Teaching: Kindness

Scripture: 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-13



Objective: The learner will thank God for His kindness shown to us even if we do not deserve it.

Introduction

Since sin separates us from God, the kindness of God provides an opportunity of restoration. What may appear to be impossible to man is possible with God.

LINK: This happened when David remembered the promise he had made to his friend Jonathan that he would show kindness to his family when he became the king.

Progression of Events

- A. Mephibosheth was only five years old when his nurse received the terrible news of the deaths of his grandfather, King Saul, and his father prince Jonathan. (4:4)
- B. As Mephibosheth's nurse fled for safety, she stumbled, dropping him, resulting in him being crippled for life. (4:4)
- C. Mephibosheth grew up as a disabled young man.

LINK: According to the customs of those days, when a new king took over from the previous king, he killed all his family members because they became enemies of the new king. Mephibosheth had also become an enemy of the new king.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Did you know that Mephibosheth is a picture of you and me before God? The Bible tells us that we are enemies of God. Colossians 1:21 says, "And you who were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works..." We displease Him. We break His laws by thinking, saying, and doing wrong things like jealousy, insulting and fighting. We have turned our backs to God not because we want to, but because we were born that way. We are in danger of being separated from God forever because of our sin.

LINK: Your sin makes you an enemy of God. Mephibosheth was an enemy of David as a grandson of the previous king.

- D. Upon the death of King Saul and his son, David became king of Israel.
- E. One day King David asked if anyone was still left from the family of Saul, someone to whom he could show kindness because of Jonathan. (9:1)

LINK: If you are a child of God, God expects you to show kindness to others.

Spiritual application for the saved

Kindness is showing someone love, dignity and respect, others even if there are your enemy, or even if they may not be like you, such as being from a different place or having a disability. The Bible in Ephesians 4:31 says, "Be kind to one another." You treat someone with kindness by giving them help when they are sick, or disabled and in a wheel chair, or doing something which they cannot do for themselves or

encouraging them when they are discouraged. It pleases God for you to be kind to others regardless of who they are or their circumstances. In addition, kindness is a fruit of the spirit and everyone who is saved should show kindness to others, especially if they are different from you or have a disability.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God expects you to show kindness to others. David wanted to show kindness to Mephibosheth.

- F. When Ziba, a former servant of King Saul was found, David asked if anyone from Saul's family was still alive. (2-3)
- G. Ziba told David that Mephibosheth, Jonathan's lame son, was alive. (3-4). But Ziba did not refer to Mephibosheth by name. He referred to as "that crippled boy" of Jonathan. This shows the disrespect that Ziba had for Mephibosheth who was disabled.

LINK: If you are not yet saved, the kindness of God makes us to bow ourselves before Him because the gift that he gives to us is beyond measure and we fall prostrate before Him.

- H. David sent for Mephibosheth and brought him to the palace. (5)
- I. As Mephibosheth entered the presence of King David, he fell on his face, exclaiming, "Here is your servant!"
- J. King David kindly called him by his name (unlike Ziba had done), demonstrating that even though he was from an enemy family and was disabled, he was nevertheless a person of value. King David then told him not to be afraid and promised to restore to him all the land that had belonged to his grandfather. (7)
- K. He responded by bowing and calling himself a dead dog. Mephibosheth probably called himself a "dead dog" because of how bad he felt about himself, as he was mistreated during the course of his life because he was disabled.
- L. David instructed Ziba and his family to serve Mephibosheth. (9-12)
- M. Because of David's kindness, Mephibosheth, once an enemy, and probably rejected because of his disability, would now enjoy the privileges of being part of the king's family for the rest of his life.

LINK: Mephibosheth was shown kindness by David. God has shown kindness by sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for you.

Invitation: You can choose to receive God's kindness by receiving Jesus Christ to make you a child of God. (John 1:12)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Challenge: If you are a child of God, God wants you to show kindness to people who are disabled also.

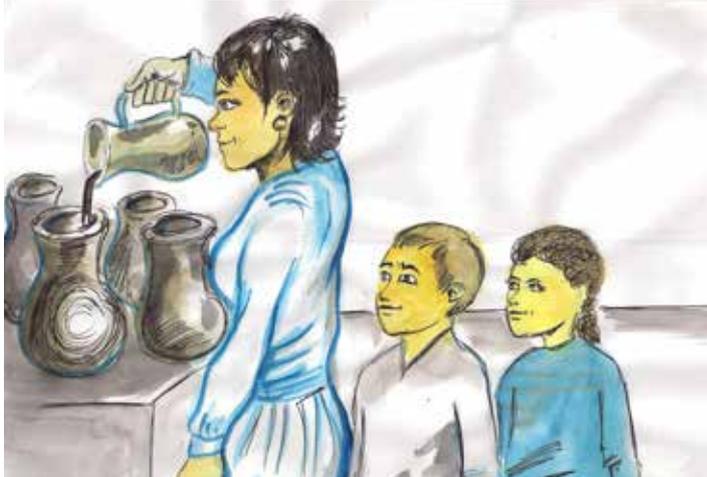
Application questions

- i. David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, how has God shown you kindness?
- ii. David did not regard Mephibosheth's disability as a concern. He treated him as a normal person. How do you treat others who have a disability?
- iii. What are we supposed to do as children of God to show that we love our enemies?
- iv. Think about someone who you should show kindness to and pray for that person. Will you decide to show kindness to that person this coming week? Explain, what you will do to show kindness.
- v. What has caused people to become crippled or disabled in your community?
- vi. Mephibosheth did nothing deserving becoming disabled as a child. Have most people done anything wrong to deserve becoming disabled?
- vii. How can we help those in our community who are disabled or rejected?

Lesson 53: Elisha and the widow's oil

Teaching: Kindness

Scripture: 2 Kings 4: 1-7



Objective: The learner will learn about God as his/her provider.

Introduction

The death of the man of the house was the loss of a husband and a father. The loss meant a lot to the family because it also included the loss of a provider.

LINK: In our lesson today we will look at our friends who lost their provider.

Progression of events

A. In desperation, the widow who was a mother of the two sons cried to Elisha for help. (1)

LINK: The widow came for Elisha's help because she had a great need. You and I sometimes have great needs too.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you have received the Lord Jesus as your heavenly Father, you are His child. Nothing that happens to you takes God by surprise. The Bible in Matthew 6:8 says, "Your Father knows what things you need before you ask Him." As God's child you trust your heavenly Father to provide for all your needs even in hard times. You may need the money to buy food, or pay for your schools fees, school uniforms or a place to stay.

LINK: Your Father in heaven wants you to come to Him when you have needs. The widow went to Elisha the man of God for help. God also wants you to obey Him by going to Him for your help.

B. The bill collector wanted to take her sons because she was unable to pay her bills. (1b)

C. After asking what she had in her house, Elisha discovered her only possession was one jar of oil. (2)

LINK: God loved the woman and cared for her. God also loves you and wants you to be your Father.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you very much. He is Holy and hates sin, but He loves you even though you have sinned against Him. "Against you and you only have I sinned." (Psalms 51:4a). Sin must be punished by God. The punishment is being separated from God forever. He does not want you to be punished so He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins. He willingly took your place of punishment on that cruel cross where all the sins of all people of the world were laid on Him. He bled for the forgiveness of our sins (Hebrews (9:22b). He died and rose on the third day. He is now in heaven. You can receive Him so that he can make you God's child.

LINK: You can choose to become a child of God. God wants you to be your Father.

- D. Elisha told her to borrow lots of empty jars and fill them with oil. (3-4)
- E. The widow obeyed Elisha, doing exactly as he said. (5)

LINK: The widow obeyed Elisha in order for her needs to end. You can also obey God and go to Him for help.

Spiritual application for the saved

God knows about your problem already. He wants you to talk to Him about it. You can pray to God because he cares for you and your needs. Read His Word about your needs and listen to how he wants to help you. He may use other people to bless you so that your needs can be met. God will provide for you. The Bible promises, "But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19). God does what He promises and as you trust Him, He will give you peace in your heart and He will take care of your problem.

LINK: You can go to God for your needs. The widow also obeyed what the man of God told her.

- F. The oil continued to flow until all the jars were full. (5-6)
- G. The widow reported to Elisha what had happened. (7a)
- H. Elisha told her to sell the oil and pay her debts, then live with her sons on the money that remained. (4b)

LINK: God met the great need of a woman. He can also meet your needs.

Challenge: There must be an act of faith in God for Him to meet your needs. No matter what happens to you. Whether it is a big need or not, God wants to meet your needs. Remember that God is your heavenly Father and He can meet all your needs if you ask Him. Remember what the Bible says in Matthew 6:8. Pray to God and talk to Him about your needs knowing that He knows every detail of your life. When you face a difficult situation which needs to be addressed, you need to remember that God your heavenly Father wants to help you and that all that you need to do is to talk to Him about it.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, your greatest need is salvation and that means you should become a child of God. You can choose to become a child of God today by receiving Jesus in your heart as your Saviour. The Bible says, "Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

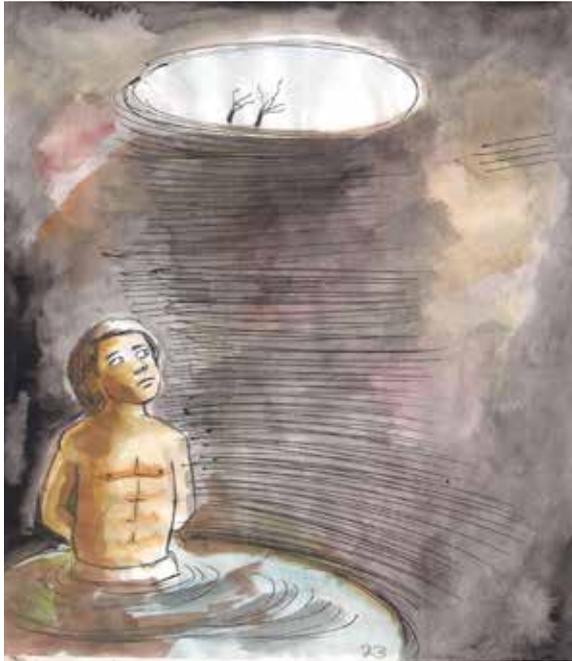
Application questions

- i. Have you ever experienced a situation where you have a great need and there is no one to help? Share this with friends or with someone.
- ii. How did you feel when you had no means of meeting a critical need in your life? What was your reaction?
- iii. What do you learn about the ability of God to provide for us when we face a critical need in life?
- iv. How can we care for the widows and orphans in our community?

Lesson 54: Joseph thrown into a pit by his brothers

Teaching: Kindness

Scripture: Genesis 37:1-35



Objective: The learn will be content with who they are and what they have rather than be jealous of other people.

Introduction

Pits can be very dangerous to your community if left open.

LINK: In our lesson today, someone was thrown in a pit because others were jealous of him.

Progression of events

- A. Jacob loved his son Joseph and made him a colourful coat which made his brothers hate him so much. (1-4)
- B. Joseph dreamt dreams which indicated he would someday become their leader, and they hated him even more. (5-11)
- C. Jacob sent Joseph's brothers to take the flock to Shechem, and sent Joseph to go and check on them. (12-17)
- D. When the brothers saw Joseph approaching, they plotted to kill him. (18-20)
- E. Reuben urged his brothers not to kill Joseph; so instead they threw him into a pit. (21-24)

LINK: Joseph's brothers threw him into a dangerous pit. A pit in your area can also be dangerous to you and other people.

General application

You may not be thrown in a pit like Joseph, but you would accidentally fall into a pit. A pit is a big hole in which an animal or a person can fall into. It can have water especially in the rainy season, or it can have snakes or thorns in it. It can also be a mosquito infested area especially if there is water around. It can also be a breeding place for mosquitoes which cause malaria. All these things are a danger to your life. If you see or find a dry pit in your area, it is important to bury it with earth or soil or put thorny branches to cover it so that no person can fall into it. To prevent yourself or your friends from falling into it, don't dare to play around it.

LINK: Joseph's brothers threw him into a pit because they were jealous of him.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jealousy is sin to God. Sin is anything you think, say or do which displeases God such as jealousy, fighting and telling lies. Sin is punishable. The punishment is to be separated from God forever. "Your sins have separated you from God." (Isaiah 59:2) But God loves you. He sent Jesus His Son from heaven to die for you on the cross. He took the punishment for your sin by shedding His blood and dying for you. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins..." (Ephesians 1:7) After dying for your sins, He was buried but rose from the grave the third day. If you admit and believe that Jesus died for your sins and rose from the grave; your sins will be forgiven forever.

LINK: You can have your sins forgiven. Jealousy is sin. Joseph's brothers sinned by throwing Joseph in the pit.

F. Judah persuaded others to sell Joseph. They sold him to the Midianites who took him to Egypt. (25-28)

LINK: Because the brothers were so jealous of Joseph, Judas persuaded them to sell him to the Median traders. That was very wrong. You cannot be kind and jealous.

Spiritual application for the saved

If your sins have been forgiven, God does not want you to be jealous of your friends because it is sin. Being jealous is when you do not feel good because your friend has something you do not have. It can be that your friend is always number one in class, or he has good clothes, or anything else which you may want to have but you do not have. If your sins have been forgiven, God wants you to love others instead of being jealous. The Bible says, "Love is kind...not jealous." (1 Corinthians 13:4) When you feel jealous, ask God to help. Feel good for your friend. You can also ask God to give you what you want. God wants you to feel good for others.

LINK: Jealousy is bad. Joseph's brothers sold him because they were jealous of him and had no kindness.

G. After Joseph was sold, the brothers killed an animal and dipped his coat in the blood to show Jacob that Joseph had died. Jacob lamented for his son. (29-32)

LINK: Because Joseph's brothers were jealous, they made their father sad, because they made him think that Joseph had died. If your sins have been forgiven, God wants you to love others and not be jealous. You always have to be kind.

Challenge: Whenever you begin to feel jealous, will you remember to love your friend and refuse to be jealous?

Invitation: God wants you to have your sins forgiven. Will you choose to believe in the Lord Jesus and have your sins forgiven? The Bible urges everyone saying, "...Repent, and let everyone of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins..." (Acts 2:38)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Jacob loved his son Joseph more than any of his children and this created jealousy from his brothers. What is jealousy?
- ii. What did the brothers of Joseph do to him as a result of hatred towards him?
- iii. What does the lesson teach about how we should feel about other people that may be better than us?
- iv. What do you think Jacob needed to do to show love to all his sons?
- v. In your family do you think your parents love some of the children more than others?

Activity

The teacher asks children to tell the class about an open pit which they know about so that they can do something about it together or ask their parents to do it.

Lesson 55: The Good Samaritan

Teaching: Kindness

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37



Objective: The learner will desire to be of help to other people especially those who are in problems.

Introduction

Imagine you have a problem and nobody wants to help you. How would you feel, terrible, wouldn't you? There was a man of Jewish origin who fell into the hands of the robbers and was beaten and left for dead. Many people passed by and saw him in need of help but one after the other; they all by passed him without giving him the help that he needed so much.

LINK: In our lesson today, a man was neglected after he was attacked by robbers.

Progression of Events

A. A lawyer trying to trick Jesus asked, "Teacher, how can I inherit eternal life? (25)

LINK: Although the lawyer called Jesus "Teacher" he did not believe Jesus was really the Son of God. He thought he could earn eternal life through good works. But God's Word says that is impossible (James 2:10).

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Because we are born sinners even the good things we do cannot make us right in the sight of a Holy God (Isaiah 64:6). Only Jesus, God's perfect Son can pay for our sin. Because Jesus loved you, He shed His blood on the cross to take the punishment for all your sin. He was buried and on the third day He rose. Until you receive Jesus, you cannot please God with good works.

LINK: Jesus knows about you. He also knew about the lawyer.

B. Jesus answered him with a question, "What does the law say?" (26)

C. Quoting from the law, the lawyer replied, "A person must love God with all his being and his neighbour as himself" (27).

LINK: As the lawyer quoted God's Word, he may have thought he was keeping God's command or he may have felt uneasy, knowing that he did not love God or neighbour with all his heart as himself. No one on their own are able to love God and their neighbour as they love themselves.

Spiritual application for saved

If you are part of God's family, Jesus lives in you, giving you power to love others as yourself. The Bible says, "My little children, let us not love in tongue but in love and truth." (1 John 3:18) God's love is not just a feeling. It is a decision to care about other people and put them before self, offering help even

when it is inconvenient. Christian love is not selfish. It always seeks the best for everybody. Some people who may be difficult to love may include a cruel step mother or father, a bully, sometimes people that have a different culture; God wants you to love everyone.

LINK: Only God has power to help you love others. The lawyer did not want to be seen that he loved his own way.

- D. When Jesus told him his answer was right, the lawyer, tried to get Jesus to make him feel better by defining the term 'neighbour' (29)
- E. Jesus used a story to show the lawyer what God's love is like. (30)
- F. A priest glanced at an injured man and passed by. (31)
- G. A Levite stopped and looked at the victim, and then passed by. (32)
- H. A despised Samaritan had compassion, took care of the injured man's wounds, and took him to an inn to be cared for (33, 34)
- I. The Samaritan paid all costs, left money, and promised more (34,35)
- J. Jesus led the lawyer to a painful admission - the Samaritan was obeying God's law by being a neighbour, while religious Jews were not (36-37)

LINK: It was hard for the lawyer to admit that the Good Samaritan was a hero in Jesus' story.

He probably helped a man who hated him. God wants you to help even those who hate you, even your enemies.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, you can show kindness to all kinds of people, your friends and neighbours and those who are not friends. Showing love may require you to spend money, time, sharing and giving etc. Anyone you can help is your neighbour.

LINK: God wants you to love other people as a child of God. He also taught the lawyer to love his neighbour.

- K. Jesus instructed the lawyer that if he truly loved God he would show God's love to others (37)

Challenge: As part of God's family, will you show your love to others? Ask God to help you to identify people around you who are in need of help regardless of who they are. God will give you power to do so. Next week share ways in which God will help you show love to others.

Invitation: Only when you have Jesus in your heart will you have eternal life. You can choose to receive Jesus in your heart today (1 John 5:12). He who has the Son has life. He who does not have the Son does not have life.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Application questions

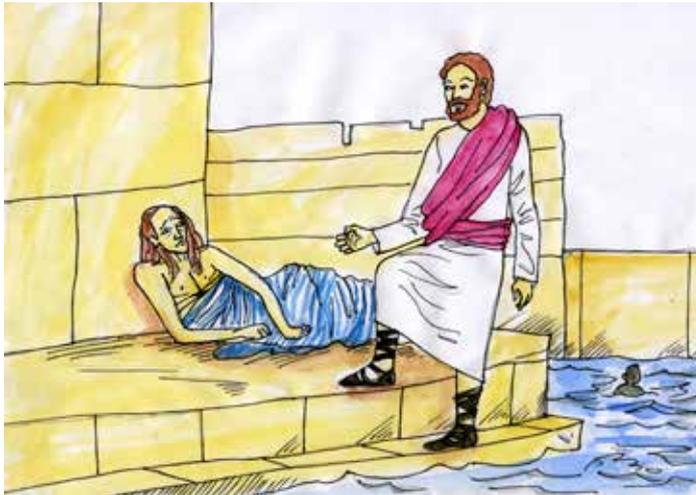
- i. What does the Bible teach us about who our neighbour is?
- ii. How should we respond to the problems or the needs of other people?
- iii. What does this story teach us about how to live our Christian lives in the sight of God?

WATER and HEALING

Lesson 56: A man healed at the pool of Bethesda

Teaching: Water and Healing

Scripture: John 5:1-15



Objective: The learner will know that God can help in times of need.

Introduction

Imagine that you have fallen sick. Each time you go to the hospital, the medical staff keeps telling you that there is no medicine. And this happens time and again when you are on the line and just before the next person. What do you think would be going through your mind?

LINK: This happened to someone during the Bible times.

Progression of events:

- A. After healing the noble man's son, Jesus went to Jerusalem. (4:53,54,5:1)
- B. There was a pool of Bethesda, where the sick, lame, blind and the paralysed waited for the moving of the water. (3)

LINK: Water has many healing properties.

Physical application

You must drink at least 6 to 8 glasses of water per day because 75% of your body weight is water. When you hurt yourself, you must carefully wash the wound with water and cover it then go to the nearest clinic. You must wash your body with water at least once a day. Remember always to wash your hands with water and soap after using the toilet. When you have a headache, or feel weak, drink a lot of water to help you release tension on your brain.

LINK: Water has many healing properties. You can never take enough.

- C. The angel went to stir the water at certain times and whoever went there first would be healed. (4)

LINK: Whoever went into the pool first was healed. The water had some healing power.

Spiritual application for the saved

The man's condition was so bad that when he was healed, it was a clear demonstration of God's power. Jesus has more healing power than the pool. If you are saved, when you are sick, you can trust Jesus to heal you because the Bible says in Isaiah 53:5b, "We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received." You can pray to God so that He can heal you. He has more power than the water in the pool of Bethesda.

LINK: You can trust Jesus to heal you when you are sick. For the sick at that time, they had to go into the pool first.

- D. A certain man was sick for thirty-eight years. (5)
- E. When Jesus arrived and saw him lying there, He asked the man if he wanted to be healed. (6)

LINK: The man had a big problem. His problem was that he was sick. But you and I have a bigger problem. The problem is sin.

General application

Sin is anything you think, say, and do which does not please God like fighting, telling lies or thinking bad about your friend. The Bible says, "The soul that sins shall surely die" (Ezekiel 18:4b). To die is to be separated from God forever. That is the punishment of sin. You sin because you were born a sinner. You find it easier to sin than do good.

LINK: Your problem is sin. The man at the pool had a problem of being sick.

- F. The sick man answered that he didn't have someone to help him get into the pool because there was always someone who went before him. (7)
- G. Jesus told the man to rise up and take his mat and walk. (8)

LINK: Did Jesus have the power to make the sick man to rise up and walk? Yes, He also has power to forgive your sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus is God the Son. God sent Him to come and die for your sins. The Bible in John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." To believe is to agree with God that you are a sinner and to believe that Jesus is the only one who can take away your sins. God loves you because He is the one that made you. He wants to live with you someday in heaven. That is why He sent His Son Jesus for you.

LINK: Jesus has the power to forgive your sins. He also had power to make the sick man rise up and walk. In the name of Jesus miracles can still happen today.

- H. Immediately the man took up his mat and walked. It was the Sabbath day. (9)
- I. The Jews asked the man why he carried his bed on the Sabbath day; the man told them everything that happened because he did not know Jesus. (10-13)
- J. Afterward, Jesus met the man at the temple and He told him not to sin again. The man then told the Jews that it was Jesus who healed him. (14-15)

LINK: The sick man was healed by Jesus. You can also trust Him to heal you, or for any other miracle.

Challenge: Whenever you get sick, will you remember to pray to God for your healing? Will you remember to take a lot of clean water every day to keep you healthy?

Invitation: Even if you are healthy, if you do not have Jesus as your Saviour, you cannot live with Him forever. You can choose to believe in Him today so that He can give you everlasting life. (John 3:16)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. How do you feel when each time you want to achieve something, you fail when you're so close to success?
- ii. What does the story teach us about the power of Jesus Christ?

Activity

The teacher tells the children to remember to drink at least 6 to 8 cups of clean water every day and encourage them to tell their friends about Jesus.

Lesson 57: Cleansing of the lepers

Teaching: Water and Healing

Scripture: Luke 17: 11-19



Objective: The learner will thank God for his salvation and everything God has given him.

Introduction

Have you ever heard of a disease called leprosy? Leprosy is a disease which affects the skin and the nerves under it. In later stages, the parts of the body that are affected may begin to fall off leaving the affected person handicapped.

LINK: In our lesson today, we are going to look at people who suffered from leprosy and what happened to them.

Progression of events

- A. Jesus went to Jerusalem and passed through the midst of Galilee and Samaria. (11)
- B. As He entered through a village, ten lepers met Him standing afar off. (12)

LINK: The lepers were standing afar off because they were regarded as unclean before the people who had no leprosy. If you do not have Jesus in your heart, you also are unclean before God.

Spiritual application for unsaved child

Your sin makes you unclean before God. Sin is what you think, say, or do that is displeasing to God like hatred, lies and stealing. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death," (Romans 6:23a). To die is to be separated from God forever. That is the punishment for sin. You are not taught how to sin but you are born wanting to do more wrong than doing what is good. Sin is something we are born with.

LINK: Sin makes you unclean before God. The lepers were also unclean because of leprosy.

- C. They lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, master, have mercy on us. (13)
- D. When Jesus saw the lepers, He told them to go and show themselves to the priest. And it was that as they went, they were cleansed. (14)

LINK: Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priest because He had power to cleanse them from their leprosy. Jesus also has the power to forgive you from your sins.

Spiritual application

God loves you and sent Jesus the perfect Son of God to take the punishment for your sin by dying on the cross. You were supposed to die but Jesus willingly took your place as he shed His blood and died on the cross. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses you from all your sins. "... and He washed us from our sins in His own blood." (Revelation 1:5b) He died, was buried but rose again the third day. He will be coming back to get people who have believed in Him. God is without sin and wants you to live with Him in heaven.

LINK: Your sins can be forgiven. Jesus told them to go because He had the power to cleanse the lepers from their leprosy.

E. One of them having seen that he was healed ran back to glorify God. He was a Samaritan. (15-16)

LINK: The Samaritan went back to glorify God after he was healed. If you are saved, you should thank God for your salvation.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says, "Giving thanks to God who has qualified you to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light." (Colossians 1:12). Remember that before your sins were forgiven, you were destined to be separated from God forever. You must thank God that you will live with Him forever one day. Also remember to thank God for your life, your parents, friends and teachers.

LINK: Remember to thank God for what He has given you. The Samaritan thanked God for cleansing him of his leprosy.

F. Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten but only one came back to glorify God, a foreigner" (17-18)

G. Jesus said to him, "Arise, go your way, your faith has made you well. (19)

LINK: The lepers were cleansed of their leprosy. This means that you too can also have your sins forgiven.

Invitation: Acts 10:43b says, "Whoever believes in Him, receives forgiveness of sins." You can choose to have your sins forgiven today.

Challenge: Will you thank God each day for giving you life this week? Can you find something for which you can thank God?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. The lepers were treated as unclean because of their leprosy. What makes us spiritually unclean?
- ii. How can we get spiritually cleansed?
- iii. The lepers thanked God after they were cleansed. What has happened in your life which you should thank God for?
- iv. What kind of people might be considered as outcasts (lepers) in your area?
- v. How do you think Jesus would treat them and care for them?

Lesson 58: The healing water

Teaching: Water and Healing

Scripture: Ezekiel 47:1-12



Objective: The learner will know that he/she is a spring of life-giving water.

Introduction

Have you ever wondered where all the toilet water goes in the city? Well, it goes in a pond called sewage. It is a pond where all the human waste goes.

LINK: Nobody can drink water from sewage and live.

A. Ezekiel was guided back to the entrance of the temple, where he saw water coming out from under the temple towards the east, specifically the

water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar. (V.1-2)

- B. From the temple, the river flows east and then south, through the Judean desert and unto the Dead Sea. The surprising thing is that, although no tributaries are mentioned, the river kept growing in depth and volume. (v. 3-5)
- C. The river was ankle deep the first time, knee deep the second time, up to the waist the third time and a river that no one could cross the fourth time. Ezekiel was told not to forget what he had seen. (v. 6a)
- D. Ezekiel was then led back to the bank of the river and witnessed the cleansing healing and life giving power of the river in the great number of trees on each side of the river. (v. 6b-7)
- E. His guide explained that this river flows down into the dead sea (v. 8)

Link: The Dead Sea has no life in it. If you have never believed in the Lord Jesus, you are no better than the Dead Sea.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Dead Sea is a body of water so salty that nothing can live in it. The river flowing in it will make the Dead Sea's water fresh so it can support life. This is the picture of the life giving water that flows from the temple of God.

God's power can transform you no matter how lifeless or sinful you are. Even when you feel you have no hope, God is able to forgive you when you ask for His forgiveness. The Bible says in Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned..." That means every person is prone to sin. Sin has punishment which is separation from God forever.

LINK: If you have never believed in Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you are no better than the Dead Sea.

- F. This sea is given this name because its water is so salty that it is undrinkable and only a few life forms can survive in it. But when the river emptied into the sea, the water there became fresh. The dead sea will become a live sea, full of fish and other kinds of living creatures, (v 9b)

LINK: If you have already believed in Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you are a spring of life-giving water.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says, “But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:14) God wants you to tell others about how they can believe on Jesus and receive eternal life; eternal life is living with God forever. You can tell others about Jesus by living a life that shows you are a Christian or invite them to the Good News Club.

LINK: God wants you tell others about eternal life because you are a spring of life giving water.

- G. Fishermen will stand along the shore, from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading the nets. (v. 10)
- H. The swamps and marshes around the Dead Sea will not become fresh. (v. 11)
- I. And on the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, nor do their fruit fail.

LINK: God wants you to have eternal life. You can choose to believe in the Lord Jesus and receive eternal life today.

Invitation: Will you choose to have eternal life today? John 3:16b says, “Whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Challenge: If you are sure you are a spring of life giving water, will you this week share at least with two of your friends on how they can receive eternal life.

Application questions

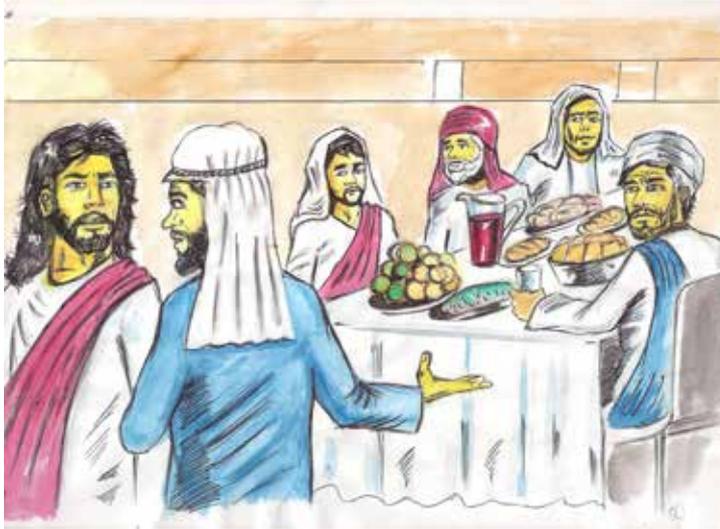
- i. What type of water is found in the Dead Sea?
- ii. What lesson do we draw from the Dead Sea and there being nothing living in it?

WATER and HYGIENE

Lesson 59: A Pharisee invites Jesus for Lunch

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Luke 11:37-41



Objective: The learner will know the importance of washing hands before eating and how to be clean on the inside.

Introduction

Would you allow your young sister or brother to eat food without washing his or her hands? It is very unhygienic, isn't? How would you feel if any of your invited persons started to eat without washing their hands?

LINK: In our lesson today, a Pharisee was surprised to see Jesus eating without washing his hands.

Progression of events:

- A. After Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee asked Him to have lunch with him. (37)
- B. Jesus went in and sat before the table. (37b)
- C. The Pharisee was surprised that Jesus did not wash His hands ceremoniously before He ate. (38)

LINK: The Pharisee was more concerned with the outward hygiene than being cleaned from the inside.

General application

Today it is very important to keep hygienic rules because they help you prevent diseases. The Pharisee was not wrong to be surprised that Jesus did not wash his hands before eating but the Pharisee was more concerned about ceremonial rules. You and I also must know that we must always remember to wash our hands before we eat or handle any food. What are some of the reasons why we should wash our hands before eating?

Hands carry a lot of germs which are responsible for diarrheal diseases like typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery, and even bilharzia. We handle a lot of things which could transfer germs to our hands. We greet a lot of people who could transfer germs from their hands to our hands. How can you avoid contracting water borne diseases?

Wash your hands with soap and water at all times before you eat. Avoid hand shaking with a lot of people especially during an outbreak of a water borne disease. If you do, remember to wash your hands after a hand shake or dry clean your hands with a clean towel or serviette.

LINK: You should always remember to wash your hands before you eat. The Pharisee was surprised when he saw Jesus eating without washing His hands.

- D. Then Jesus said to him that, "You Pharisees clean the outside of the cup but inside you are full of greed and wickedness." (39)

LINK: Jesus answered the Pharisee that he cleaned the outside of the cup but inside he was full of greed and wickedness because for the Pharisee the ritual was more important

than hygiene. In addition, the Pharisee was more concerned with the ritual of washing hands rather than the true cleanliness that comes from the cleansing of sin by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Pharisees pretended to be clean when they were full of greed and wickedness. Wickedness is another word for sin. Sin is what you think, say and do, displeasing God, like greed which is being selfish, pretending things are okay when they are not and stealing. Sin is punishable by God because He hates sin. The Bible says, in Ezekiel 18:4, "The soul that sins shall die." To die here is to be separated from God forever. Which means you can never be in the place where God wants you to be with Him. God loves you. He wants to live with you forever. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sin. He willingly took your place of punishment on the cross. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. I John 1:7 says, "And the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from your sins." He died and was buried and the third day he arose from the grave. You can have your sins forgiven and be cleansed from the inside of your heart.

LINK: The Pharisees needed to be cleansed inside which is more important than cleaning the outside.

E. He told him the Pharisees were foolish because the one who made the outside made the inside also. (40)

LINK: God is more interested in your inside which is your heart than the outside.

Spiritual application for the saved.

God knows everything about you. You can't pretend to be good to God. The Bible tells us that He perceives our thoughts from afar. Which means before you even think, He knows what you are going to think or do. God wants you to be honest and do things for the Lord and not for men. (Colossians 3:23) "And in whatever you do, do as unto the Lord not as unto men." This means you should not do things to be seen and praised by men. Instead do things to please God. This way you will not be cleaning the outside, you will be cleaning the inside of your heart.

LINK: God is more interested in your inside than your outside. This is because the 'inside' is dealing with your heart while the 'outside' deals with your physical body.

F. He told him to give what was inside to the poor and everything would be clean for them. (41)

LINK: Jesus told them that if they first offered their hearts to God then everything would be clean. God will accept the good they do even if they did not follow the outward ceremonial washing of hands required by Jewish traditions.

Challenge: God wants your inside to be cleaner than your outside. Will you choose to do things as unto the Lord rather than unto man whenever you are doing something?

LINK: If your sins have not been cleansed, you need to consider believing in Jesus for the cleansing of your sins and become clean on the inside.

Invitation: Will you choose Jesus to cleanse your sins today? "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away..." (Acts 3:19)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. Why is it important to wash our hands before taking a meal?
- ii. What is spiritual cleanliness?
- iii. In the Bible, what can make you clean?

Activity

Teacher: Take a container of water and a tablet of soap and let every child wash their hands with soap as an example of what they must do before handling and after using the toilet.

Lesson 60: Bad water turned into good water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: 2 Kings 2:19-22



Objective: The learner will know that not all water is good for human consumption.

Introduction

Not all water is good. Some water is contaminated. It looks clear and clean if you look at it but it contains impurities. If you drink it, you will become sick or even die. Some bad water can also hurt plants, if you use it to water plants.

LINK: You must always be careful what water you use. There was a different kind of water at one time in a town in the Bible. Let's hear what happened.

Progression

- A. The leaders of the town of Jericho visited Elisha and told him their problem (19a)
- B. They told him that their town was in a natural beautiful place but had bad water and unproductive land. (19b)

LINK: The Bible does not tell us why the water was bad. You could be just as bad a person because of sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

If Jesus Christ is not your Saviour, it does not matter how good a person you appear to be. The Bible says you are a bad person. You could be kind, helpful to others, you don't fight, you don't steal and obey your parents but Jesus Christ is not your Saviour, then all your goodness does not count in the eyes of God. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). This means that everyone is a sinner and has gone their own way doing what displeases God.

Spiritual application for the saved

If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, all the good things that you do are pleasing to Him. You can continue to be kind, helpful to others, not to fight and steal and also obey your parents. In Matthew 7:17a the Bible says, "A healthy tree produces good fruit" which means people will see your good deeds in your life as a Christian.

LINK: When God looks at you, He sees the goodness of His Son Jesus Christ in your life. The water in the spring was bad because it had no life.

- C. Elisha told them to bring salt in a bowl and they brought it. (20)
- D. Elisha went out to the spring that supplies the town with water and threw the salt into it. (21a)

LINK: Elisha had to treat the water with salt before it could be used. You cannot use bad water until it is treated.

Physical application

How can you treat water from a well or a river?

- a. Boil the water before you use it.
- b. If the water has a lot of segments filter the water with a good clean cloth.
- c. Use chlorine to treat the water.

LINK: If you treat your water for drinking, your water will be good. Elisha had to treat the water with salt before it could be used.

- E. Then Elisha said, "This is what the Lord says: 'I have made the water wholesome (clean). It will no longer cause death or infertility.'" (21b)
- F. From that day, the water has remained wholesome to this day.

LINK: The water remained wholesome after being treated. If you are not saved, you can receive Jesus as your Saviour and remain whole or pure forever. "Whoever believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins" (Acts 10:43b.)

Invitation: Will you choose to receive the forgiveness of your sins today?

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Challenge: If Jesus is your Saviour, will you continue to be good to other people?

Application questions

- i. How can you tell if water is contaminated?
- ii. What problem will you face if you use contaminated water?
- iii. How can you treat contaminated water to make safe for human consumption in your community?
- iv. What more could your community need to do to meet the need for clean water?

Activity

With prior arrangement before the lesson the teacher shows the children how water can be boiled to make it safe for drinking.

Lesson 61: Buying water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Deuteronomy 2:1-7



Objective: The learner will realise that water is costly and be willing to contribute in one way or another.

Introduction

Have you ever bought water to drink in your life or have you seen somebody buying water? To get clean water to drink and use costs money.

LINK: Did people in Bible times also buy water? Let us look and see!

This happened when Moses and the children of Israel were in the wilderness.

They moved from place to place before getting into the land God promised them.

Progression

- A. God commanded the children of Israel to turn into the desert of Gulf of Aqaba (v.1a)
- B. They spent a long time wandering in the country of Edom (v.1b)
- C. The Lord told them that they had spent enough time in the hill and that they should go north. (v.2-3)
- D. God told them to go through Edom, a country of their distant relatives, the descendants of Esau. (v.4a) (Esau was a twin brother of Jacob the son of Isaac.)
- E. The descendants of Esau would be afraid of the children of Israel (v.4b)
- F. God told the children of Israel not to start a war with the descendants of Esau (v.5)
- G. God told the children of Israel to buy their food and water from the descendants of Esau (v.6)

LINK: God told the Israelites to buy their food and water from the descendants of Esau, maybe because water was scarce in that land. Even if there are people who do not pay for water in some places, it does not mean water is cheap.

General Application

Water is very costly. Whether you get it from the river, dam, borehole or taps water is expensive. For people living in town there are water utility companies which charge people who use the water from their company. They charge because:

- i. They also buy expensive chemicals which they add to the water to keep it clean.
- ii. They use electricity which they pay for in order to pump water to all their customers.
- iii. They need the money to pay the people who work at the water utility company.

For the boreholes to be dug, you need a lot of money to drill them. Even if you were to draw water from the river it would still cost you time. If you are a child of God, God wants you to realise the importance of preserving water because people spend money to bring water to your community. You should remember to use the water sparingly and thank God for the expensive water which you might even be have free of charge.

LINK: Do you know that God paid a lot for you to have your sins forgiven. He paid by sacrificing His Son Jesus Christ who came and died on the cross for your sins.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says in I Peter 1:18-20, "For you know what was paid to set you free from the worthless manner of life handed down by your ancestors. It was not something that can be destroyed, such as silver or gold; it was the costly sacrifice of Christ, who was like a lamb without defect or flaw." The cost of Jesus' blood cannot be compared with the amount of money you pay for your water. He shed His blood to have your sins forgiven. When He died, He was buried and He rose again the third day. God loves you and paid for your sins. You can choose to repent from your sins today so that your sins can be forgiven.

LINK: God paid by sacrificing His Son Jesus. You should know this.

- H. God reminded them to remember how He had taken care of them in the desert for forty years. They always had everything they needed (7)
- I. They passed by their relatives and avoided the road, Arabah Valley and continued their journey.

LINK: The children of Israel had to pay for the water because God commanded them. You should also remember that the water you drink is expensive.

Challenge: Will you always remember that water is expensive and take care of it each time you use it?

Invitation: God paid for you to have your sins forgiven. You can choose to repent today, to have your sins forgiven. (Acts 3:19)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and check on the sample invitation. Counsel a child who responds.

Invitation: God paid for you to have your sins forgiven. You can choose to repent today, to have your sins forgiven. (Acts 3:19)

Application questions

- i. Do you realise that the things we buy are more important to us than the things we don't buy because we have spent money on them? Share with a friend the things you do not buy which are important.
- ii. If you paid for water, would you ever want to waste it?
- iii. How would you preserve water in your community or home?

Activity

The teacher asks children to thank God, donors and World Vision staff who contribute to the digging of the water wells in their communities.

Lesson 62: Caleb's daughter demands for springs of water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Judges 1:12-15



Objective: The learner will understand the value of water and decide to have the Living Water.

Introduction

If you were shown land and asked to choose part of the land, what kind of land would you choose? I would choose land which has a river or stream of water.

LINK: Caleb the man who was spared from dying in the wilderness because he obeyed God, had a daughter who asked him for a land with water.

Progression

- A. And Caleb said the one who attacks Kirjathsepher and captures it I will even give him my daughter Achsah for a wife. (12)
- B. And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, captured it: and he gave Achsah his daughter for a wife. (13)
- C. And it came about when she came to him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she got down off her donkey; and Caleb said to her, What do you want? (14)
- D. And she said to him, Give me a blessing, for you have given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs. (15)

LINK: Why do you think she asked for some land with springs of water? She must have been very wise. She wanted land which had water for various uses.

General application

What do you use water for? It is used for drinking, bathing, washing, cleaning, and gardening etc. It is very important to every person because every person needs water every day. You have water given to you freely in this community. It is therefore important for you to preserve it by not wasting it. When you grow up and begin to live on your own, it is important for you to choose a house in a community which has no water problem. If water is scarce in a community, water borne diseases can be common. You should, therefore, remember to store enough water for use in your home at all times. You must remember to thank God for the water.

LINK: Water is important. That is the reason why Caleb's daughter asked for the springs of water also. If you are not saved, you do not only need water for drinking and other uses in your community, you need much more, the springs of water for your life. Just as you need water for your regular use at home, you need spiritual water to quench spiritual thirst.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you no matter where you are coming from or your gender, boy or girl. You could have all the water you need available but, without Springs of Water for your life, it will be of no good to you. Jesus Christ the Son of God is the Spring of Water. He quenches your spiritual thirst forever. To be

spiritually thirsty, is to have a desire to know God and to be joined to Him. Spiritual thirst is a sign that you are separated from God. Sin separates you from God. The Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23) But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. God loved you and sent Jesus His Son as a gift to you to come and die for your sins so that you can have eternal life. He shed His blood on the cross from His head, hands and feet and the whole body for the forgiveness of your sin. He was buried and rose the third day. He now wants you to live with him forever and give you eternal life. When you receive eternal life, you will also have the Springs of Water, (Jesus Christ) living in you. He will quench your spiritual thirst. You receive eternal life by believing in Jesus Christ. "For God so love the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Will you choose Jesus Christ today and receive eternal life?

LINK: When you look at water in your community, know that there is another type of water which is spiritual and has power to quench your spiritual thirst forever.

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember to thank God for the water this week?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. How can we make sure that the water from the springs is always safe to drink?
- ii. Why do you think Caleb's daughter requested land where there was a spring of water?
- iii. Who else can give us anything we want if we trust Him?
- iv. What difference does it make to a family if they have clean water?

Activity

The teacher asks children to walk to the nearest water source/well to clean the surroundings.

Lesson 63: Can both clean and dirty water come from the same spring?

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: James 3:11



Objective: The learner will appreciate how to keep water sources unpolluted and ask God to help us to keep our speech unpolluted.

Introduction

Can both clean and dirty water come from the same spring? The answer is, 'No' it cannot. It is not possible for the spring to give two kinds of water at the same time.

LINK: In our verse today James asked the same question.

James 3:11 Can clean water and dirty water both flow from the same spring?

LINK: Clean water and dirty water cannot come from the same spring.

Physical application

The water is either clean or dirty. If you are not sure of the cleanliness of the water, it is better to be careful, do not drink it. If you go to a new area, you can ask people where they draw clean water to drink. It is better to avoid drinking any water you find anywhere you go. Instead you must always remember to carry some water in a bottle so that you are sure of drinking clean water. If you stay in an area where clean water is not available you can boil the water or put chlorine in it. Cover the water in your container and put it in a safe place where there is no dirt. In this way your water will be protected from being contaminated.

LINK: Just like you cannot have clean and dirty water coming from the same spring, it is not good for a Christian to speak good words and bad words from the same mouth.

Spiritual application for the saved

When God forgives you from your sins, He gives you the Holy Spirit who gives you power for self control from speaking bad words. If you are a Christian and then you speak bad words, people will wonder whether you are truly a Christian because the Bible verse tells us that clean and dirty water cannot come from the same spring. Instead God and people around you expect you to speak good words of encouragement, telling stories which will help others, speak about the Good News of Christ and use your words to praise God. Also, you will use your mouth to speak the truth instead of lies and false words. Do not let people doubt your Christianity.

LINK: If you are not a Christian and you have no difficulties speaking bad words, it is impossible for you to say good words.

Application for the unsaved

Speaking bad words is telling lies, insulting, or gossip which is sin before God. You and I are born sinners. The Bible says, "You have done wrong and lied from the day you were born." (Psalms 58:3) No one

taught you how to sin. You were born a sinner. God is displeased with sin. He punishes sin which means you can never be with Him because sin separates you from God. God is Holy and without sin. He hates sin but He loves the sinner that is you and me. He sent Jesus Christ His Son to come and die for your sins. Jesus willingly left heaven to come and take the punishment for your sin on the cross. He shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. The Bible says, "... and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins." (Hebrews 9:22b) When He died on the cross, He was buried and rose the third day. He went back to heaven. He is coming back to take those whose sins have been forgiven. You can choose to believe in Jesus and have your sins forgiven. In this way, you will be with the Lord when He comes again.

Invitation: To have your sins forgiven you must repent and believe in Jesus. "That everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (Acts 10:43b)

Challenge: When you are tempted to say bad words, will you remember that good and bad words cannot come from the same mouth and ask God to help you speak good words?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

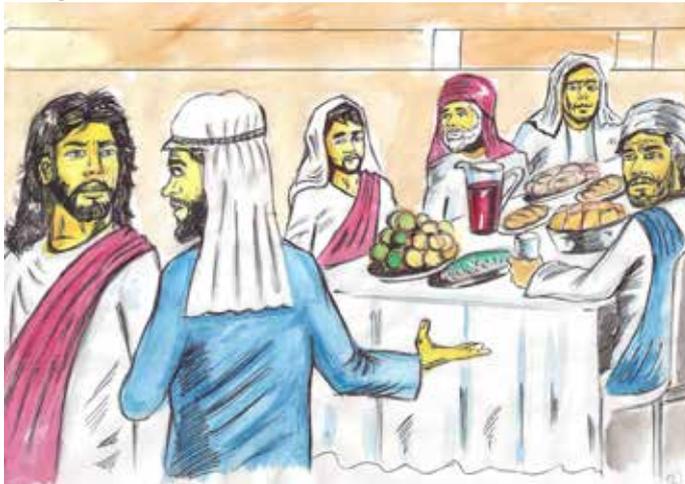
Application questions

- i. What are some of the dirty things that come from people who do not know God?
- ii. As Christians, how are we supposed to conduct ourselves in order to show the difference with those who have not yet repented from their sins?
- iii. Explain some sins which we commit using our tongue?
- iv. Why should there be a difference between Christians and non-Christians?
- v. Would you drink from a well or a spring from which someone recently got sick?
- vi. If something dead or dirty went into a well, how much of this water would be clean?

Lesson 64: Clean and unclean

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Mark 7:1-8



Objective: The learner will choose to obey God even where tradition contradicts the Word of God.

Introduction

Have you ever eaten food without washing your hands? Why do you think you wash your hands before eating?

LINK: In our lesson today, we are going to see people who had made washing hands a tradition. Who were these people?

Progression

- A. The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. (v. 1) (The Pharisees knew the law of Moses very well and followed it. They also made other laws. Scribes were teachers of the law.)
- B. They noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. (v. 2)

LINK: Do you think eating food without washing your hands is good? No, it is not.

Physical application

You should always wash your hands before you eat anything. Hands have a lot of unseen germs which can cause diarrhoeal diseases like dysentery, cholera, typhoid fever etc. You should not only wash your hands before you eat food, but also after you use the toilet. You should wash your hands with soap and water to keep your hands clean. Remember to wash any food before you eat it. Also, wash vegetables before they are cooked.

Washing of hands and anything that you eat is a good habit, but it does not save you from your sin.

LINK: Washing of hands and food before eating is a good habit which should be encouraged.

- C. The Pharisees and indeed all the Jewish people don't eat unless they wash their hands properly, following the tradition of their elders. (v. 3)
- D. They don't eat anything from the marketplace unless they dip it in water. They also observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, jars, brass pots, and dinner tables (v.4)
- E. So the Pharisees and the scribes asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders? Instead, they eat with unclean hands." (v. 5)

LINK: The Pharisees and Scribes thought by keeping the tradition of washing their hands, they were acceptable before God or they would automatically go to heaven.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Titus 3:5a says, "He saved us, not because of the good things we did but because of His mercy..." You cannot be saved by:

1. Going to church.
2. Washing hands before eating food.
3. By being good to your friends.
4. By giving to the poor or needy people.
5. By baptism.
6. Keeping the commandments etc.

You are saved by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. Because of God's mercy, He sent His Son to come and die for you and me. It is not about anything good we have done but it is because of His mercy. This means God loved you and gave His Son to take the punishment of your sins on the cross. He had never done anything sinful but He willingly took your punishment. He shed His blood for the cleansing of your sins. "Praise to Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding His blood for us." (Revelation 1:5b) He died on the cross, was buried and rose again the third day. He wants to live in your heart if you believe in Him.

LINK: You cannot be saved by being good, the Pharisees thought they could be saved by following the traditions.

- F. He told them, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites. As it is written, 'These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.' (v. 6)
- G. Their worship of me is empty, because they teach human rules as doctrines. (v. 7)
- H. You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human traditions (v. 8)

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to honour Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

Deuteronomy 6:5 says, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your strength. This means whatever you do, such as helping people, giving to the poor, going to church or follow the commandments of God. When you do that, you must do it for God and not men. You also are not supposed to look down or think evil of people just because they attend a different church or look different from you.

LINK: God wants you to honour Him.

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember to obey God much more than the traditions of men? Remember to keep and practice traditions that will keep you healthy.

LINK: If you are not saved, keeping traditions will not save you.

Invitation: In as much as it is good to keep and practice good traditions that will keep you healthy, they will however not save you from your sin. You must believe in Jesus Christ to be saved. (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What do you use to remove dirt from your body?
- ii. What do you use to clean dirt inside of your heart?
- iii. What is the difference between inside and outside purity of a person?
- iv. Which purity is more important?

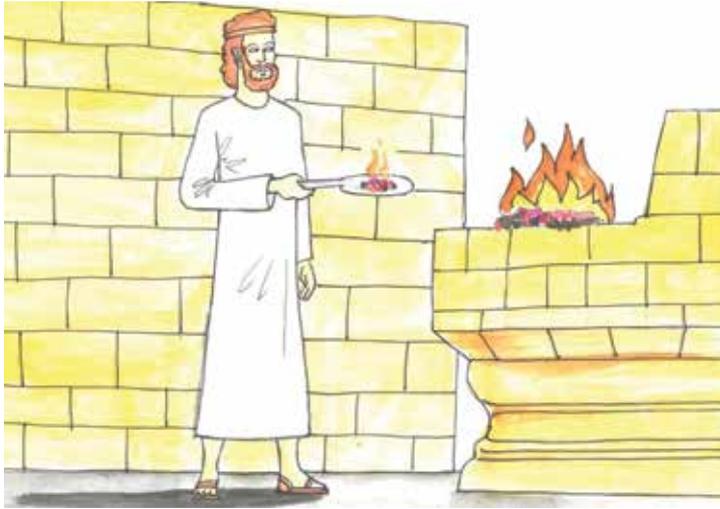
Activity

With prior arrangement the teacher asks children to wash their hands with a tablet of soap as an example of what they are supposed to do before handling food and after using the toilet.

Lesson 65: Clean garments for the High Priest

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Zechariah 3: 1-10



Objective: The learner will know what it means to be clean on the outside but even more on the inside.

Introduction

When you walk on the street and see a man who is mentally ill, usually it is his filthy clothes which will make you tell that this person is mentally ill.

LINK: The Bible tells us that God told the angels to tell the people who were standing next to Joshua to take off their filthy clothes.

Progression of events

- A. God showed Zachariah in a vision, about Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. (1)

LINK: The devil wanted to accuse Joshua. If you are saved, the devil will want to accuse you.

Spiritual application for the saved

The Bible says, "He is the accuser of the brethren." Satan is jealous of you and wants to accuse you so that you become sad and begin to condemn yourself. The Bible says, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1) To be condemned means to be considered unworthy and liable to God's judgment. If you are saved you just need to talk to God about your sin and God will forgive you and not hold you against the sin you have confessed.

LINK: God will not condemn you but the devil will always want to condemn you.

- B. The Lord rebuked Satan and asked him if the man was not a burning stick snatched from the fire. (2)
- C. Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes before the angel, and the angel told people standing before him to take off his clothes. (3-4)

LINK: What comes to your mind when you see filthy clothes in your washing basket? I believe you would want to wash them and for you to do so you need a good amount of water and soap.

General application

You must thank God that you have water available in this place to wash your dirty clothes. Sometimes your clothes can look filthy. Filthy means very dirty. You don't even want to look at the garment. You don't need to wait until the garment is very dirty before you can wash it. Piling dirty clothes in your room will also cause your room to have a bad smell. A bad smell can cause you not to breathe properly. For some people it can bring an illness called bronchitis or sneezing and coughing. Dirty clothes can also develop lice; insects which come as a result of wearing dirty clothes.

Since you have enough water, you can wash your clothes when they are dirty with soap at least once or twice a week.

LINK: Dirty clothes are not good for you. Joshua was also told to take off the dirty clothes.

D. He told Joshua, "I have taken away your sin and will put rich garments on you." (4b)

LINK: Joshua was told that his sin was taken away. God can also take away your sin because to God sin is like a filthy rag.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

"Behold your righteousness is like a filthy rag." (Isaiah 64:6) Sin is displeasing before God. You and I have sinned because we were born wanting to do wrong rather than do right. You are not taught how to sin. Sin separates you from God. To be separated from God is to live without God forever.

LINK: Sin separates you from God. Joshua had his filthy clothes taken off and replaced with clean garments.

E. They put a clean turban on his head while the angel stood by. (5)

F. The Lord told the angel to tell Joshua that, he should walk in His ways and kept his commandments; He would govern His house and have charge of His courts among those who were standing there. (6-7)

G. Joshua and his associates seated before him were told that God would bring His servant the Branch. (8-9)

LINK: His servant the Branch was pointing to the Messiah who is the Lord Jesus Christ. God would send His Son to come and take away the sin of the whole world.

Spiritual application: Teaching about Jesus Christ

God loves you and sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for the people of the whole world. He came from heaven and lived a perfect life. He allowed wicked people to mistreat Him and kill Him. They crowned Him with thorns and nailed Him on the cross. He bled and His blood was necessary for the forgiveness of your sins and my sins. (Hebrews 9:22b) After He died He was buried and rose again the third day. He will be coming again to come and take those who have believed in Him to heaven.

LINK: You can have your sins forgiven. God sent his son Jesus who is said to have been the Branch.

H. A stone was set before Joshua and seven eyes were on that one stone and an inscription would be put on it and it removed sin in that land in a single day. (9)

I. In that day each of them would invite his neighbour to sit under his vine and fig tree. (10)

LINK: They would invite their friends and enjoy themselves. If you are saved, you can enjoy yourself in the things of God.

Challenge: When you feel condemned, will you remember what the Bible says about condemnation? Look to God and remind the devil that his destination is hell.

Invitation: If you are not saved, will you choose to believe in Jesus Christ and be saved? (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Just as sometimes our clothes get dirty; our lives also get dirty because of sin. What can you do to have your spiritual life cleansed from sin?
- ii. What will happen to those who do not have their sins cleansed?
- iii. How do you become dirty by sin?
- iv. How does it feel when you are dirty on the inside?

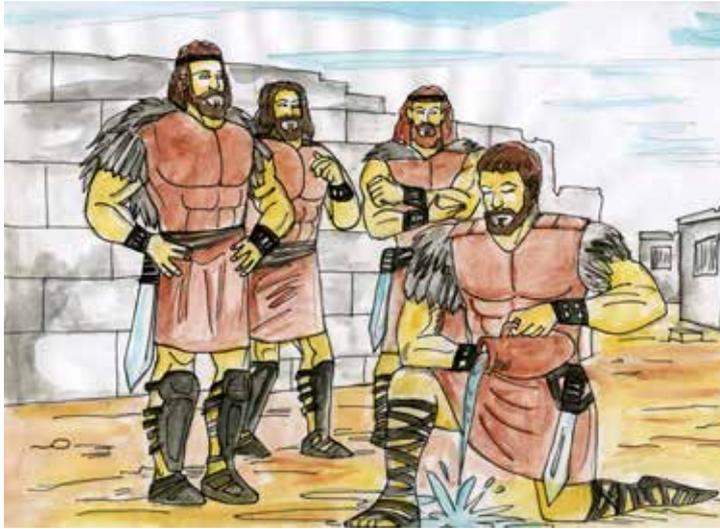
Activity

The teacher hands out bars of soap to the children and asks them to wash their clothes at home. The children are also requested to appear in clean clothes at the next lesson.

Lesson 66: David refuses to drink water given to him

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23: 14-17



Objective: The learner will learn how to put other people's interests before their own.

Introduction

How would you feel if someone sent you to bring water to drink and then he poured it out on the ground? You would be annoyed, wouldn't you?

LINK: This happened in the Old Testament during the time when David was being pursued by King Saul to kill him. David and his soldiers were running away and had to stay in the bush where water was hard to find.

- A. David was hiding, and the garrison of the Philistines was in Bethlehem. (14)
- B. And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate! (15)

LINK: David was very thirsty and asked for water to be brought to him. After hard work you can also feel so thirsty that you would want someone to bring you water.

Physical application

Water is very good for your body. Sometimes you may also be in a place where you cannot find water. In such cases if you can, it is important to carry a bottle of water each time you are going out for camping, playing games like running, and playing football or netball or even after walking for a long distance. It will help you to replace the water which you have lost through your sweat. Sweat has some minerals which come out from your body. That is why your sweat tastes salty. Those are minerals like potassium, chloride and sodium etc. Losing these minerals could make you weak and can even faint.

LINK: You need water to drink for your thirst. David also asked for water because he was very thirsty.

- C. And the three mighty men broke through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it unto the LORD. (16)

LINK: David would not drink the water because the men sacrificed their lives when they went to get water for him. He was a very considerate leader.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are saved, God wants you to be considerate to others. Philippians 2:4 says, "Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." To look at other people's interests is to consider others before you. To give something to a friend who needs it such as drinking water or your lunch pack; making others draw water before you at the borehole or well if the queue is long. It could be a person who is weaker than you or an older person or people who may be needed at home or work or school quickly; allowing others to bathe before you do when they are in a hurry. When you do that, it means you put other people's interests before yours and that pleases God.

LINK: If you are saved, God wants you to consider others. David considered others.

D. And he said, be it far from me, O LORD, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in endangering their lives? Therefore he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men. (17)

LINK: David did not only drink water because he was considerate, he offered it as a sacrifice to God because the men who gave him the water risked their lives when they went to fetch it. Do you know that there is someone whose life was sacrificed for you?

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus Christ the Son of God sacrificed His life for you. To sacrifice is to do something against your will on behalf of somebody or a group of people. Jesus sacrificed His life for you by accepting to die a shameful death on the cross for the sins of all the people of the earth. He had never sinned even when He was a child but, He willingly took your place of punishment for your sin. You and I are sinners and deserve to die because of our sin but Jesus died in our place. He was mocked, insulted, beaten, blind folded and accused of all kinds of things. He finally died on the cross where He shed His blood from His head, hands, feet and the whole body. The Bible says, "...He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." (Hebrews 9:26) He rose again the third day and will be coming to take those who have believed on Him. This happened because of the Love God has for you. He is holy and without sin and wants to live with you. But your sin separates you from God which means, you can never live with God. All kinds of sin displease God and is punishable, but Jesus was sacrificed so you do not have to be punished.

LINK: Jesus was sacrificed for your life. You can choose to believe in Him so that He can save you from your sins.

Invitation: The Bible says in Romans 10:9, "If you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord you will be saved."

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the child who responds.

Challenge: If you are saved, will you choose to consider other people's interests before yours? During this week plan to let someone go before you at the borehole to draw water. Come and tell us how many times you will let someone go before you.

Application questions

- i. Have you ever seen someone make a sacrifice to bring your community or family water? How did it make you feel?
- ii. Jesus gave His life on the cross for the sake of your sins. What should you do to accept that sacrifice?
- iii. Why can't God accept us without the blood of Jesus Christ?
- iv. Find someone that you feel does not deserve your kindness or your sacrifice and do something for them this coming week.
- v. Have you ever seen a good leader make sacrifice for people? How did you feel?

Activity

The teacher asks children what they should do in order to put other peoples before theirs.

Lesson 67: God waters the earth

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Psalm 65:9-10



You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

Objective: The learner will desire to be used as a channel to take the Good News to the lost.

Introduction

Have you ever wondered where all the water in the rivers come from?

LINK: Yes, you are right; most of the water comes from underground or from air but who puts it there? Let us see what the word of God has to say about this.

Explanation

God visits the earth and waters it. He makes the earth very rich so that man's needs are met. He even provides the grain and blesses its growth.

If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, remember the time before you got saved. God visited you and watered you with His Word which made you so rich. You may be poor physically but God has made you rich with His Word. When you speak God's word to others, it is like you are planting the seed of the Word of God in the lives of your friends. God Himself waters the seed of His Word in the lives of your friends and brings growth. Even when your friends are bad people, when they hear and receive the Word of God, God uses that Word to change their lives. Bad people become good by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour from sin.

Spiritual application for the saved

If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, God wants you to tell others about His love for them. God wants you to be like a river that is watering the dry ground. The Bible says, "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13-15) But how will they call on whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News!" When you start telling others about the love of God for them your feet become beautiful in the sight of God.

LINK: People can only call on the Name of the Lord and be saved if there is somebody to tell them.

Challenge: Will you today decide to obey God and be the river flowing taking the Good News to people who are lost?

Invitation: If Jesus Christ is not your Saviour, you need to first believe on Him before you can become a flowing river carrying the Good News. The Bible says, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a full invitation.

Application questions

- i. Explain about the various uses of water in your community and in your country
- ii. What does all this teach us about God?
- iii. Why is water so important in your life?
- iv. Why must we keep our water source clean?

Activity

The teacher asks children to draw sources of water on paper e.g. rivers, rain, water wells, dams etc.

Lesson 68: God waters the garden of Eden

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Genesis 2:8-16



Objective: The learner will learn to share water with others.

Introduction

Why do you drink water? We drink water to quench our thirst. Water does not only quench your thirst. It has minerals which help your body to be fit.

LINK: In our lesson today, we will look at the rivers God made to water the Garden of Eden.

Progression of events

- A. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden and caused to grow every tree that is pleasing and good for food. (8-9)
- B. Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden and from there it divided and became four rivers. (10)

LINK: God made the river to water the garden and give it nourishment. You and I also need our lives to be watered and nourished.

Physical application

Water is important for your body because it has minerals, which you need to keep your body fit. Calcium, sodium, and magnesium are often the most common minerals in water, although there can also be others at times. A child will need to drink at least 1.5 to 2 liters of water a day to keep their body fit. Seventy-five percent of your body weight is water.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Just like you need water for your body to be fit, you need spiritual water for your soul or spirit. That water is Jesus Christ the Perfect Son of God. Rev 22:17b the Bible says, "Whoever is thirsty let him come, whoever wishes let him take the free gift of the water of life." Jesus Christ gives you the water of life which is eternal life, living with God forever with Jesus. He came down from heaven and lived a perfect life. He was arrested and killed and shed His blood on the cross to take away your sin. On the third day He rose from the grave. He is now in heaven and will come back to take those who have the water of life. If you take Him as your Saviour, He will give you the water of life.

LINK: Jesus is the Water of Life. God made rivers in the garden to give the trees and plants water for them to grow.

- C. The names of the rivers were Pishon, Gishon, Tigris and Euphrates. They were placed to water different places. (11-14)

LINK: Just like the rivers were placed to water different places, this water is meant to benefit different people in your community.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you already have the Water of Life (Jesus Christ) in your heart, you must remember that this water at the borehole should benefit other people in your community. You will have people who will visit this community, people who will pass through this community as they go to other villages or children who are not in program who may want to draw water from here. Remember not to be selfish and think that water is for you only. Let others also enjoy the benefit of using the water. Romans 12:13a says, "Share with God's people who are in need..." To share is to let other people get what you have. God wants you to share with others.

Challenge: Will you remember to share the water with others during this week?

Invitation: If you do not have Water of Life, you cannot live with God forever. Will you choose to get the Water of Life who is Jesus Christ? (Revelation 22:17b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and counsel the children who respond.

Application questions

- i. God provided four rivers in the Garden of Eden to water it. Who do you think needs to benefit from the water in your community and why?
- ii. Why do you think it is important to share water with those in need?

Activity

The teacher encourages children to drink at least 3-4 cups of water every day.

Lesson 69: Hagar and Ishmael sent away

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Genesis 21:8-21



Objective: The learner will know that God cares for them.

Introduction

Imagine you were to walk a long way through the desert and the water you carried with you finished. How would you feel? Very thirsty and weak, wouldn't you?

Progression of Events

- A. Isaac the son of Sarah grew up and a great feast was done for him the day when he was weaned. (8)
- B. Sarah saw that Ishmael, Hagar's son was mocking him.(9)

LINK: Ishmael sinned against God when he mocked Isaac. You and I also sin against God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

All sin is against God. (Psalms 51:4) Sin is what you think, say, and do which displeases God such as hating people, mocking others and fighting. You and I were all born in sin. Sin separates us from God which is being separated from God forever.

LINK: Sin is against God. Ishmael also sinned when he mocked Isaac.

- C. Sarah told Abraham to get rid of Hagar and her son because Ishmael would not share Isaac's son's inheritance. (10)
- D. Abraham was very displeased about the matter. (11)
- E. God told Abraham not to be displeased about Hagar and her son but to listen to Sarah because it would be through Isaac that he would become a great nation. (12)
- F. God encouraged Abraham that he would also make a nation out of Ishmael. (13)
- G. Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and put it on Hagar's shoulder. (14a)
- H. Abraham gave the boy to Hagar and sent them away. She departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba. (14b)
- I. The water in the skin was used up and she placed the boy in the shrubs

LINK: The water was used up and Hagar and Ishmael were in danger of dying of thirst.

Physical Application

You and I need to drink water in order to quench our thirst. Water is very important to people, animals and plants. In order to be healthy, you need to take at least not less than 1 liter of water per day. Animals can also be very weak and even die if there is no water. Equally, plants will also be weak and die. Therefore, it is important to live in a place where there is adequate supply of water.

LINK: Water is important for your health. It was also necessary for Ishmael and Hagar.

- J. She went and sat nearby some bowshot away and began to sob because she did not want to see the boy die. She lifted up her voice and cried. God heard the voice of the boy. (16-17a)
- K. The angel of God called Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you Hagar? Fear not for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Arise, lift up the boy and hold him with your hand for I will make him a great nation. (17b-18)

LINK: God heard the voice of the boy and told Hagar that he would make Ishmael into a great nation. God also loves you and cares for you when you are in trouble.

Spiritual application for the saved

Sometimes you may be found in a situation like Ishmael's where you will need water, food, school fees, money for house rent or uniforms. When you have these needs, you should remember that God cares for you. He is interested in everything about you and your life. You can ask Him to help you through prayer. The Bible says, "Cast all your cares upon Him for He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

This means that you can tell Him about all your problems no matter how small or big. He is able to solve and help you.

LINK: God cares for you. He also cared for Hagar and Ishmael. He heard the voice of the boy.

- L. God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

LINK: How wonderful! Finally Hagar and Ishmael had water to drink to quench their thirst. Do you know that you do not only need water for your physical thirst but also for your spiritual thirst.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

If you are not saved, you need Jesus Christ the perfect Son of God to quench your thirst. He is the Water of Life. The Bible says, "And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires let him take the Water of Life freely." (Revelation 22:17b) God loves you. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins. He died to take away your sins and was punished for your sins and rose from the grave the third day. He is now in heaven and would like you to choose Him so that you can have the Water of Life and be free from the punishment of your sin.

LINK: You need spiritual water just as you need physical water.

- M. God was with the boy. He grew and lived in the wilderness of Paran and became an Archer. His mother took the wife for him from Egypt (20-21)

LINK: If you are saved, you can remember that God cares about you.

Challenge: Will you thank God for taking care of you today? Think about the many things that God has given you in His image, giving you a mother, father, sister, brother and above all Jesus Christ. You will discover that you can't count the many things that God has blessed you with.

Teacher: Take time to pray with the children at this moment. Let them think about what they can thank God for. Teacher should ask the children to learn the hymn about counting blessings.

Invitation: You can choose Jesus to give you the Water of Life today. (Revelation 22:17b)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why did Sarah want to send Hagar and her son away?
- ii. How did God respond to Hagar's problem?
- iii. What should you do to make Jesus your Water of Life?

Lesson 70: God changes a wilderness into a pool of water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Psalms 107:35



Objective: The learner will trust God during hard times.

Introduction

A wilderness is a place where you cannot easily find water.

LINK: In today's verse, God is able to change a wilderness into a pool of water.

Progression

Psalms 107:35. He changes a wilderness into a pool of water and a dry land into springs of water.

LINK: How can God change a wilderness into a pool of water?

General application

God is able to change the wilderness into a pool of water because He has the power to do so. He is in control of everything we see and also what we cannot see. God made the earth and even the wilderness or dry land. He spoke and brought everything into being. Maybe you experienced a lot of water problems before the borehole was dug. Maybe you had to walk a long distance before you could find water or maybe you got water from a river which is dirty. God used World Vision to dig boreholes in your area so that you would not have to experience dryness. A wilderness is a place where you cannot easily find water.

LINK: A wilderness can also mean a time when you are passing through hard times in your life.

Spiritual application for the saved

It can be a time when you have no money for your school fees, books, school uniform or shoes. It can be sickness in your family or a loved one. It can be losing a loved one or any problem which can make you pass through hard times. The Bible says, "He is able to change the wilderness into a pool of water." God wants you to know that "there is nothing impossible with God." (Luke 1; 37) When you face hard times or pass through a wilderness of your life, you can pray to God to help you and change the wilderness situation into a pool of water. A pool of water is having your needs met. God will meet your needs because he cares for you. You just need to trust Him to change your wilderness into a pool of water.

LINK: God wants to help you get out of your wilderness.

Spiritual application for unsaved

If you are not saved, your wilderness is not having Jesus as your Saviour. You are dry and dead without Christ because the Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:1, "For you were dead in your transgressions." This means if you have no Jesus in your heart, you are as good as being dead because you do not have the Springs of Life (Jesus Christ). God loves you. He sent Jesus Christ His Son to come and give you eternal life. If you believe in Him, your wilderness will disappear and you will have a Spring of Water in your life.

He will let you drink from Him and you will live with Him forever in heaven. Will you choose to believe in him today? “He who believes in the Son has eternal life.” (John 3:36)

Challenge: When you face hard times this week, will you choose to trust God for His help? Come and tell us how God is going to help you.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Have you ever walked a long distance without water or people? How did it feel?
- ii. What should our response be to God who miraculously provides water for us in the wilderness?
- iii. Have you ever experienced a miracle in your life? If your answer is ‘Yes,’ what did you do afterwards?

Activity

The teacher asks the children to pray and thank God for the people He uses to bring water in their area. They should thank God for World Vision, the community, donors etc.

Lesson 71: Keeping your clothes clean

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture : Leviticus 13: 48-59



Objective: The learner will be inspired to keep their clothes clean at all times.

Introduction

Have you ever worn the same clothes for a long time? How did they smell? How did it feel?

LINK: The children of Israel, during the time when they were moving in the wilderness, wore the same clothes for a long time because there was not enough water to drink and wash their clothes.

Progression of events

- A. If a person's clothes were found to have mildew (an infection which spreads quickly and could cause various diseases) the person was considered to be unclean. Such a person was supposed to present himself to the priest for cleansing.

LINK: Infection (mildew) can still be found in clothes which are not washed.

Physical Application

If you wear your clothes without washing them for a long time, the following is going to happen:

1. Your clothes will smell badly.
2. Your clothes can have fleas or lice which is an insect that causes an infectious rash.
3. It can also cause scabies.
4. Your clothes will look very dirty and the colour may be distorted.

The Bible says, "If he washes the object and the spot disappears, he shall wash it again, and it will be ritually clean. This, then, is the law about mildew on clothing, whether it is wool or linen, or on linen or wool cloth or on anything made of leather; this is how the decision is made as to whether it is ritually clean or unclean." (Leviticus 13:58-59)

LINK: It is, therefore, important to wash your clothes regularly.

1. This includes your dress, skirt, shirt, shorts, socks and underwear, school uniform etc.
2. Underwear should be washed every time you take a bath.
3. If you only have one school uniform, you can wash it at night just before you sleep.
4. Your clothes must be washed with soap and water.
5. If they have lice in them or any other insect or infection, they must be washed with boiling water or disinfectant like paraffin, jik or some traditional plants; these plants can be very poisonous. You must be careful how you use them.

LINK: God wanted the people to wash their clothes and make them clean. God also wants your sins to be washed with the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus shed His blood on the cross so that your sins can be forgiven. The Bible says, “Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.” (Revelation 1:5b) He loved you and gave His life on the cross to die for your sins. On the third day He rose from the grave. He is now in heaven and will come again and take those whose sins have been washed away to heaven. Jesus is able to wash your sins away; so you must believe in Him.

Invitation: Will you choose to have your sins washed away today?

Challenge: Will you choose, this week, to wash your clothes with soap and water to keep yourself and your clothes clean?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and then counsel the children who respond.

Application questions

- i. From time to time our clothes become dirty because of exposure to various conditions and because of the dirt on our bodies. How do you maintain cleanliness with your clothes?
- ii. Explain why it is important to keep your clothes clean at all times.
- iii. Sin makes us dirty and unacceptable in the sight of God. How can our sins be cleansed?

Activity

Children are given tablets of soap and requested to wash their clothes at home.

Lesson 72: Moses is born

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Exodus 2:1-10



Objective: The learner will trust God and face problems with courage.

Introduction

Pharaoh made a rule among the children of Israel that male babies be drowned in the Nile River. The reason was that Pharaoh was afraid that if children of Israel became too numerous they would eventually overpower the Egyptian nation.

LINK: But one family decided not to drown their baby in the Nile. It was Jochebed and Aram.

Progression of events

A. A Hebrew woman named Jochebed gave birth to a son and hid him for three months. (1-2)

LINK: Jochebed hid her son for three months because she did not want Pharaoh to kill him. He was going to save the children of Israel from slavery. Moses was pointing to the Lord Jesus Christ who would also come to save people from their sins though Herod had wanted to kill Him when He was a child.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus Christ is the Perfect Son of God who came from heaven and lived a perfect life on earth. He never sinned through his thoughts, words or deeds because He is God the Son. He came from heaven to come and die for your sins. He willingly died in your place on the cross. Jesus came because God loved you and allowed Jesus to die a painful and shameful death for you and me and all the people of the world. He shed His blood and died then on the third day He rose. He is now in heaven and will come to take those who have believed in Him. You can also choose to believe in Him and become a Christian.

LINK: Jesus came to save you from your sins. Jochebed's baby was going to save the Israelites from the Egyptians.

B. Jochebed courageously laid her baby in a waterproof basket in the Nile River (3)

LINK: Jochebed was concerned for her son's safety. There could have been crocodiles and other animals or insects found in the water which could have been a danger to the child but she had the courage and went ahead.

Spiritual application for the saved

What if Jochebed was so afraid and could not do what she did? Does fear sometimes overtake you? Fear is being worried or afraid about something that is happening or that you think might happen. What kinds of things make you fearful? All of us do fear sometimes but letting fear have control over you is sin. In 2 Timothy 1:7 the Bible says, "But God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." If you are a Christian, God wants you to be courageous even when you have problems. To be courageous means to think and act in a calm, brave way, even though it is hard to do.

LINK: God can help you to have courage. God also helped Jochebed to be courageous by hiding her child in the River Nile.

- C. Miriam, the baby's sister, watched to see what would happen to him. (4)
- D. Pharaoh's daughter discovered the basket when she went to the river to bathe, and she felt sorry for the crying infant. (5-6)

LINK: It was a very brave act for Jochebed to place the basket in the river and trust God to take care of him. Because of her courage, God brought in someone who could save the baby's life.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a Christian, God wants you to be courageous even when you have problems. You may be fearful of what could happen to you like being afraid of getting into a car because you are afraid of being involved in a car accident, your fights at home, fear of dogs, fear of a snakes, bullies or the dark; you must remember that God wants you to be courageous. You can think about God's love for you and how He cares for you; ask God to help you be courageous. The Bible says, "...Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9). Knowing that God will always be with you makes you be courageous. God has given you this promise so that you do not have to fear or be afraid.

LINK: Jochebed had courage. God helped her and sent someone who could save the baby's life.

- E. The baby's sister offered to find a Hebrew woman to care for the baby (7-9)
- F. Pharaoh's daughter paid Jochebed to nurse the baby (8-9)
- G. Jochebed brought her son back to Pharaoh's daughter to be raised in the palace when she weaned him. He was named Moses, which means "Drawn out" (10)

Challenge: God helped Jochebed and her son. Moses was raised in the palace because she was courageous enough to hide her baby in the river. If you are a Christian, God wants you to be courageous even when you face problems. Think about how God loves you and cares for you. Also remember what the Bible says about being courageous. (Joshua 1:9.) During this week, think and give yourself an assignment of taking note of any courageous decision that you will make or an action that you will undertake and come and share next week on how God will have helped you.

Invitation: If you are not a Christian, you do not have God's power to give you courage. You should believe in Jesus Christ and He will save you from your sins. (Romans 10:9)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why was Moses hidden by his mother when he was born?
- ii. What is the meaning of the name 'Moses'?
- iii. Where was Moses hidden?

Activity

The teacher tells children how dangerous it is to play near open water wells, dams, or rivers especially when they are alone.

Lesson 73: No life without water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Isaiah 50:2e “Their fish stink for lack of water and die of thirst.”



Objective: The learner will know that true life is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction

God has made fish to live in water? What would happen if water in a fish pond dried up? They would die.

LINK: God challenged and reminded the children of Israel about His power when He dried the water in the red sea. The fish died and stunk because there was no water.

General application

Even people can die without water. Water is as important to life as air. You need water for various reasons. Water for drinking, washing, cooking, bathing, cleaning up surfaces, for flushable toilets in town, to grow food etc. if there is no water in your home, then, there will be no food to eat, drinking, bathing and washing. You will be thirsty and can starve. That is dangerous. It is therefore important to have water in your house at all times. Let your parents look for more containers so that enough water could be stored at home.

LINK: If you have no Jesus in your heart, you are as bad as stinking fish because you have no life. (Jesus Christ is the Living Water)

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Fish die soon after it is taken out of the water. Its life is in the water. Dead fish stinks. It has no use for you. If you are not saved, you have no eternal life. You are spiritually dead. God cannot use you for His kingdom. You need life in order to be of use in God's kingdom. “He who has the son has life; He who does not have the Son does not have life.” (1 John 5:12)

‘To have the Son’ means to believe in Jesus Christ the perfect son of God by admitting that you cannot save yourself and agree with God that you have sinned, believe that He died for your sins and rose; then invite Jesus to come in your heart. After doing so, God will give you life because Jesus Christ his Son is life, so when He comes into your heart, He brings life in you. He is a merciful God.

Sin in your life stinks before God because He considers it filthy. Proverbs 30:12 says, “There is a kind that is pure in his own eyes, yet is not washed from his filthiness.” All sin is filthy before God. Something filthy is something like a very dirty cloth, a dead dog or animal dung. He hates sin and punishes it. The punishment is loss of life forever.

Even though you have sinned, God loves you so much that, “He was pleased to crush Him; (Jesus) putting Him to grief.” (Isaiah 53:10.) He became a guilt offering, a lamb which was slaughtered and sacrificed for the sins of the children of Israel. For you and me, He took all the punishment of our sin upon Himself so that you and I could be rescued from dying on account of our filthiness. He conquered

death and rose from the grave the third day. You can choose life and let Jesus come into your life today. Do what 1 John 5:12 says and have Jesus in you the hope of glory.

LINK: You are as filthy as dead fish in the eyes of God; without Jesus you have no life.

Invitation: Choose Jesus and let him come into your heart today (1 John 5:12).

Challenge: If you are saved, you have life. God wants you to tell others so that they can be rescued from their filthiness. You can invite your friend to come to the Good News Club for them to hear about Jesus and decide to receive eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why did the fish start smelling?
- ii. How do you use water in your home?
- iii. How can you prevent water from being wasted in your home?

Activity

Teacher tells children to write on paper how they can prevent water from being wasted in their homes?

Lesson 74: Paul prays for a person suffering from dysentery

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Acts 28:1-10



Objective: The learner will learn to trust God at all times.

Introduction

There are many diseases in the world today. Is there any disease that God cannot heal? God is the healer of all diseases. We will hear what happened to the person who had dysentery in our lesson.

Background

This happened during the time when Paul was a prisoner being transported to Rome to go and answer charges against him. On the way they experienced a shipwreck near the island of Malta.

Progression of events

- A. Paul together with his team and the sailors escaped from a shipwreck and landed on Malta Island. (1)

LINK: Paul and the others escaped from the shipwreck because God saved them from dying. God can also save you from your sins.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Sin is displeasing to God. You and I are born sinners. God punishes sin. Jesus the Son of God came from heaven and took the punishment for your sin on the cross. He was beaten up, insulted, nailed on the cross, made to wear a crown of thorns and blood came out from His head, body, hands and feet. It was necessary for his blood to come out for the forgiveness of your sins. Hebrews 9:22b, "...and without shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins." When He died He was buried and on the third day He rose. He is now in heaven on the right hand of the Father praying for you and me. He will come back and take those who have believed in Him to be with Him in heaven.

LINK: Your sins can be forgiven. God also saved Paul and his team from dying in a shipwreck.

- B. The natives of the land welcomed them and showed them unusual kindness by making a fire for them to keep themselves warm. (2)
C. Paul gathered some sticks and put them on the fire and a snake came out and wrapped itself on his arm (3)
D. The natives thought even though Paul escaped the shipwreck, he might have been a murderer so the snake had to kill him. (4)
E. Paul shook off the snake and it fell on the fire but he was not harmed. (5)
F. They thought he would swell up and die but nothing happened to Paul, so they thought he was a god. (6)

LINK: The natives thought Paul was a god because he did not die. Paul was not a god, but he was a servant of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved.

God is the one who saved Paul from a dangerous snake bite. God loved Paul and He loves you too. He made you and loves you. He also made everything you see and what you cannot see. He is without sin. He lives in heaven where He wants you to be with Him one day. He is able to protect you from any harm because he is powerful.

LINK: He can protect you. He also saved Paul from the dangerous snake.

- G. In that city was a man whose name was Publius, he received and entertained them for three days. (7)
- H. Publius' father was sick with fever and dysentery. Paul prayed for him and he got healed. (8)
- I. When others saw this, other people with other diseases came to be prayed for and got healed. (9)

LINK: Publius' father was sick with fever and dysentery.

General application

Dysentery is a water borne disease. It causes abdominal pains and diarrhea. The stool is usually blood stained and loose. It is a dangerous disease and can affect others. It is treated by going to the hospital and getting medicine which will kill the infection in your body. The best way of treating it is by preventing it from occurring, observing some hygienic principles like washing your hands after using the toilet, before you eat any food, and drinking water which is germ free.

LINK: If you are saved, you must also know that God is the Healer and He can heal all diseases.

When you get sick remember to pray and ask God to heal you. The Bible says Jesus healed all diseases by the power of God. You can also trust God to heal you. When you ask Him to heal you and you get healed, then you can thank Him for healing you.

LINK: God can heal you. He also healed Publius' father.

- J. They honoured Paul and his team in many ways and provided what they needed. (10)

LINK: The natives honoured Paul and his team because of the healings which took place when they prayed for the people.

Challenge: Will you remember to trust God for your healing when you are sick?

Invitation: You can choose Jesus to save you from your sins today. Will you admit you have sinned, believe that Jesus died for you and ask Him to come into your heart for your salvation? "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Application Questions

- i. How is dysentery caused?
- ii. How can you prevent it from spreading to other people in your community?
- iii. What did Paul do for the father of Publius who had dysentery?
- iv. What can you do for those that are sick?

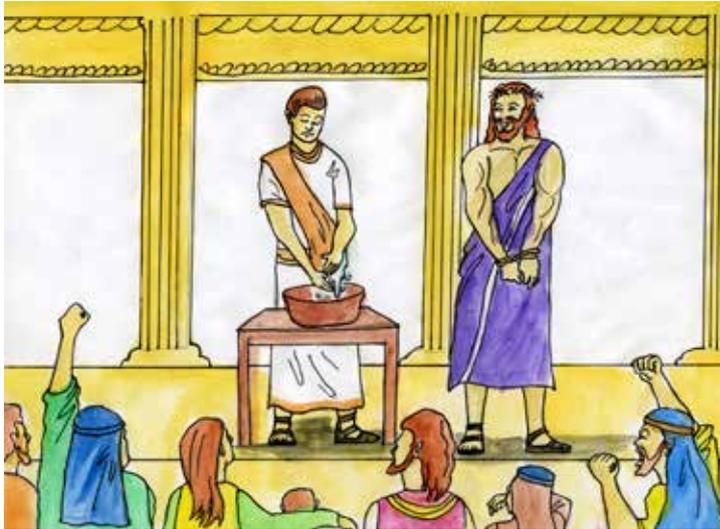
Activity:

The teacher asks children to write and later discuss how they can prevent dysentery in the community.

Lesson 75: Pilate washes his hands

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Matthew 27:24. When Pilate saw that it was no use to go on, but that a riot might break out, he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, "I am not responsible for the death of this man! This is your doing!"



Objective: The learner will learn to do what is right at all costs.

Introduction

You have been taught to wash your hands before you eat food and after using the toilet to prevent yourself from contracting diarrhoeal diseases.

LINK: In our Bible verse today, we are going to look at a different reason for washing your hands.

Progression of events

A. When Jesus was arrested so that he could be tried, He was sent to Pilate

who was the Roman governor so that He could judge Him.

B. Pilate did not find anything wrong that Jesus had done.

LINK: Pilate could not find anything wrong that Jesus had done because Jesus is God; He was innocent.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Jesus Christ is not only the Son of God but the perfect Son of God. He never sinned. But He was made sin, He who had no sin, so that you and I could become the righteousness of God. On the cross, your sins and my sins and the sins of all the people in the world were laid on Him. The Bible says, "Christ was without sin, but for our sake God made him share our sin in order that in union with him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21.) Jesus did not die forever; He rose again the third day. By Jesus dying on the cross, God was showing His mercy and love for you because He created you. Jesus died for your sins because you and I are born sinners and deserve to be punished for our sins by being separated from God forever. You can choose Jesus today, so that He can make you God's child. Sin is doing what displeases God.

LINK: You and I are born sinners but Jesus never sinned. Pilate could not find a case for Jesus to answer.

C. To please the people who wanted to kill Jesus, Pilate took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, "I am not responsible for the death of this man! This is your doing!"

LINK: Pilate washed his hand to show that he had nothing to do with the death of Jesus Christ

Spiritual application for the saved

Washing hands during a trial of somebody meant that he had nothing to do with the judgement of the accused. Today, if you are a child of God, washing your hands with water could mean refusing to

take part in doing wrong. Your friends may ask you to smoke, to drink beer, steal, fight, or even accuse another person for doing what has not been done. If you are a child of God you can wash your hands with water by saying, 'NO' to the wrong things your friends want you to do; running away from them, avoid playing with them. The Bible says, "Be Holy, because I, the LORD your God, am Holy." (Leviticus 19:2.) To be Holy means to stay away from thinking, saying and doing wrong. God does not do wrong, He wants you as a child of God to run away from wrong things which are sinful.

LINK: When you refuse to do what displeases God, you are washing your hands from doing wrong.

D. Pilate washed his hands to refuse being responsible for the death of Jesus Christ.

LINK: To keep yourself from contracting diarrhoeal diseases, you can use water and soap to wash your hands.

Physical application

Our hands handle millions of germs even though we do not see them with our naked eyes. Some of the germs cause diarrhoeal diseases like cholera, typhoid fever, gastro enteritis, and dysentery and so on. These diseases are caused by eating food without washing hands and if you do not wash your hands after going to the toilet. If you are in a place where there is no water, remember to carry a bottle of water for use when you want to eat and after using the toilet in order to avoid diarrhoeal diseases. From today onwards, will you remember to wash your hands with soap and water?

LINK: Just like you do not want to contract diarrhoeal diseases you should choose to wash your hands by saying 'NO' to sin when you are tempted to do wrong.

Challenge: During this week, when your friends want to make you do wrong things, will you remember to say 'NO' to sin?

Invitation: Just saying 'NO' to sin cannot make you God's child because you cannot save yourself. You need to receive Jesus in your heart to make you God's child.

Teacher: Go to page 221 and check on the sample invitation. Counsel the child who responds.

Application questions

- i. Pilate washed his hands during the trial of Jesus, what did that mean?
- ii. Pilate did not want to participate in the wrong decisions of punishing the innocent man, what should you do when other people want to influence you into doing a wrong thing?

Activity

With prior arrangement the teacher demonstrates how the children can wash their hands with soap after going to the toilet.

Lesson 76: The plague of flies

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Exodus 8:20-32



Objective: The learner will know the health risks of flies and be willing to pray for people who do them wrong.

Introduction: When you have problems with flies, you can go to the shops and buy insecticide to kill them. But flies that are released by God's judgment cannot be eradicated and they can cause serious problems to the health and well-being of the people. In addition, the efforts to try and deal with them can be so costly.

LINK: The flies which we are going to hear about were flies which could not be killed by any insecticide. It was during the time of Moses and the children of Israel when they were under slavery in Egypt.

Progression of events

- A. The Lord told Moses to go and meet Pharaoh to tell him to let the Israelites go. (20)
- B. He told him that God would send a swarm of flies among all the Egyptians but no flies would affect the Israelites in Goshen to distinguish the Egyptians from His people. (21-23)
- C. God sent thick swarms of flies all over the land and homes of the Egyptians. Pharaoh sent for Moses so that he could sacrifice to his God in their land. (24-25)
- D. These flies were sent by God in order to show His power to Pharaoh and to convince him to let the people of Israel to be free to leave

LINK: The Bible says that the land was covered by the flies and there was no place left without flies.

General application

Flies are not good for your home. They carry infections which cause diarrheal diseases. When flies sit on your food, they leave droppings which can cause diarrhea if you eat the contaminated food. They may also cause skin infections. Your home is supposed to be kept clean at all times by cleaning your dishes and surfaces with soap and water. Food should be covered before you eat it and all the rubbish should be buried or burned. Flies like staying in dirty places and surroundings. Cleanliness in and around your home will chase them away.

LINK: Flies in your home can pose a serious problem. For the Egyptians, it was even a bigger problem because the flies were all over and they were uncontrollable. The problem did not just affect the ordinary people but also the king's palace.

- E. Moses refused because it would be an abomination to the Egyptians if they sacrificed in their presence. He told him they would go on a three day journey to go and sacrifice to God as He commanded them. Pharaoh told Moses to go but not very far and asked him to intercede for him. (26-28)
- F. Moses agreed to intercede for him so that the flies would stop but warned Pharaoh not to act deceitfully by not letting them go to sacrifice to God. Moses then went and interceded for him. (29-30)

LINK: Even though the Egyptians had been mistreating the children of Israel, Moses agreed to intercede for them.

Spiritual application for the saved

Moses could have refused to pray for the people that oppressed him and all the people of Israel. But he did not take revenge for the evil that the Egyptians did to them. It is not right to take revenge for the evil that people do to you but leave everything with God.

‘To intercede’ is to pray on behalf of someone. Usually you do not want to pray for your enemies or people who persecute you. But the Bible tells us to “pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.” (Matthew 5: 44). You may find that people mistreat you even when you have not done anything wrong to them, they may hate you or even use abusive language against you. If you are a Christian, God expects you to be kind to everyone including the people who hate you even though you may not feel like doing so. Ask God to change such people, pray and talk to God about them. Thank God for His intervention in your problem.

LINK: God wants you to pray for your enemies, even Moses interceded for Pharaoh.

G. God removed the swarms of flies from all Egypt but Pharaoh still hardened his heart. (31-32)

LINK: Hardening his heart was wrong. After he saw that the flies had gone, it was expected that Pharaoh should have repented and trusted God. But he did not repent. If you are not saved, it means that you are as wrong as Pharaoh was. He trusted in other gods for his security. You need to repent of your sins and put things right with God.

Application for the unsaved

Hardening your heart is refusing to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour. The only way to have your sins forgiven is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Perfect Son of God who came from heaven to die for your sins. Sin separates you from God forever. Jesus took your place of punishment and shed His blood so that your sins can be forgiven. I John 1:7 says, “The blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from our sins.”

Invitation: The Bible says the day of salvation is now. When you hear His Word you should not harden your heart. The Bible also says, “Repent, then, and Turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.” (Acts 3:19) Will you choose to repent so that your sins can be forgiven today?

Challenge: If you are saved, will you choose to pray for those who persecute you or say bad things about you rather than seek vengeance?

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Application questions

- i. Explain what intercession is.
- ii. Why is it important to intercede for everyone including your enemies?
- iii. Why was the problem of flies not stopped using insecticide?
- iv. Explain some problems that cannot be stopped using our efforts?
- v. Why is it not healthy to have flies around our food, water and feaces? What can happen?

Activity

The teacher should ask the children to walk around and look for anything that would attract flies to either remove or bury it.

Lesson 77: Plagues strike Egypt

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Exodus 7: 14-25



Objective: The learner will learn to put their trust in God and not magic or other gods.

Introduction: Imagine you are very thirsty and really want to drink water but you find blood in your water bucket. What would you do?

LINK: In our lesson today, we will look at people who could not drink the water because it was all blood.

Progression of events

A. After the children of Israel stayed in Egypt for a long time, the king of Egypt mistreated them. God told Moses to tell Pharaoh the king of Egypt to let the Israelites to go so that they could worship and serve Him. Pharaoh refused them to go because he was using them as slaves. (7:1-13)

LINK: Pharaoh sinned against God as he mistreated the Israelites. You and I have also sinned against God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

You and I have sinned against God because you were born a sinners, “Behold I was a sinner from the time my mother conceived me, sinful from the time of birth.” (Psalms 51:5) Sin separates you from God forever. Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God like jealousy, insulting and stealing.

LINK: You and I are also sinners. Pharaoh also sinned against God as He mistreated the Israelites.

- B. God told Moses to go to the Nile River in the morning to tell the Pharaoh that He would strike the Nile and make water turn into blood if he didn't allow them to go and worship Him. (14-18)
- C. God told Moses to tell Aaron to point his staff toward the waters of Egypt, all its rivers, canals, marshes, and reservoirs and everywhere in Egypt water would turn into blood even in homes. (19)

LINK: God told Moses He would turn the water into blood because He had power to do so.

Spiritual application for the saved

God is all powerful; He made everything even the water in river Nile. He also made you because He loves you. “For God so loved the World.” (John 3:16a)

LINK: God had the power to change water into blood. He told Moses to point his staff towards the rivers of Egypt.

D. Aaron and Moses did what God said as Pharaoh and his officials looked on. Suddenly all the water in Egypt even in homes turned into blood. No one could drink it. Even the fish died. (20-21)

LINK: The water turned into blood and the fish died because it had become contaminated.

Physical application

Contaminated water is water which has germs which can cause you to suffer from water borne diseases like cholera, dysentery, bilharzia, typhoid fever, gastro enteritis and skin diseases like ring worms. The water from the borehole is clean, but you may need to boil it or add Chlorine to make it completely germ free if it is fetched or stored in a dirty container at home or school.

LINK: You need clean water. The Egyptians also wanted clean water. Their water became contaminated.

E. The magicians used secret arts to also change water into blood and Pharaoh hardened his heart and could not let the Israelites go. (22-23)

LINK: Even though the magicians did secret arts to change the water, they only turned some water not all the water in Egypt. It is only God who has all the power.

Spiritual application for the saved

God wants you to put all your faith in Him. Faith is believing in what you have not seen. (Hebrews 11:1) If you have a problem; you fall sick or need something, you do not need to go to a magician or a witch doctor. God should be the only source of your security. You can pray and trust that God will meet your need. Or it could be that you may need to go to the hospital and see a doctor.

LINK: It is only God who has all the power to perform miracles. The Egyptian magicians could only change some of the water.

F. The Egyptians dug water along the river banks because they could not drink the water.(24)

LINK: The Egyptians had to dig for water along the riverbanks because they needed water to drink and for other uses. For you to have your sins forgiven, you need the Living Water, Jesus Christ.

Spiritual application for the unsaved: Teaching about Jesus

Jesus Christ is the Perfect Son of God who came from heaven and lived a life without sin here on earth. He willingly took your place of punishment and shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. (Hebrews 9:22b) He died on the cross and was buried but on the third day He rose from the grave. He is now in heaven.

LINK: You need the true living water, Jesus Christ, for you to live with God forever. The Egyptians had to dig for water along the river banks to have water to drink.

G. An entire week passed from the time the Lord turned the water of the Nile to blood.

Invitation: You cannot drink blood when you are thirsty. You need clean water. You also need Jesus Christ, the Living Water for you to live with God forever. Remember your sins separate you from God, God loves you, He sent Jesus Christ to die for your sins. We all need the grace of God to live with God forever. The grace came through Jesus Christ.

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember to put all your trust in God and not witch doctors or magicians when you have problems?

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions:

- i. Why did the water in Egypt turn into blood?
- ii. Why is it important for you to obey God?
- iii. What should be your only source of security?

Activity

The teacher demonstrates how to purify water using chlorine, boiling or filtering. The teacher can ask the children what they can do if the activity has been done before.

Lesson 78: The refreshing water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Prov. 25:25 Finally, hearing Good News from a distant land is like a drink of cold water when you are dry and thirsty.



Objective: The learner will be excited about sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Introduction

Have you ever been offered a cold cup of water on a very hot day? How did you feel? Refreshed, didn't it?

LINK: Yes, it must have felt so refreshing. Let's hear what the Bible has to say about this.

Water is naturally cold and is very refreshing to one who is thirsty especially on a hot day. Water is also

refreshing to a person who is tired especially after hard work. It is also refreshing to a long-distant traveller in hot places like the deserts of Arabia and North Africa. When you find water in a place where it is hard to find it, it could be so refreshing.

LINK: So is good news from a faraway country; it is so refreshing to hear from a friend who is living in a distant country.

Spiritual Teaching for the unsaved

It is also true for the Gospel, the Good News. Good News is the news about Jesus Christ who died to take away the punishment of your sin. You were supposed to die on the cross but Jesus willingly died in your place so that your sins could not be punished. The salvation which Jesus brings is for every sinner and it is free, complete and forever. This salvation comes from God. The Gospel comes from our heavenly Father. The Bible says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Mathew 3:2) 'To repent' is to turn away from sin, to agree with God that you are a sinner.

LINK: When you receive the Good News of salvation, then you will have the privilege of living with God in heaven someday.

Invitation

You will need to respond to this message of the Good News which tells you about Jesus who came to save sinners. "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23) A wage is the money one gets for having done some work. So the wages for committing sin is death, which is separation from God forever. However, the gift of God that He gives is eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ. Eternal life is the life that you receive when you believe in Jesus and the life that you need in order to live with God in heaven forever. When you do this your entire spirit will be refreshed like what a drink of cold water does to a tired person.

LINK: If you have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, your spirit is very thirsty.

Teacher: Please turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

Challenge: If you have already believed on the Lord Jesus, the Good News of grace and salvation is news that you should not only keep to yourself. It is news that you should share with every sinner. It could be your brother or your sister that you live with; it could be a friend you play with at school or at home. It is your responsibility to tell them about this Good News. This Good News will be like a cup of cold water to a tired friend.

Application questions

- i. The Bible talks about Good News many times. What is it that you consider to be good news in your life today?
- ii. What are the sources of Good News?

Lesson 79: River of life

Target: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Revelation 22:1-2



Objective: The learner will yearn for a life that pleases God.

Introduction

Why do you drink water every day? Is it not to quench your thirst?

LINK: The Bible tells us of a river of life. In this river there is water which gives you life forever.

Progression of events

A. The angel showed John a river of the water of life, sparkling like crystal. (1a)

LINK: The water was sparkling like crystal because it was very clean. It must have been germ free.

Physical application

It is important to keep the source of water which you use clean. Every one of you must take a personal responsibility to ensure that your wells, boreholes and rivers are kept clean. How can we keep the source of water clean?

1. Keep the surroundings of the wells or boreholes clean.
2. Make sure the well's opening is covered at all times.
3. Do not do the washing near the borehole or well.
4. Chlorinate the water from wells to keep it germ free.
5. Do not urinate or defecate in the river.
6. Do not cut trees that surround the sources of water because the well or river may dry up.

LINK: It is important to keep your water germ free. The water was crystal clear because it must have been very clean.

B. The river was coming from the throne of God and of the lamb. (1b)

LINK: The river is a symbol of eternal life which only comes from God the Father and His Son who is the Lamb of God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

What is eternal life and how can you receive it? Eternal life is living with God forever. You have it when you receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. Jesus Christ is the Perfect Son of God. He is perfect because He never sinned. You receive Jesus Christ by admitting that you are a sinner because the Bible says, "all have sinned." (Romans 3:23) You must also believe that Jesus the Son of God died for your sins and rose from the dead, then choose Him to give you eternal life which is the river of life. Jesus gives eternal life.

LINK: Jesus gives eternal life. The river was a symbol of eternal life.

- C. The river flowed down the middle of the city's street. (1c)
- D. On each side of the river was the tree of life. (2a)

LINK: The tree of life is a symbol of fruitfulness. It was on the side of the river so that it could always remain fresh and fruitful.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, God wants you to be fruitful by remaining in Him. The Bible says, "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without Me." (John 15:5) 'To remain in Him' means doing what pleases God. To be fruitful does not only mean winning others to the Saviour but also showing joy, love, peace, kindness, goodness, patience, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. People around you must be able to tell that you are a child of God from your behaviour and desire to live for God.

LINK: God wants you to be fruitful. The tree was on each side of the river to give it fruitfulness.

- E. The tree bears fruit twelve times a year, once each month. (2b)
- F. Its leaves are for the healing of the nations. (2c)

LINK: The tree bore fruit throughout the year. You too must bear fruit always by living a life that pleases God throughout the year.

Challenge: Will you decide today to bear fruit by pleasing God as you display the fruit of the Spirit: joy, peace, love, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control?

Invitation: If you are not a child of God you do not have eternal life and you cannot bear fruit. First you need to receive Jesus Christ and become a child of God. (John 1:12a)

Teacher: Go to page 221 check the sample invitation and counsel the children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Explain why the river is called the "River of Life."
- ii. Why is it important to have eternal life?
- iii. How do we receive eternal life?
- iv. How do you display the fruit of the Spirit?

Lesson 80: The spring of Living Water

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Jeremiah 2:13. For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of Living Waters.



Objective: The learner will learn to trust God completely.

Introduction

Water always gives life. If a plant is dying and you water it you will see that as soon as it gets water it changes. If a person is dying of thirst and you give them water you will see that they will also look better.

LINK: The children of Israel forsook God the fountain of Living Water. If you are a child of God, God wants you to rely on Him because He is the fountain of living water.

Spiritual application for the saved

God is the fountain of Living Water. A fountain is a spring of water coming from the ground. The water continues to come out. God is a fountain of Living Water because He is everlasting, which means, He lives forever. He has no beginning and no end. Everything on earth belongs to God. Whatever you need for your soul, God is able to give you because He owns everything. He is able to satisfy your spiritual need whenever you need Him. God promises to satisfy you with the Living Water. The Bible says, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you Living Water." (John 4:10) God will satisfy you with Living Water because He gives you eternal life. In heaven there is no sickness, no tears, dying or trouble. That is all part of enjoying the fruit of the Living Water.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God wants you to rely on Him for the Living Water.

LINK: The children of Israel dug out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns which can hold no water. They depended on wrong promises which could not take them anywhere.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

If you are not a child of God you have dug for yourself a cistern which cannot hold water. A cistern is an artificial tank which is dug from the ground to store in water for future use. Broken cisterns include the love for money, rejecting Jesus Christ, power, and anything that takes the place of God. All these things are broken cisterns because they cannot give you the Living Water who is the Lord Jesus Christ. Even if you have them, they will not make you live with God forever. You should choose to believe in Jesus so that He can give you the Living Water. Jesus is the one who gives Living Water. He died on the cross for your sins to be forgiven so that you may have eternal life. He is inviting you to drink from the Living Water.

Invitation: The Bible says, "The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price." (Revelation 22:17) Will you choose to receive the Living Water today?

Challenge: If you are saved, will you choose to rely on the fountain of Living Water today? During this week, remember to rely on God the fountain of Living Water.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. What are the various sources of water?
- ii. What is the only true and source of Living Water?
- iii. Why is the Living Water more important than ordinary water?

Lesson 81: Wash yourselves and be clean

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Isaiah 1:16-17.



Objective: The learner will be willing to do away with old habits.

Introduction

The children of Israel; God's children had turned against God and were living in sin. God was not happy with them.

LINK: If you are already a child of God and have continued living in sin, God is not happy with you. What is God saying about you?

Progression

A. Wash yourselves and be clean!
(V16a)

B. Let me no longer see your evil deed.(v16b)

LINK: One of the uses for water is washing or bathing when you are dirty. It is a good practice to at least take a bath once a day. Even though you may not be looking dirty, you could have sweated and sweat produces a bad smell.

Spiritual application for the saved

Just as much as it is important to wash your physical body with water so it is for your spiritual body through confession of sin. If you are already a child of God, God does not want you to continue practicing sin. Your sins have been washed. The Bible says, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7.) You must give up all wicked ways. You must seek God for help. If you steal or fight, even when you are a child of God, it is difficult to stop your old habits. You must ask God to help you break your old habits.

LINK: It is important to wash your spiritual body by the confession of your sins. Ask God to help break your old sinful habits.

- C. Give up your wicked ways.(v16c)
- D. Learn to do good (v17a)
- E. Seek justice and help the oppressed and defend the orphans (v17:b)
- F. Fight for the rights of widows (v17c)

LINK: When you give up your wicked habits it is important to develop new but Godly habits. These good habits would include:

- a. Learn to do good to others
- b. Share what you have with others.
- c. Be fair in all your dealings
- d. Learn to encourage others.

LINK: God is pleased when He sees his child develop good habits which bring glory to Him. If you are not saved, you cannot please God even when you do the right things.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says, "It is not for the works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." (Titus 3:5) You cannot do anything to save yourself from your sin. God sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and save you from your sin. You and I deserve to be punished but because God loves you, Jesus took your place of punishment by shedding His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. He rose from the grave the third day and now He is in heaven.

LINK: Jesus came to save you from your sins and make you His child. If you are a child of God, God wants you to stop your old sinful habits.

Challenge: If you are a child of God and you are struggling with sin, will you tell God what you are struggling with and confess it to Him? Thank Him when He has forgiven you.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, it means you have not yet believed in the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from your sin. (John 1:12) You need to do so today.

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for a complete invitation.

Application questions

- i. What is the difference between falling in sin and living in sin?
- ii. What were the consequences of living in sin for the children of Israel?
- iii. What can you do to help the oppressed and defend the orphans?

Lesson 82: Washing the feet of the saints

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: I Timothy 5: 10 ...Such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of saints...



Objective: Learners will desire to keep themselves clean before going to bed.

Introduction: What do your feet look like after walking a long distance on a dusty road?

LINK: Our verse today is talking about washing the feet of saints. (Christians)

General application

During the Bible times the people walked long distances because they did not have cars and buses. Those who had donkeys used donkeys or horses and ox-carts for their transport. The roads

where also not tarred. Because the places were sandy, there was a lot of dust. people wore sandals as they walked and their feet could become dirty. So whoever came from a journey could be given water to wash their feet.

LINK: Just like those people needed to wash their feet after a long journey, you also need to have your feet washed before you get into bed.

Water is used for drinking as well as bathing, washing clothes and cleaning up kitchen utensils. As you play around, your feet get dirty. Your mother or father will not allow you to go in bed with dirty feet. You must first wash your body and feet with soap to avoid making your bed linen dirty. Since blankets are not washed every day you need to be clean before you sleep. If you do not, the linen will be dirty. It is good for you to keep yourself clean before you get into bed.

When visitors come home, you need to give them water for a bath so that they can be refreshed. That is an act of kindness.

LINK: To keep your body and feet clean you need water and soap. But for your sins to be washed you need the blood of Jesus Christ.

Spiritual application fro the unsaved

Water and soap cannot wash your sins away. Your sins can be washed with the blood of Jesus Christ. The Bible says, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins..." (Ephesians 1:7) Redemption means buying back. God loved you and bought you with the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross. In the Old Testament, people took a goat or lamb without blemish to the priest for their sins to be forgiven. The priest killed the animal and the animal died in the place of the person who had sinned. But for you and me, it is only the blood of Jesus Christ which can wash our sins away. When He died, He was buried and on the third day He rose from the grave. He died in your place to take away the punishment of your sin. You cannot go to heaven in your sinfulness because God is Holy. He wants you to have your sins forgiven.

LINK: You can choose to have your sins forgiven today.

Invitation: The Bible says, "...Whoever believes in Him will have forgiveness of sins." (Acts 10:43b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Challenge: Will you always remember to wash your body before you go to bed?

Application questions

- i. What should you always do before you go to sleep?

Activity

The teacher encourages children to bathe or at least wash their feet before they go to bed.

Lesson 83: Water comes from a hollow place

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Judges 15: 1-20



Objective: The learner will learn to rely on God for his needs.

Introduction

Quite often after running a lot, you would like to drink water because you are thirsty. Your body loses water through sweating.

LINK: Water needs to be replaced by drinking water.

Progression of events

- A. This was after Samson had killed 1,000 Philistines with a jawbone
- B. For him to have killed so many people, he must have sweated a lot.
- C. Is it possible for one person to kill so many people with a jawbone without the help of God?
- D. After killing the Philistines, Samson became very thirsty and cried to God to give him water.

LINK: Although Samson was very strong, he was going to die without water. You and I also need water especially after hard work.

General Application

When you have been doing hard work like digging, sweeping, carrying heavy things, cutting firewood and doing sports your body becomes hot. In order to cool yourself you need to drink more water. God gave Samson water from the ground because the cleanest water comes from the ground. That is the reason why we should always keep our underground water clean. We can do this by sinking/digging our wells far from pit latrines.

LINK: You and I need water after hard work. Samson also needed water after killing the Philistines.

- E. God opened the ground and water came out for Samson to drink.

LINK: God opened the ground for Samson to get water. God can also provide your needs.

Spiritual application for the saved

You may be in need of money for your school fees, books, shoes or clothes. If you are saved, God wants you to trust Him for your provision. "And my God will supply your needs according to His riches in glory." (Philippians 4:19) When you are in need of anything remember to pray to God and ask Him to help you. Thank Him when He helps you.

- F. Samson drank the water and felt much better.

LINK: If you have never received Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, you are spiritually thirsty. To be spiritually thirsty is to fail to understand the things of God because you are separated from Him.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

You cannot understand the things of God. “But, people who aren’t Christians can’t understand these truths from God’s Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 2:14) For you to understand, you must first become a Christian by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 16:31) When you do so, you will be able to understand what God has said in his Word. “He who believes in me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35b)

Invitation: You can quench your spiritual thirst by believing in Jesus. (John 6:35b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and look at the sample invitation. Counsel the children who respond.

Challenge: If you already believe in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, will you trust God for all your provisions?

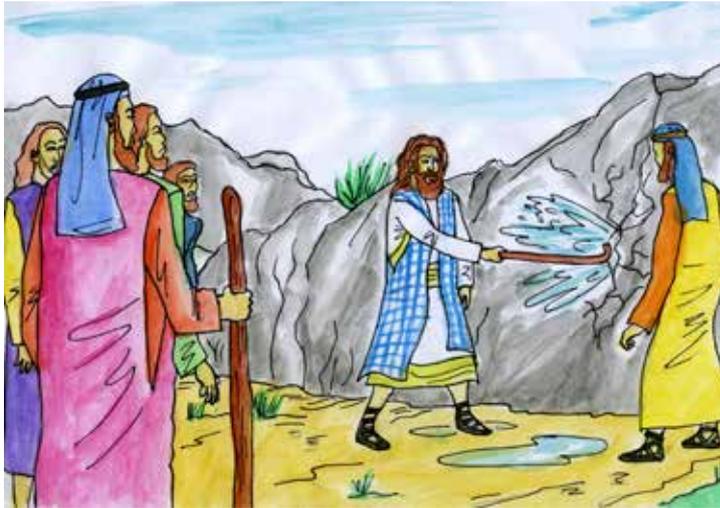
Application questions

- i. Why did Samson manage to kill so many people?
- ii. How did God provide the water that Samson drank after the fight with the Philistines?

Lesson 84: Water comes from a rock

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Exodus 17: 1-7



Objective: The learner will learn not to complain but to be content at all times.

Introduction

What would you do if you were in a place where there is no water to drink?

LINK: During the time when the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they came to a place where there was no water.

Progression

A. The children of Israel camped at Rephidim but there was no water to drink. (1)

LINK: Children, do you think water was important for the children of Israel? Yes, it was. It is very important for you.

Physical application

Can you tell me some of the uses of water?

Uses of water: drinking, cooking, bathing, watering gardens and also watering animals. What are the sources of water in your community?

Sources of water in the community: boreholes, wells and rivers.

In which ways can we keep our sources of water in the community?

1. By keeping the surroundings clean
2. Building wall fences around the water points
3. Making sure the well is covered

LINK: Water is important for you. It was also very important for the children of Israel.

B. The people quarrelled with Moses to give them water because they were thirsty. (2)

LINK: These people were not only thirsty with physical water but were also spiritually thirsty because they quarrelled with Moses. If you have never believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, you are spiritually thirsty.

Spiritual application

To be spiritually thirsty is to have no Jesus Christ in your heart. It means that you are still living in sin. Sin is everything you think, say and do which does not please God, for example, hatred, quarrels, and fights etc. You and I are sinners because we were born that way. "For all have sinned." (Romans 3:23a) Sin separates you from God forever.

LINK: If you have never believed in Jesus Christ, you are spiritually thirsty.

C. The people blamed Moses for having taken them out of Egypt, so that they could die with their livestock from being thirsty. (3)

LINK: If Jesus Christ is your Saviour, God wants you to cry to Him rather than cry to other people.

Spiritual application for saved

Sometimes you are going to have needs such as books for school, school uniform and good health. When you have a need, remember to cry to God for help. The Bible says, "I cried to you for help, O LORD my God, and you healed me." (Psalms 30:2) To cry to God is to pray, speaking to Him concerning your need. When He meets your need remember to thank Him for it.

LINK: Moses cried to the Lord because Moses knew whom to cry to. He knew that God made everything.

Spiritual application for the saved

God is the Creator. He made everything. But you are the most special of His creation. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world." (John 3:16.) God is without sin and lives in heaven where He wants to live with you forever.

LINK: God loves you. He created you. Moses also knew whom to cry to so He cried to the Lord for help.

D. God told Moses to take the staff and strike the rock at Horeb. He did so and the water came out. (4-5)

LINK: Moses struck the rock for the water to come out just like God allowed His Son to be struck for your sins. He died on the cross for you and me.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible says, "But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did." (Isaiah 53:5a) The verse is talking about Jesus the Perfect Son of God. He came down from heaven as a baby born through the Virgin Mary. When He was a child He never thought, said or did anything displeasing to God because He is God the Son. When He grew up He did many good things but one day, God allowed wicked people to arrest Him and kill Him so that He could die for your sins. He was nailed to the cross. Blood flowed from His head, body, hands and feet because of the beatings and nails. He died, was buried and rose from the dead on the third day.

LINK: Today He wants to live in you if you can believe in Him.

E. Water came out from the rock because Moses obeyed God. (7b)

LINK: Will you choose to obey God so that you can have your spiritual thirst of sin come to an end?

Invitation: You can choose to believe in Jesus and end your spiritual thirst today.

Challenge: When you have a need during this week or in future, cry to God for help and not anyone else.

Teacher: Go to page 221 for the sample invitation and counsel the children who respond for salvation.

Lesson 85: Water of life without cost

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Revelation 21:6, "Then He said to me, it is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost."



Objective: The learner will understand that no one pays for salvation, it is priceless.

Introduction: The water you drink from the borehole is free though money was spent to sink the borehole.

LINK: In our Bible verse today we will learn about the **Water of Life** which does not cost anything.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The one who gives life from the spring of the water of life without cost is Jesus

Christ. If you do not have Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you will continue to be thirsty eternally. The thirst cannot be quenched with ordinary water. Every person needs Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin. You cannot buy the water of life because God has already bought the eternal life for you. God paid by sacrificing His Son Jesus Christ on the cross. Wicked people killed Him although He did not do anything wrong in the eyes of God. They accused him falsely and nailed Him to the cross. He died in your place. The Bible says, "Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with the precious blood, as a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ." (1 Peter 1: 18-19) The death of Jesus is a payment for the sins of all the people of the world. He died and was buried but on the third day He rose from the grave. If you choose to believe in Him your sins will be forgiven and you will receive the water of life forever.

LINK: If you do not have Jesus in your heart, you cannot drink from the free water of life.

Challenge: If you have Jesus in your heart you already have the Water of Life. You need to live a life that pleases God by telling others about the free water of life who is the Lord Jesus Christ. You need to spend time in prayer and reading God's Word so that you can know Him better. Will you choose to please God by telling at least one person about the free water of life this week?

Invitation: Your sin will make you thirsty forever, but God is inviting you to come to Him and receive the Water of Life which quenches your thirst forever. "He who comes to me will never thirsty." (John 6:35)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the children who respond.

Application questions:

- i. How would you feel receiving something that lasts for so long for free?
- ii. How should we respond to God for giving us such water for free?

Lesson 86: Where does water come from?

Teaching: Water and Hygiene

Scripture: Genesis 1:2, 6-10



Objective: The learner will know that God has given him/her water because of His love.

Introduction

Have you ever wondered where water comes from, or how the oceans and seas were made?

LINK: The Bible tells us that God made the seas and water.

Progression of events

- A. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (1)
- B. The earth was formless and empty. Darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God hovered above the waters. (3)
- C. God said, let there be light and there was light. He separated the light from darkness. He called the light day and the dark night on the first day. (4-5)
- D. God said, let there be a separation between the waters. There was separation. Some waters were above the sky and other waters below the sky. In between the waters was the sky on the second day. (6-8)
- E. God separated the water beneath heaven and gathered water in one place. He called dry ground land and gathered waters, seas or oceans.

LINK: Imagine all the earth covered by water. No land, but water with the spirit of God moving above the water. It must have been a great sight.

General application

The Bible says God separated the water and made the oceans and seas and dry ground. He knew you would need water. Every year we have the rainy season where we see water coming from the clouds in the sky. The rain from the sky is water that has evaporated from water sources on the land and condenses to make rain. Without the rain, we can have a drought. The water in the seas and oceans is also used for different purposes. Some of the sea and ocean water is salty. It is not good for drinking, but it is used for a lot of things including water transport. We also have rivers where people draw water for drinking, washing and irrigating the crops.

LINK: All this was made by God for you to use.

Spiritual application for the saved

Before you were even born and before He even made the first man Adam, God made the water for you. The water from the borehole comes from underground. It is drilled from underground where some of the water is found. This is all because God loves you; He prepared all this for you. If you are a child of God, you should know that God loves you. You must thank Him for giving you this water. He even made the donors who provided the water for you. Pray for donors for the water you drink and thank God for His goodness. Water must not be wasted.

Challenge: Remember to thank God for the water whenever you are using it

LINK: Always thank God for the water you use. Pray for your friends who do not have the water.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, you can become one by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ who came to die for your sins and rose from the dead on the third day. He would like you to become His child. "That if you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord and was raised from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. What does the creation story teach us about the power of God?
- ii. We should obey God because He is the creator of everything that exists on the earth. How can we show that we obey God?

Activity

Ask children to pray for the donors and World Vision staff who work with the community and provide water every day.

WATER and SANITATION

Lesson 87: How to keep surroundings clean

Teaching: Hygiene and Sanitation

Scripture: Deuteronomy 23: 12-14



Objective: The learner will know the importance of using the toilet properly.

Introduction

How do you feel when you are in a very dirty place? Would you eat food when you can even see and smell faeces?

LINK: If you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, God wants you to keep your surroundings clean so that you may be healthy.

Progression of events

A. God told the Israelites to have the

place outside the camp where they would go to relieve themselves. He told them to bury their excreta.

LINK: They needed to bury their excreta to keep the surroundings clean and be healthy.

Physical application

To keep yourself healthy, you need to keep your surroundings clean by doing the following:

1. Use a toilet in a proper way. When you flush, make sure that everything is gone before you leave the toilet.
2. If there is no toilet, make sure that your waste is properly buried.
3. Clean the toilet and its surrounding by sweeping and flushing the floor with water.
4. Bury all unpleasant things e.g. faeces, mango peels and seed, extracts from maize cobs etc.
5. Keep the area around the well clean by sweeping and slashing the grass.
6. Do not do laundry and bathing near the borehole.

LINK: When you follow these instructions, your water, the toilets and the surrounding will always be clean. You should take it as your personal responsibility.

B. They had to bury their excreta because God walked in their camp. He is holy He would not want to see anything unclean.

LINK: God does not only dislike seeing something unclean physically. He also dislikes your unclean ways.

Spiritual application for the saved

He also does not like sin. Isaiah 59:2 says, "But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear." Everything that displeases God through your thoughts, words and deeds are filthy before God. If you are saved, God wants you to keep yourself pure or clean in your thoughts by doing what pleases God like being good to your friends, saying good things and having pure thoughts.

LINK: God wants you to keep yourself pure by avoiding doing wrong things. If you are not saved, even if you keep yourself pure or clean your surroundings, your ways are still filthy before God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness is as filthy rags.” (Isaiah 64:6a) This means you cannot do anything good for God because you are a sinner. Your sins have not yet been forgiven. First, you need to ask for forgiveness from God so that your sins can be forgiven. Acts 10:43b says, “Whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.” You have to admit that you have sinned, believe that only Jesus’ blood can wash your sins away and choose Him to come in your heart. When you do that your sins will be forgiven. Then, you can have the power to do what is right. God wants to forgive your sins.

Challenge for the saved: From today learn to keep your surroundings clean, bury your excreta or use the toilet when you want to relieve yourself

Invitation: You can choose to let Jesus come in your heart and have your sins forgiven. (Acts 10:43b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why is it important to use the toilets properly?
- ii. Why is it important to keep our surroundings clean?
- iii. How would you make sure that your surroundings are kept hygienically clean at all times?

Activity

The teacher asks children to go and clean surroundings at water wells, or Good News Club, collect litter and throw it away.

Lesson 88: Keeping the well from being contaminated

Teaching: Hygiene and Sanitation

Scripture: Genesis 29:1-3



Objective: The learner will value keeping himself/herself free from sin and also value keeping the surroundings clean.

Introduction

Have you ever gone to a well to draw water and find dirty things in it? Where do you think the dirty things could have come from?

LINK: Dirty things in water do not come from the well itself. Usually they come from outside. Let's see how people in Bible times kept their wells.

Background information: This happened during the time when Jacob was running away from his brother Esau because he had stolen his brother's birth right. His brother wanted to kill him so he had to run for his life.

Progression

A. Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the east. (v. 1)

LINK: Jacob went to the land of the east because he was running from his brother; he had sinned against his brother. You and I have also sinned against God.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

All sin is against God. "Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in your sight..." (Psalms 51:4) Sin is thinking, saying, and doing what displeases God like hating your friend, insulting and stealing. You are born a sinner and prone to do evil. Sin is punishable. The punishment is to be separated from God forever. God loves you and sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins, to take away your punishment. He bled from his head, hands, feet and the whole body so that your sins can be washed away. When He died He was buried and on the third day he rose from the grave. He can take your sins away.

LINK: Sin is against God. Jacob sinned against God and his brother and ran way.

B. As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. (v. 2a)

C. The stone on the well's mouth was large. (v. 2b)

LINK: The stone on the well's mouth was large and heavy so one person could not open it alone.

This was so, maybe, for various reasons such as:

1. The water was not enough so they did not want one person to have much more than the others.
2. To prevent foreign and dirty objects to be blown into the well.

3. They also did not want children to be at the well without the company of adults.

General application

In as much as the well could be a great blessing to the village, if it is not looked after properly, it could become a source of great danger:

1. If you do not cover the source of your water or the well, it can become a source of diarrhoeal diseases.
2. It can be dangerous to the children.
3. Animals can also fall into it.

You should therefore insure that the wells are well covered. Even though the cover may not be as heavy as the well in the Bible, it should be something that cannot be easily handled by the children.

LINK: You should ensure that all the wells are covered. The shepherds also made sure the well was left covered.

- D. When all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep. (v. 3a)
- E. They would then put the stone back in its place over the mouth of the well. (v. 3b)

LINK: The shepherds made sure that the stone was rolled back over the mouth of the well. They were acting responsibly making sure that the water was safe for everybody.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, God wants you to be responsible for things He has given you. God has given you free water for you to drink and use for other purposes. You should make sure that you look after the well properly. Sweep the surrounding and remove anything that could be of danger to your life. The Bible says in Colossians 3:23 “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” This means that you should take up the responsibility to look after your well properly because that is what God wants you to do. Also thank God for the water He gives you every day.

Challenge: During this week, will you thank God for the water God has given you? Will you remember to look after the well properly knowing that, it is your responsibility to do so?

Teacher: As other children go for counselling, others should clean the surroundings to make the lesson more practical.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, you can choose to become a child of God today. You can receive Him in your heart and believe that Jesus His Son died for your sins. John 1:12a says, “Yet, to all who received him, He gave them power to become children of God.”

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. How do people in your area protect the water sources from contamination?
- ii. Why is protecting water important?
- iii. Sin contaminates our lives because it is evil in the sight of God. How can we protect our lives from sin?

Activity

The teacher and the children go round the surrounding of the borehole/water well picking up litter.

Youth and Adults

SALVATION

Lesson 89: Taken out of a pit of destruction

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Psalms 40:2



Objective: The learner will realize that he/she is a sinner who should make a decision to receive Christ.

Introduction: How does it feel to walk in mud? Filthy, doesn't it?

LINK: In our verse today, we are looking at mud as a symbol of sin.

Bible Verse: He brought me out of a pit of destruction, out of the miry clay, and He sets my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

A pit of destruction is a pit where you can be destroyed when you get there. Miry clay is a muddy pit. When you get there, it will be impossible for you to come out.

Both the pit of destruction and miry clay are a symbol of being in sin. Destruction leads to death. In this case it is dying forever, being separated from God as a punishment for sin. God hates sin but He loves the sinner. He sent Jesus His Son to come and die for the punishment of your sin. He is a free gift whom God has given you so that you can have eternal life "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23) If you receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, He will give you eternal life. You will then be removed from the pit of destruction and saved from the miry clay.

LINK: If you have eternal life, a pit of destruction and miry clay are still a symbol of sin.

Spiritual application for the saved

But in this case, it is a person whose sins have been forgiven, but he/she is living in continuous sin. Even though you may have eternal life, in Jesus Christ if you sin, you will bear the consequences of sin. That is you can suffer punishment here on earth as a result of your sin. You will become an outcast to your friends and society. You may also contract sexually transmitted diseases like HIV, Gonorrhoea, syphilis etc. and die from it. But above all the Bible says "...and they were judged every one of them according to his deeds." (Revelation 20:13b) This means that there will be a judgment day when the Lord Jesus will judge you for whatever good or bad you have done. You do not have to continue living in sin. God wants to forgive your sins. You can ask for forgiveness of all the evil you have done. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will cleanse you from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) Because God is faithful, He will cleanse you and you will become as if you never sinned. You do not have to sin deliberately just because God forgives sin.

The later part of the verse says, "...And he set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm." This means when God delivers you from your sin, He will help you to walk in His righteous ways. You will be stable and enjoy God by doing what the Bible says. You will help others to come out of sin and be delivered from the pit of destruction and miry clay.

LINK: You can choose not to walk in sin by doing what God wants you to do.

Challenge: Will you remember that whatever you do whether good or bad will be judged?

Invitation: If you do not have eternal life, God wants you to have eternal life. Will you choose to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and have eternal life? “That whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16b)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel the children who respond.

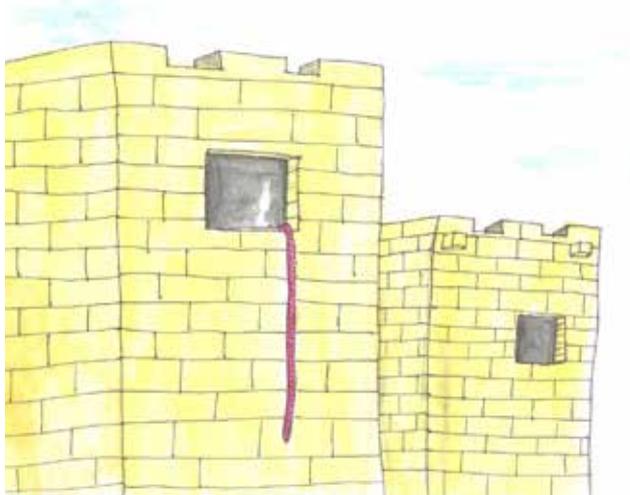
Application questions

- i. Sin is like a pit of destruction, how can you be removed from such a pit?
- ii. Why is sin referred to as a pit of destruction?
- iii. How can we overcome sin?

Lesson 90: The red cord in the window

Teaching: Salvation

Scripture: Joshua 2:1-24



Objective: The learner will know that God is his protector when he/she faces enemies.

Introduction

Show the children a piece of red rope. Imagine that you are living in a city being invaded by an army. The only way for you to escape is by using a red rope.

LINK: Sounds strange, isn't it? It really happened to a woman who lived many years ago when Israel was preparing to enter the Promised Land.

Progression of events

- A. Two men were sent by Joshua to spy out the enemy city of Jericho. (1)
- B. In Jericho the spies secretly lodged with a woman named Rahab.

LINK: Rahab was considered to be a prostitute; prostitution is having sexual relationships for money. Prostitution can make one contract sexually transmitted diseases.

Physical application

Venereal diseases are diseases which are sexually transmitted. These can be syphilis, Gonorrhea, or HIV. These diseases are very difficult to cure. You get them when you have sex with a person who is infected. You do not need to contract them. You can prevent them by abstaining from sex outside marriage and keeping to one faithful partner for those who are married.

- C. The king of Jericho sent men to capture the spies. (1b-3)
- D. To protect the spies, Rahab hid them; then she lied to the king's men so they would look for the spies elsewhere (4-7)

LINK: Like the other people in Jericho, Rahab was a woman whose sinful life was bringing God's anger and judgment upon the city. Your sin also brings God's anger.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God hates sin and warns that sin must be punished. You and I are sinners too. We are prone to sin instead of doing God's will. (Isaiah 53:6). It is your sinful nature which makes you do evil like being selfish, disobedient to your parents and so on. God says that the final punishment is to be separated from God for ever.

LINK: Sin is punishable before God. Because of their sin, Rahab and her people were now in danger of God's punishment.

- E. Rahab told the spies of her faith in the God of Israel. Rahab asked the spies to spare her life and the lives of her family. (8-14)

LINK: In spite of her sin, God loved Rahab and wanted her to put her faith in Him. In the same way God loves you and cares for you.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God is great and powerful; He made all things, including you. He knows you and He knows about your sin, but He loves you. The Bible says, "...and with His great love He loved us." (Ephesians 2:4) He wants you to live with Him forever one day.

LINK: God's love and care was well known to the people of Jericho and this knowledge convinced Rahab that He was the one true God.

F. The spies were lowered down the wall from a window of Rahab's house by a rope so they could escape to the mountains (15-16)

LINK: God used Rahab to spare the lives of the spies. If you are saved God will protect you from your enemies.

Spiritual application for the saved

God is your protector. He protects you from your enemies every day. You are alive because God is your protector. When you are sleeping during the night you do not know what is happening. But the Bible says God is faithful and will protect you. "But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one" (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

LINK: God is your protector; He also protected the spies.

G. Before leaving, the spies instructed Rahab to tie the scarlet rope in her window to identify her house to the invading Israelites. Putting her faith in God, Rahab tied the scarlet rope in her window. (17-21)

LINK: When Israel would come to take over the land everyone in the city was to be destroyed as God's judgment on the people's sin except the people inside the house with the scarlet rope hanging in the window. God provided a way of escape for Rahab and her family. He has also provided a way of escape for you.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God sent His own Perfect Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die on the cross. He was taking your punishment. He shed His blood on the cross. (Ephesians 1:7) He suffered and died so that you would not be separated from Him forever because of your sin. Three days later He rose from the grave. He is still alive in heaven and one day He will come to gather those who have believed in him.

LINK: He made a way for you so that you are not separated from God forever. He also made a way for Rahab and her family to be saved from being destroyed by the Israelites.

H. The spies escaped safely and reported to Joshua, encouraging him that God would give them victory in Jericho. (22-24)

I. When the invasion of Jericho finally took place, Rahab and her family were spared and rescued from the city as the spies had promised. (Joshua 6:21-23)

J. Rahab lived in Israel, becoming part of Christ's bloodline (Matthew 1:5)

Invitation: Rahab was saved from being punished by the Israelites. You can also be saved from the punishment of your sin. God wants to forgive and save you from your sins. Will you choose Him to save you today? "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for complete sample invitation.

Challenge: Will you remember that God is your protector each time you face your enemies? Remember what the verse says and trust God for his protection.

Application questions

- i. What led Rahab to be forgiven for the sins she had committed against God?
- ii. What good thing did Rahab do that you emulate the most?
- iii. How was Rahab rewarded for the good work she did?
- iv. How did God use Rahab to be part of His redemption plan for you and me?

Activity

This week when you are tempted to sin, will you say 'no' and run away from sin.

KINGDOM VALUES

Lesson 91: Amnon and Tamar

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: 2 Samuel 13:1-22



Objective: The learner will be alert about the devil's schemes and the unsaved will make a decision to believe in Jesus.

Introduction

What do you do when a person calls you to a dark corner where there are no other people? You should flee and tell an adult about it.

Link: In our lesson today, a girl stayed instead of running away. Something bad happened to her because she was not alert.

This happened to king David's children whom he bore from different wives.

Progression of events

A. Absalom, David's son had a sister called Tamar and his half brother Amnon loved her. Tamar was a virgin but Amnon lusted over her to the point of being sick because he wanted to sleep with her. (1-2)

LINK: Amnon did not love Tamar. He lusted for her and wanted to sleep with her, which was sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible tells us that you should not have sex with your brother or sister. That is very wrong.

You and I may not have slept with our brother or sister, but we have also sinned. We are sinners not because of the bad things we do, but because we are born sinners. Psalms 51:5 says, "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." Sin is punishable. The punishment is to be separated from God forever. God loves you even though you are a sinner. "God demonstrated His love for us in this while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). He sent His Son Jesus Christ to come and die for your sins so that you do not have to be punished for your sins. He willingly took your place and shed His blood for the forgiveness of your sins. He was buried and rose the third day. Today you can choose Him and have your sins forgiven.

LINK: You and I have sinned. It was also sin for Amnon to want to sleep with his sister.

- B. Amnon's friend Jonadab who was very crafty, told Amnon to pretend to be sick and ask his father if he could send Tamar to prepare the food for him in his sight and give it to him. (3-5)
- C. Amnon pretended to be sick and when David his father heard, he went to see him. Amnon told his father what his friend told him. (6)
- D. David told Tamar to do what Amnon said and she went and prepared the cakes as he had requested. (7-8a)
- E. Amnon refused to eat in the presence of everyone and asked if only Tamar could remain and told her to take the food to the bedroom. (9-10)
- F. When she took the food, Amnon told her to lie with him. Even though she pleaded with him to tell his father to give her to him, Amnon forcefully lay with her. (11-14)

LINK: Amnon over powered Tamar and slept with her. It was very bad for Tamar, her family and God.

Spiritual application for the saved

How could Amnon do such a thing to his own sister? God wants children to be protected. God wants us to protect the vulnerable (like women and children) from bad things like sexual attacks. Insisting on sexual relations with vulnerable family member is especially wrong. If you are saved, God wants you to keep yourself pure. This means that you keep yourself from doing anything which can make you impure like sex outside marriage especially with your own sister or brother. Nowadays, there are brothers, sisters, aunties, uncles, cousins and even fathers who want to sleep with their close relatives. The Bible says that having sex with your close relative is sin. The Bible says, "You shall not approach anyone who is near of kin to him, to uncover his nakedness..." (Leviticus 18:6) This means you cannot have sex with your mother, father, brother, sister or other close relatives. When a family member of the opposite sex asks you or calls you to a dark corner or bedroom where there are no other people, or if they want to touch your private parts and kiss you, you must shout for help or run away. Sometimes they may give you sweets. You should refuse and report to someone older you trust. You can even report to the police. You can run away and shout for help. If you are a girl, you must be alert and not become too familiar with relatives or any other person of the opposite sex. The Bible says, "Flee away from the devil and he will flee away from you." (James 4:7). To flee is to run away for your life or avoid being in such situations.

LINK: Do not let people take advantage of you so that they can have sex with you. Amnon took advantage of his sister and forcefully slept with her.

- G. After forcing her to lie with him, Amnon hated her more than he had loved her. He told his servant and disgracefully chased her out of his sight. (15-18)
- H. Tamar put ashes on her head and robe she was wearing and went away crying. (19)
- I. Absalom her brother consoled her and she stayed with him in his house but she was miserable. (20)
- J. When David learnt about it, he was very angry, however Absalom neither said good nor bad to Amnon. (21-22)

LINK: It was such a sad thing to happen to Tamar. But, you can avoid being in such a bad situation by being alert or careful or even suspicious with people who may have a tendency to do what Amnon did to his sister.

Challenge: Will you choose to be careful when you come across people who want to do bad things to you? Remember what the Bible says and flee from the devil. Jesus loves children and wants them to be protected. Shout for help, report to an older person and avoid being alone with people of the opposite sex.

Invitation: Will you choose Jesus to save you from your sin today? You can do so by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Go to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

Application questions

- i. Why should you avoid being sexually exploited?
- ii. How can you avoid sexual sin?
- iii. What sickness or disease is passed through having sex?
- iv. In which ways can you protect yourself and others from being sexually abused?
- v. Why is it important to talk to an adult you can trust if someone tries to harm you?
- vi. Who are people in your life whom you can run to for protection in an emergency?

Lesson 92: Daniel and his friends refuse to defile themselves

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Daniel 1:1-21



Objective: The learner will desire not to defile himself/herself but be pure in his /her walk with God.

Introduction: How many of you would like to eat only vegetables for three months? I would not want to do that. This is because having a balanced diet is good for a healthy body.

LINK: In our lesson today, four young men chose to only eat vegetables and drink water for three years.

Progression of events

- A. King Nebuchadnezzar sent soldiers to overthrow Jerusalem. (1-2)
- B. The king ordered his commanders to bring back strong, healthy and intelligent young men from royal families. (3-4)
- C. These gifted young men were to receive the king's food and special training. (4-5)
- D. The Hebrew youths were given new names. (6-7)

LINK: Their names were changed so that they could forget the true living God. But that did not make them forget Him.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God is loving; He loves you and wants to be with you forever. You cannot be with Him forever because of your sin. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Jesus died in your place and took the punishment for your sin. You can now become a child of God if you receive Him.

LINK: God loves you. He also loved the young men. They did not forget the true God.

- E. Daniel decided not to defile himself by eating the king's food

LINK: Daniel refused to defile himself because he wanted to please God and make himself clean. To defile yourself is to make yourself unclean before God by doing something that displeases Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

What are some of the things which can defile you? Here are some of them: smoking, taking illicit drinks, sexual immorality, deceitfulness, hypocrisy, envy, slander, greed, wickedness etc. All these are sins before God and can defile you. If you are a child of God, God wants you to keep yourself pure. To be pure is to live a life that does not want to sin. The Bible says, "...Keep yourself pure." (1 Timothy 5:22b) Doing things which can defile you, will make you impure.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God wants you to be pure.

- F. Daniel asked the chief eunuch for permission not to eat the defiled food. (8b)
- G. Fearing for his life, the chief eunuch refused to allow Daniel not to eat the defiled food. (9-10)
- H. Daniel requested a ten day test of eating vegetables and water only. The four youths were granted the ten day test. (11-14)

LINK: Daniel and his friends wanted to eat vegetables and no other drinks apart from water. They were granted the test because they wanted to live a life that pleases God.

Spiritual application for the saved

If you are a child of God, God wants you to keep yourself pure. You may be tempted to do things that can make you sin like being deceitful, jealous or hypocritical, slanderous or covetous thoughts, or sexual immorality. Remember what the Bible says, "...Keep yourself pure." (1 Timothy 5:22b). Run away from doing wrong: say 'No' to sin and pray so that God will help you overcome sin. When God helps you, thank Him for helping you.

LINK: If you are a child of God, God wants you to keep yourself pure.

- I. The four youths passed the test and were allowed to eat only vegetables and water only for three years. (15-16)

LINK: Daniel and his friends passed the test because they wanted to keep themselves pure. If you are a child of God, God wants you to keep yourself pure.

General application

If you are a child of God, you can also prevent yourself from eating or drinking anything that is dirty, unsafe. Clean water is very good for your life. There are people who have lived on water only, for forty days. They did not become sick because of God's help. In addition to water being good for your body to function properly, there are also minerals found in it that can be very good for you.

LINK: Since they also took vegetables, Daniel and his friends were not in danger of dying of hunger and thirst.

- J. God gave them knowledge, skill in learning and wisdom. When the king interviewed them, their wisdom was superior. (17-19)
- K. God honoured them by allowing them to serve the king. Daniel and his friends continued to serve in Babylon. (19b-21)

LINK: Daniel and his friends were honoured by God. You can also be honoured if you live a life which is pleasing to God.

Challenge: As a child of God, will you remember to keep yourself pure by avoiding things which can defile you? During this week, count how many times you will remember to say 'No' to sin.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, will you choose to receive Him so that you can also become one? "Yet to all who received Him, He gave them power to become children of God..." (John 1:12a)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Application questions

- i. Why did Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the food that was at the king's table?
- ii. Explain how you can get spiritually defiled and become unacceptable to God?
- iii. How can the children of God avoid being defiled by the things of the world?
- iv. How can you help one another avoid the kinds of things that would defile you or make you sad or sick?

Activity

The teacher discusses with children the reason why they should drink water and encourage them to drink water every day at least 1-2 liters per day.

Lesson 93: Joseph and Potiphar's wife

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Genesis 39:1-23



Objective: The learner will know how to have courage to say 'No' to sexual temptation.

Introduction

Imagine that you have been taken to a faraway land where you do not even know how to speak the local language. How would you feel?

LINK: In our lesson today, a young man was taken to a faraway land. His name was Joseph.

Progression of events

- A. After Joseph was sold by his brothers, he was taken to Egypt where he was bought as a slave by Potiphar an officer of Pharaoh. (1)
- B. The Lord made Joseph successful and his master promoted him as a ruler over his household and Potiphar trusted Joseph with all he had. (3-6)
- C. Potiphar's wife thought that Joseph was good looking and wanted him to have sex with her. (7)

LINK: Joseph had to decide what to do when Potiphar's wife tempted him to have sex with her. What she wanted was wrong.

Spiritual application for the saved

God's Word says only married people can have sex together. What she was doing was sinful and wrong. You too must know what to do when someone asks you to do something which is wrong. You may be tempted to sleep with a girl or boy, or to look at a magazine which has pictures of people having sex, or films about people having sex or an older person may want you to show or touch your private parts. Or someone may call you into the bush or behind an old neglected building. Sex outside marriage can make you get sexually transmitted diseases like HIV. God has made your body in a wonderful way so that you can enjoy yourself when you get married. If you are saved, God has given you power to say 'NO' to temptation. To be tempted is to be enticed into sin. The Bible says, "He who lives in you is greater than the one in the world." (1 John 4:4)

LINK: If you are saved, God has given you power to say 'NO' to temptation.

- D. Joseph refused to do this great wickedness and sin against God. (8-9)

LINK: Joseph knew that God is holy and he refused to sin. You also must know that God is holy and hates sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

God loves you because He is the one who made you but He hates sin. Sin is the wrong things you do including jealousy, lies and fighting. You were born a sinner. No one taught you how to sin. Your sin separates you from God. God loves you and sent His son Jesus Christ to save you from your sins. "God demonstrated His love in this, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). Jesus

willingly took your place of punishment and shed His blood for your sins to be forgiven. He died and rose the third day. You can believe in him today and be saved from your sins.

LINK: You must know that God is holy and hates sin. Joseph also knew that God was holy. He refused to sleep with Potiphar's wife.

- E. Joseph resisted her as she continued to tempt him. (10)
- F. One day as he was working in the house, Potiphar's wife grabbed his coat sleeve and again tempted him to have sex with him. Joseph slipped out of his coat and ran away from the house. (11-12)

LINK: Joseph ran from temptation. That is what you can do when someone asks you to do something wrong.

Spiritual application for the saved

God says, "You must flee from sexual immorality." (1 Corinthians 6:18). Immorality is acting in a wrong or wicked way especially having sex outside marriage. Sex is for people who are married. When you are tempted to do wrong in the ways we have already discussed, (Teacher goes through the examples again.) Don't be afraid to tell another person especially someone older, try never to be with that person again, run from him or her, and remember God loves you and has given you power to say 'NO' to sin. (1 John 4:4) When God helps you remember, to thank Him for helping you.

LINK: God can help you. He also helped Joseph to run away from Potiphar's wife.

- G. Potiphar's wife was disappointed that Joseph refused to sleep with her. Instead she lashed out against Joseph and lied to the men of the house that he wanted to rape her. (13-15)
- H. Potiphar was angry and stripped Joseph of his position and threw him in prison. (20)
- I. God gave Joseph favor in the sight of the prison keeper and gave him charge over the prison. (21-22)
- J. God prospered Him for doing the right thing. (23)

Challenge: When faced with temptation, Joseph chose to run away from it. Will you choose to say 'NO' to sin or temptation? During this week, if you are saved, remember to use the Word of God. (1 John 4:4). Jesus is stronger than the devil and will help you.

Invitation: If you are not saved, you do not have the power to say 'NO' to sin. You should first be saved so that your sins can be forgiven (Acts 16:31). Will you choose Jesus to come in your heart and save you from your sins?

Teacher: Go to page 221 and counsel the children who respond.

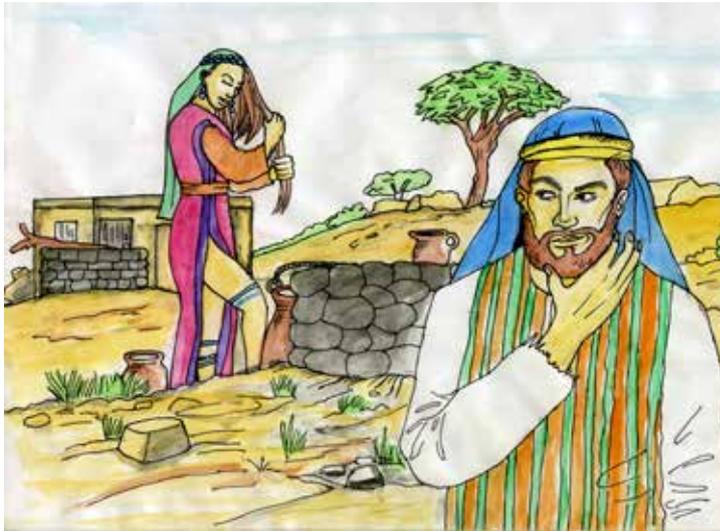
Application questions

- i. What work did Joseph have in Potiphar's house?
- ii. What temptation did he face with his Master's wife?
- iii. How did he react to the temptation?
- iv. Do you believe that God loves you? How do you know that?

Lesson 94: A narrow well

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: Proverbs 23:27



Objective: The learner will know the consequences of sin and desire to live a holy life.

Introduction

What would you do if you fell in a deep pit?

LINK: Our verse is talking about another kind of falling into a deep pit.

Bible Verse: For a harlot is a deep pit and an adulterous woman is a narrow well.

LINK: Both a deep pit and a narrow well are dangerous for a person.

General application

It is dangerous to fall into a deep pit because it is not easy to come out of it. For a narrow well, it is also equally difficult to find proper and suitable means to be able to come out. If that is your source of drinking water, it would be important for older people to find someone to dig the well deeper, to make the water inaccessible to infections and other objects getting into it. If there is no solution to the problem, remember to boil the water for at least five to ten minutes to kill the germs. You can also put chlorine in the water and make sure that you keep the water in a safe place where children or domestic animals cannot access it.

LINK: If you are saved, a deep pit can mean being in deep sin where it would be difficult for you to come out.

Spiritual application for the saved

A narrow well will also mean a life which is very sinful. An adulterous man or woman is a married person who has sex with other married or unmarried person apart from his / her spouse. A prostitute is a person who has sex for financial gain. Prostitutes and adulterous people are all sinners before God.

If you are not married, you are not supposed to have sex until you get married. Sex before and outside marriage is not only a sin but it is also dangerous to your health. You can contract HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases. These diseases may shorten your life if not addressed early. Luke 18:20 says, "Do not commit adultery." Which means God does not want you to commit sin. If you don't obey the Bible, and continue to commit sexual sin, you will fall into a deep pit and fail to get out of it. Before you can get into this sad situation, it is important for you to abstain until you get married. Before you get married, make sure that you and your partner are tested for the HIV virus. If you are both negative then it will be fine, if one of you is positive, you can still get married but take precautions so that your partner is not infected.

You may have friends who want you to be involved in sexual activities, avoid them, look for friends who will help you to know God better and avoid such kind of sins. Pray to God and tell God to help you

abstain. “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with every temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13)

LINK: If you are not saved, abstaining is not enough for you because you need more power from God to help you abstain.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

You need to know that you are a sinner by birth and your sins separate you from God. But God loves you and wants you to be saved from your sins. Jesus Christ His perfect Son can save you from your sins if you believe in Him. He died in your place to take away the punishment for your sins and rose from the grave on the third day. “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13)

Invitation: Will you choose to call on Jesus Christ and be saved from your sin

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation

Challenge: If you are saved, will you remember to abstain from sexual activities and wait until you get married? Will you avoid friends or activities which would lead you to sin against God? If you know of friends that are HIV positive, remember that God loves all of you and treat them with love and respect.

Application questions

- i. In which ways can you resist temptation in your life?
- ii. Why is regular prayer necessary in our lives to avoid temptation?
- iii. Why is it important to abstain from sex until marriage?
- iv. Why should we treat friends and family that are HIV positive with love and care?

Lesson 95: David sins

Teaching: Kingdom Values

Scripture: 2 Samuel 11:1-5



Objectives: The learner will see the need to confess when he/she commits sin.

Introduction

Have you ever planned to sin? Sin is a terrible thing because it does not only affect you but also affects others and always leads to death.

LINK: In our lesson today, there is a person who made plans to sin. Who is this person?

Progression of Events

- A. David sent Joab and his army to battle while he remained in Jerusalem (11:1)
- B. Walking on the palace roof one evening, David saw a beautiful woman bathing, whom he learned was Bathsheba, the wife of his soldier, Uriah (11:2-3)
- C. David committed adultery with Bathsheba, and she later sent him word that she was pregnant with his child. (11:4-

LINK: Adultery is a sin of sleeping with another person's husband or wife. David had sinned by

sleeping with another man's wife Bathsheba. You might not be an adulterer but you are also a sinner.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

The Bible teaches that, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) This means that you are a sinner not because you do bad things but because that is how you were born. You were born with a desire to sin. Nobody taught you how to insult, tell lies and so on. Yet you know how to do all these things. Sin is, in fact, anything you think, say and do which does not please God. If you have never believed on the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you are still living in sin.

LINK: You are a sinner. David had sinned by sleeping with another man's wife.

- D. David encouraged Uriah to go and spend time with his wife Bathsheba but he refused, (11:6-13)
- E. David ordered Joab to place Uriah at the battle front where he would be killed. (11:14-15)
- F. Joab obeyed David's orders, and then sent word to David that Uriah is dead. (11:16-25)
- G. Bathsheba mourned for her husband's death, then she married David and had a son. (11:26-27)
- H. God sent Nathan the prophet to David and told David a parable. David was annoyed with the guilty man in the story. (12:1-6)
- I. Nathan told David that the guilty man in the story was him and David confessed his sin. (12:7-13)

LINK: When David realised that he had sinned against God, he confessed his sin to God. If you have already believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, God wants you to confess your sins as soon as you know you have sinned.

Spiritual application for the saved

Sometimes you may find yourself in a situation of sin. A friend could provoke you to fight, you may forget to do what your parents asked you to do or you may be forced to cheat in a test.

1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." To confess is to ask for forgiveness from God for the wrong that you have done. You must be able to mention the sin that you have committed to God and feel sorry about it. When you do that, God is faithful and just, that means God will do that which he has promised (to forgive you) and He would not treat you unfairly. You will be just like you had not sinned.

LINK: If you have already believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, God wants you to confess your sins as soon as you know you have sinned. When David realised He had sinned, he confessed his sins to God.

- J. But having failed to choose God's right way, David had to face the result of his sin. (12:10-14)
- K. David's son became sick. Even though David prayed for him, the child died. (12:15-18)
- L. Accepting the result of his sin, David worshiped God. (12:19-23)

Challenge: If you have already believed in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, will you always remember to confess your sin as soon as you know that what you have done is wrong before God? God wants you to always confess your sins.

Invitation: If you have never believed on the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you are still living in sin. You need to believe on the Lord Jesus and be saved. The Bible says, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

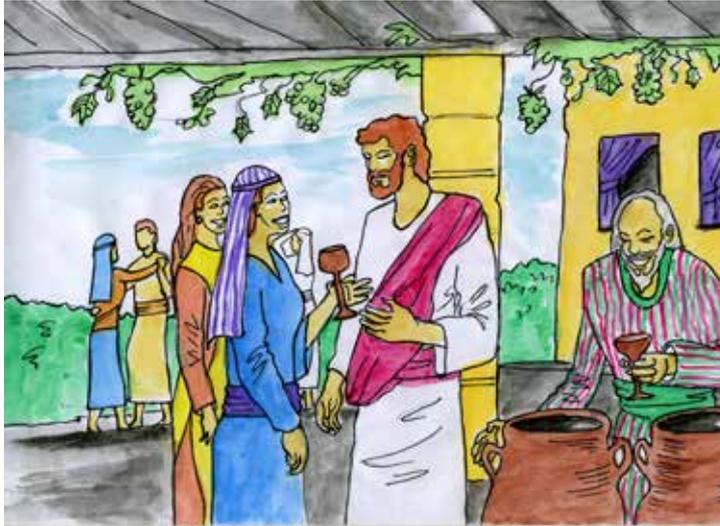
- i. What should we do when we know we have sinned against God?
- ii. What are some of the consequences of sin in our lives, in others, and in relationship with God?
- iii. What has God provided for us to help us deal with sin in our lives?
- iv. What were the results of sin in David's life?

FAITH

Lesson 96: Jesus turns water into wine

Teaching: Faith

Scripture: John 2: 1-11



Objective: The learner will learn how to put trust in the All Powerful God.

Introduction

Because God is all powerful, He can do anything that he pleases and for His glory. Nothing can stop Him or prevent Him from achieving anything that He wants.

LINK: In our lesson today, we will see God's power by working a miracle.

Progression of events

- A. Jesus, his mother and disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana in Galilee. (1-2)
- B. When they ran out of wine, Jesus' mother told Him about the problem. (3)

LINK: Mary the mother of Jesus saw that it was going to be an embarrassment to run out of wine during the wedding. Although this was a problem, she believed that something could be done to find a solution.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Do you know the solution to your problem of sin? Your solution is Jesus Christ the Perfect Son of God. He lived a perfect life but one day He allowed people who hated Him to arrest Him and nail Him on the cross where he shed His blood from His head, hand, feet and the whole body. He was paying for the punishment of your sin. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins..." (Ephesians 1:7a) He died was buried and rose gain the third day. God loved you and made you. He allowed His Son to die in your place. Sin separates you from God forever but you do not have to be separated from God if you believe in His Son.

LINK: Not trusting God in times of need is a sin. Your problem of sin will be solved by believing in Jesus Christ. Mary knew where to get a solution for the wine which had run out.

- C. Jesus rebuked His mother because his time had not yet come. (4)
- D. Jesus' mother told the servants to do whatever He told them to do. (5)

LINK: Mary told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do because she believed in the power of God. If you are a child of God, God wants you to trust Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

To trust God means to believe that what God has said is true. You may have difficulties like having friends who want you to stop going to church, they may want to fight or tease you or call you names. If you are God's child, He wants you to do whatever He wants you to do. During difficult times, God wants you to forgive your friends, to love them in spite of what they do to you and pray for them. When

you do that you are doing what God wants you to do. The Bible says, "...do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you." (Matthew 5:44b)

LINK: God wants you to do whatever He tells you to do. Mary told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do.

- E. Jesus told the servants to fill six nearby stone jars with water, and the servants filled them to the brim. (6-7)
- F. Jesus told them to draw some out and take to the master of the banquet. (8)
- G. The servants did so and when the master tasted the water, it had been turned into wine. (9)
- H. The master said the wine was better than any that they had served earlier. (10)

LINK: The fact that Jesus changed water into wine does not mean that you should be drinking wine and get drunk.

Physical application

The Bible tells us that we should not drink too much wine. When you consume too much alcohol – you will become drunk. When you are drunk, you may sometimes not be able to walk and you may stagger, you may misuse the money on wine and the family may end up suffering from hunger, children are not able to go to school because the money was misused, also there may be no peace in the homes where parents drink alcohol. In addition, alcohol affects the liver and in the end leads to death. As a wise person, you must rather avoid taking alcohol and take care when associating with friends who take alcohol. That way you will prevent yourself from taking alcohol. This is because some of your friends may influence you into bad behavior and misconduct. Jesus did not make wine for people to become drunk. He made it for people to enjoy moderately during the wedding.

LINK: Wine is not good for you. Jesus did not make wine for people to become drunk. He made it for people to enjoy moderately during the wedding.

- I. This was Jesus' first miracle to show God's glory as the All-Powerful Son of God (11)

LINK: The glory of God was seen through the changing of water into wine which was also the first miracle Jesus did.

Challenge: If you are a child of God, God wants you to give Him glory by doing what He wants you to do. When you face potential embarrassment or lack, will you pray to God and ask Him for help? Remember He is still the God of miracles.

Invitation: If you are not a child of God, you cannot do what God wants you to do. First you must become His child then He will be pleased when you do what He wants you to do. The Bible says, "Yet to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become the children of God." (John 1:12)

Teacher: God to page 221 for sample invitation and counsel children who respond.

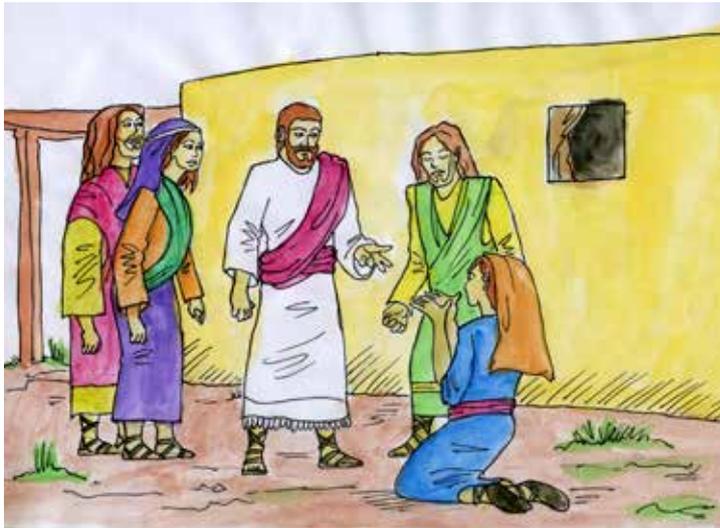
Application questions

- i. This was the first miracle of Jesus Christ. What event was it?
- ii. What is the difference between water and wine?
- iii. What does this miracle of Jesus teach us about his power to help us in our difficulties?

Lesson 97: A woman healed from the issue of blood

Teaching: Faith

Scripture: Mark 5: 25-34



Objective: The learner will know that there is no disease God cannot heal.

Introduction

All of us have either been sick before or have known someone who has been sick. The length of the illness may vary. Some illnesses are shorter and others are longer depending on the problems associated with the healing or cure of the disease. Sickness is unacceptable because it takes away our joy and privileges of doing certain things and sometimes it takes away our resources as we pay for treatment.

LINK: Our lesson today is talking about a woman who was sick for a very long time

Progression of events

A. A certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years. (25)

LINK: The sickness was a very big problem for the woman. She had spent a lot of money seeking her healing; she was also considered unclean according to the Jewish customs. You and I have a bigger problem than the woman had. It is called sin.

Spiritual application for the unsaved

Why is sin a big problem? Sin is like a chronic disease. Sin affects us and makes us appear unwanted by other people. Sin separates us from God just as the woman suffering from the issue of blood was treated as unclean by the rest of the people in the community. She could not associate with anyone. Sin separates us from God because we become unclean.

Sin puts us in a place of suffering forever. Sin is thinking, saying and doing what displeases God like disobeying your parents, stealing, lying, insulting and jealousy. The Bible says, "For all have sinned." (Romans 3:23). This means there is no one excluded. Everyone in the world has sinned before God. God punishes sin and separates us from God for eternity.

LINK: Sin is terrible because it separates you from God. The woman's problem was the issue of blood.

- B. She went to many physicians and spent all she had but was never cured. (26)
- C. When she heard about Jesus she went and touched His garment because she had thought in her heart, that if she would touch His garment she would be healed. (27, 28)
- D. Immediately a fountain of her blood was dried up and she felt in her body that she was healed. (29)
- E. And Jesus knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him turned around and asked who touched Him. (30)

LINK: Jesus knew what happened even though He asked because He was the Perfect Son of God. He also knows everything that happens to you because He is God the Son. Nothing can be hidden from him.

Spiritual application for unsaved

God has loved you with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3). His love for you never ends. That is why He sent His Son Jesus to come and die a cruel death for you. He gave up His life and took away the punishment of your sin. You were supposed to be punished for your sin but He willingly took your place of punishment. He bled from His head, hand, feet and the whole body. His blood was shed for the forgiveness of your sins. (1 John 1:7) He did not die for ever but He arose on the third day. He is now in heaven and wants to live with you there.

LINK: He wants to live with you because he loves you. He also knew and loved the woman.

- F. His disciples asked Him how He could ask about who touched Him when there were many people who were around him. (31)
- G. He turned around to see who had touched Him and the woman with fear and trembling told Him the whole truth. (32)
- H. Jesus told the woman, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your affliction."

LINK: Jesus told her "your faith has healed you". God also wants you to have faith in Him.

Spiritual application for the saved

Faith is believing in what you have not seen. For example if you want to get healed and believe in your heart that God can heal you then you have faith. You can face a problem like the need for school fees, shoes, uniform, or even sickness. If you are saved, God wants you to have faith in Him. The Bible says, "Without faith, it is impossible to please God." (Hebrews 11:6.) When you face a problem, you can pray to God and trust Him to help you. Remember what the Bible says and thank God for helping you.

Challenge: When you face a problem during this week, will you remember to have faith in God, trusting Him for His help? Come and share how God will have helped you in the next class.

Invitation: If you are not saved, remember that your sin separates you from God. But God loves you so much and would like to save you from your sins. Will you choose to believe in Him today? (Acts 16:31)

Teacher: Turn to page 221 for sample invitation.

Application questions

- i. Can you tell us about an illness that has taken a very long time in a person's life?
- ii. What did Jesus feel when the sick woman touched him?
- iii. Why is faith important in the life of a believer?
- iv. In what ways did the woman suffer from the twelve years of the sickness?
- v. What can Jesus' example teach us about how we should treat people who are sick?
- vi. Which people in your community are considered to have no value or unclean?

Lesson 98: Bible Verse Presentation

Bible Verse: If you are thirsty. Come! If you want life-giving water, come and take it. It's free!

Introduction

You may be familiar with the fact that whenever you feel thirsty, you take water to quench your thirst. The more frequent you thirst, the more often you take water. The Bible tells us of water that quenches thirst forever. Have you ever drunk water which quenches you thirst forever?

LINK: In our Bible verse today we are looking at the water which quenches your thirst forever.

Presentation

1. Read the verse directly from the Bible
2. Show the visual (optional and if available)
3. Tell the children how to find the verse from the Bible. Example: Revelation is the book, 22 is the chapter and 17b is the verse
4. The verse is the Word of God
5. Read the verse also from your Bible. Remember THIS book (Jesus the Source of Living Water is NOT the Bible) it is only a book with information taken from the Bible.

Explanation

If you are thirsty - To be thirsty is to be without Jesus Christ. This means you are separated from God.

If you want the life - giving water - The life-giving water is Jesus Christ the perfect Son of God. He died and rose for your sins. When you receive Him, He gives you eternal life, living with God forever. To Receive Him means that you have to accept your sinful condition, repent and believe in Him for the rest of your life.

Come and take it. It's free! - You receive eternal life freely. You don't buy. You don't work for it. Jesus already paid the price for your life. Only you have to receive it as you accept and receive a gift.

Today if you choose to take it, you will have life-giving water.

Spiritual application for the saved - If you are saved, you have the life giving water. God wants you to tell others about it. To be saved means to be free from the power of sin and from the penalty of sin. When you have repented of your sin and believed on the name of Jesus Christ, then you are saved. To be saved means to have eternal life because of God's grace.

Spiritual application for unsaved- If you are not saved you do not have the life-giving water, you can choose to take it today and have it. To take it is to pray and tell God that you:

A - Admit you have sinned,

B - Believe that Jesus died for your sins and rose.

C - Choose to take the water of life freely in your heart

If you want the life giving water, you can see me after class.

Repetition (Crazy stand ups)

Teacher could call out children with similar things, like those wearing black – “stand up and say the verse” or “those who have eaten bread today to stand-up and say the verse”.

Application questions:

- i. Explain the difference between the water we drink every day and the water that Jesus gives
- ii. Who is able to receive the water that makes a person not thirsty anymore?
- iii. Reflect on your own life and check if you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour?

99: Sample Invitation

Review: You and I have sinned and deserve to be punished. But God sent His Son to come and die for your sins so that your sins will not be punished.

Invitation Verse: Acts 16:31 says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Here are three things you should do:

A - **Admit** you have sinned and ask God to forgive your sins.

B - **Believe** Jesus died for your sins and rose from the grave for you.

C - **Choose** or call Jesus to save you from your sins.

To be saved means that based on God's grace, you will not be punished for your sins on the day of judgment

Today, if you tell Jesus you want to be saved, He will save you.

Close your eyes and think about what God wants you to do.

Personal question: With your eyes closed, if you have never believed on the Lord Jesus before, you can show me by raising your hand. If you raise your hand you are telling me that you want to believe and be saved.

Separate from group: If you raised your hand, remain in class and sit on the back bench. I will come and show you how to believe.

Note to the teacher: You will have different invitation verses to use for your invitation and remember to explain the invitation verse according to the terminology in the verse.