

God Listens to Me

Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Joshua as a man who boldly prayed to God.
- The children will demonstrate a bold prayer.
- The children will pray, confident that God is listening to them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."
Joshua 4:24

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Sun and Moon

Welcome and Singing

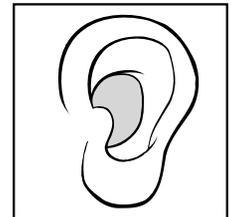
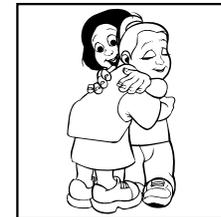
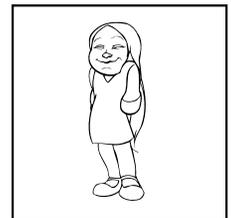
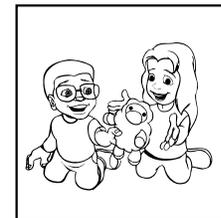
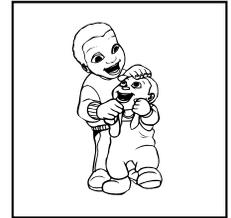
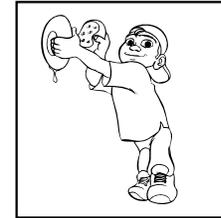
Centers:

Bible Story: Bold Prayers, Bold Answers

Life Application: Bold Prayers

Craft: Prayer Medallion

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Pre class



God Listens to Me

Sun and Moon

The children will make props that will be used in the Bible story.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick

For the teacher:

- gray, black, and yellow construction paper
- white tissue paper
- 3 pieces of poster board or cardboard

Preparation

1. Cut 2 large circles out of the poster board. One will be the sun, the other the moon.
2. Cut a shape of a shield out of the poster board. See Figure A.
3. Cut tissue paper into 5" squares
4. Set up the preclass area into three small centers. One for the sun, one for the moon and one for the shield.

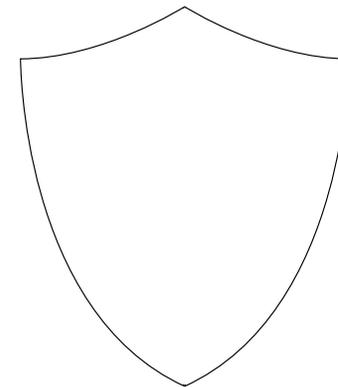
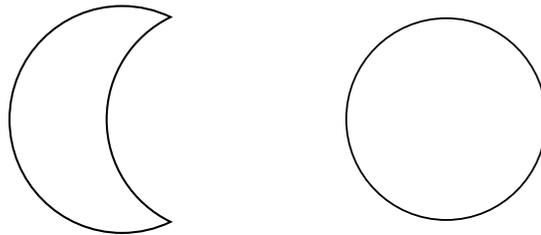


Figure A

Instructions

1. For the sun center:
 - A. Have the children rip pieces of yellow construction paper and glue them to the sun.
2. For the moon center:
 - A. Have the children crumple the white tissue paper into balls and glue them to the moon.
3. For the shield center:
 - A. Have the children rip pieces of gray construction paper and glue them to the shield.
4. As the children work talk to them about when the sun comes up and when it goes down. Point out to them that when the sun goes down it gets dark. At night, the moon comes out. Ask: *What would it be like if the sun was out at night? Would it be dark? No, it would be bright. What if only the moon was out during the day? Would it be bright? No, it would be dark during the day.*
5. Give the sun, moon and shield to the Bible story teacher.

Teacher Tips

Be sure to have other preclass centers such as blocks or books so the children have a choice of centers to chose from.

God Listens to Me

Bold Prayers, Bold Answers

The children will learn about how Joshua prayed boldly to God.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Materials

For the teacher:

- the sun, moon and shield created in the Preclass Activity

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story.

Instructions

Begin by discussing the different times of the day. Ask: *What does it look like when we wake up in the morning? Yes, it is bright and sometimes sunny. The sun lights up the sky. During the day, the sun slowly moves across the sky and goes down at night. What does it look like when we go to bed at night? Right, it is dark. The moon slowly rises into the sky and shines like a "night-light". Today we are going to learn about something amazing that God did with the sun and the moon.*

Choose three children to help you tell the story. One child should hold the sun and slowly lower it to the floor while you tell the story. The second child should hold the moon and slowly raise it up from the floor. The third child should hold the shield and pretend to be Joshua praying.

Open the Bible to Joshua and begin telling the story. *Our story today comes from the book of Joshua. Joshua and his men loved God very much. Joshua was leading God's people to the promised land, the land that had wonderful fruit and sweet honey. There were some other men who were angry with Joshua and God's people. They wanted to fight with them. But God told Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them!" (Joshua 10:8)*

When the men who were angry with Joshua started to fight, God helped Joshua to be bold and strong. And he helped Joshua's army win. He made large hailstones come down from the sky. Do you know what a hailstone is? It's like a big icy snowball. The Bible says that more of the men died from the large hailstones hitting them than from Joshua and his men fighting them!

Later, Joshua realized that the sun was going down. The day was ending. He knew he wouldn't be able to fight in the dark. It would be hard to see. He needed more time so that he could win the battle for God. So he prayed an amazing prayer: "God, make the sun stand still! Make the moon stand still!" (Joshua 10:12) And guess what happened? God did it! He listened to Joshua! He made the sun and the moon stand still exactly as Joshua asked! Have the child who is holding the sun stop lowering it and raise it high. Have the child who is holding the moon hold it still.

Listen to what the Bible says. Read Joshua 10:13b-14: "The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. There has never been a day like it before or since then." Isn't that amazing! God is so great! He listened to Joshua when he prayed, and he answered Joshua's prayer. Joshua prayed for the sun and the moon to stand still, and that day, the sun never went down. The sun stayed in the sky all night! It never got dark that night, because God listened to Joshua's prayer! And Joshua and his men had the light to see so they could win over their enemies.

Conclusion

What did Joshua ask God to do? (make the sun and moon stand still) Did God do it? Why did God do that for Joshua? (Yes, because he loved Joshua and his people.) Joshua could have been afraid to pray that prayer, but he knew that God loved him and was always listening to his prayers! You see, when you pray, God hears you, just like he heard Joshua. We can ask God for anything! Even things that seem really hard.

Sometimes, it's really hard to share your toys, or to be happy, right? So, when something is really hard, you can pray to God as Joshua did. God will hear you and he will help you like he helped Joshua.

Ask the children to name some things that they should pray for.

Teacher Tips

Tell the children to move the sun and moon very slowly as you tell the Bible story.



God Listens to Me



God Listens to Me

Bold Prayers

The children will learn that God listens to us when we pray.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- 1 piece of white construction paper
- a bag or a hat

Preparation

1. Cut out 5 yellow and 5 white circles, about 3" in diameter. These will be suns and moons.
2. Place them inside the bag.

Instructions

1. *Our Bible story today is about how God answered a prayer of Joshua's. Joshua prayed that the sun and moon would stand still so that the day would be longer, and God answered his prayer.*
2. *How do you know that God heard Joshua? (God did what Joshua asked him to do.) How does it feel when someone does not listen to you? (disappointing) Have you ever tried to talk to your mom but she does not hear you because she is talking to someone else? Sometimes we interrupt our moms instead of waiting, don't we? We have to be patient and loving to our moms. But with God, we don't have to wait. He is so powerful that he could listen to everyone in the world all at once. Isn't God amazing?*
3. *Show the children the bag. Here is a bag of suns and moons. If you pick a sun, I want you to tell us something that you can pray for in the morning. If you pick a moon, tell us something you can pray for at night. Do you think God will hear you in the morning? Is he still asleep? No, God doesn't sleep! Do you think he will listen to you at night? Is he too tired or too busy? No!*

He's never too tired or busy, he always hears us. He is our father in heaven and he wants us to ask him for help. That is how we talk to God isn't it? By praying and talking to him any time we want to.

4. Have the children take turns picking a sun or moon from the bag and telling the group what they would pray for.
5. After every child has had a turn, pray with them about all of the things that they talked about.

Scripture Memory Activity

Have each child pick from the bag again. If they choose a sun, have them recite the memory verse. If they pick a moon, let them choose someone else to recite the verse for them.

Conclusion

Ask the children, *who can you talk to about what we learned in class today? Can you tell your friends about how God always hears us when we pray? Ask your friends if they want to come to Bible class to hear about exciting things God does, like make the sun stay in the sky all night!*

Encourage them to pray during the week, that God will be waiting to hear them.

Teacher Tips

- If you have a small group or time allows, have the children pray for the things they talked about.
- Encourage the children about their prayers during the activity.
- Share with the children an answered prayer from your life. Choose something that would be easy for them to understand. Share it with a thankful heart!
- Write the memory verse on each sun and moon. You may want to make extras so every child can take one home to remind them to pray.



God Listens to Me

Life

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“The hand of the
Lord is powerful.”

Joshua 4:24



God Listens to Me

Prayer Medallion

The children will make a two-sided necklace demonstrating what they will boldly pray about in the morning and at night.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- 30" piece of yarn
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- white tissue paper
- yellow construction paper
- poster board
- hole punch

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut the poster board into 5" circles, one for each child.
2. Punch one hole near the edge of each circle.
3. Cut out the prayer pictures, memory verse strips and title strips from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
4. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a poster board circle and yellow construction paper.
2. Have them rip small pieces of yellow construction paper and glue them to one side of the circle.
3. Have them rip small pieces of white tissue paper and glue them to the other side of the circles.
4. Show the children the prayer pictures. *These are pictures of things that we can pray about. This one is a picture of someone being kind. It is good for us to pray to be kind.* Explain the rest of the pictures in this way.
5. Have each child pick two pictures and color them.
6. Have the children glue one picture to each side of the circle. Explain to them that one picture they will pray for during the day and the other picture they will pray for at night.

7. Give each child a piece of yarn to thread through the hole in the circle.
8. Tie the ends of the yarn together.
9. Give each child a memory verse strip and a title strip. Have them fold each strip in half over the yarn. See Figure A.
10. Help the children glue the ends together so the yarn is in the middle. See Figure B.

Conclusion

Have the children sit in a circle and share about the pictures that they chose. Choose a few children to pray.

Teacher Tips

Be sure to tell the parents about the necklaces so that they can help their children to pray.



CRAFT

God Listens to Me

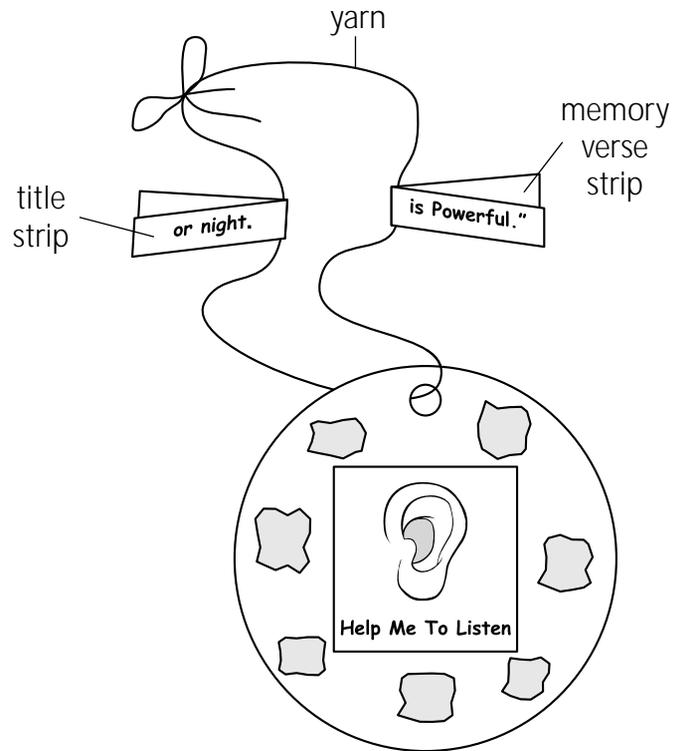


Figure A

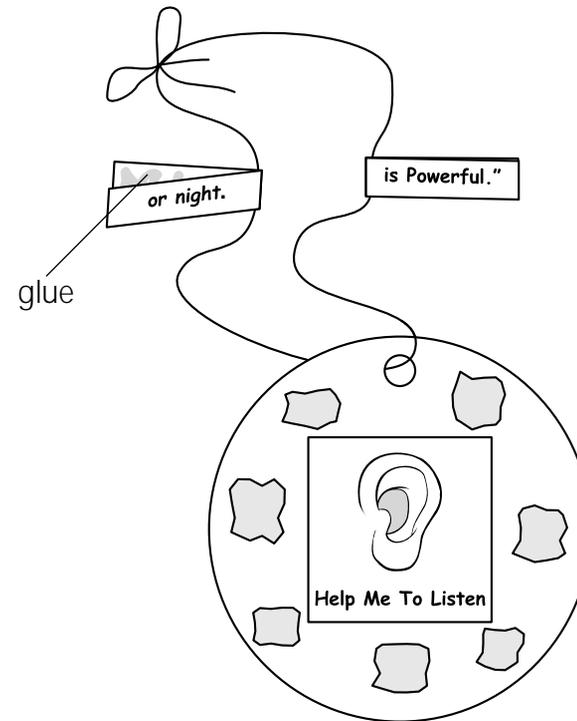


Figure B



God Listens to Me

The Nature of God

Lesson 5

Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Joshua as a man who boldly prayed to God.
- The children will demonstrate a bold prayer.
- The children will pray, confident that God is listening to them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

Ear Collage

The children will make a collage of "ears", demonstrating how God listens to us.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- scissors

For the teacher:

- magazines
- large poster board

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Ear Collage

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Pray and Play

Craft: Guess Who

Life Application: Bold Prayers

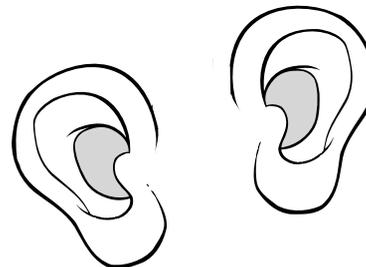
NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

Preparation

Tear out whole magazine pages that have pictures of ears and/or faces with ears showing.

Instructions

1. Have the children cut or tear out pictures of ears from the magazine pages.
2. Have the children glue the pictures to the poster board.



Conclusion

As the children are working, ask them about the Bible story from the last class. Talk about how Joshua prayed boldly and ask them, *Did God hear him? How do you know God heard him? What happened? Does God want us to pray to him? Does he listen to us when we pray?*

Teacher Tips

Have the children cut out the faces with ears or just the ears from the magazine pages.



Pray and Play

The children will form teams to “pray and play” together. They will learn that when we pray, God helps us to work, have fun and do well together.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 50 white paper plates (6")
- 50 yellow paper plates (6")

Preparation

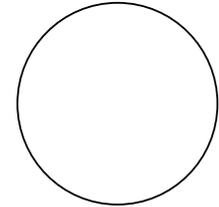
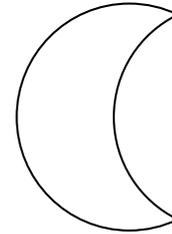
Familiarize yourself with the game

Instructions

1. Scatter the plates randomly around the floor.
2. Explain the game to the children. *I have put many suns and moons on the floor. Which ones do you think are the suns? Yes the yellow ones, and the white ones are the moons. We are going to have two teams, a sun team and a moon team. The sun team needs to collect all of the yellow plates and the moon team needs to collect all of the white plates. In what Bible story did we hear about the sun and moon? Yes, in the story about Joshua. Joshua prayed to God and God listened to him and made the sun and moon stand still. We're going to pray to God also.*
3. Pray with the group about having fun and being kind to one another. Pray that they will help each other and not push each other.
4. Divide the group into two teams; the moon team and the sun team.
5. Have the children get ready and then say “Go.”
6. Have the children collect all of the plates for their team. The first team done gets to choose the color they want for the next round.
7. This game can be played as much as time allows. Be sure to pray before starting each round!

Teacher Tips

- Talk to the children after each round about how they helped each other and worked as a team.
- Children can get very aggressive in an energetic game such as this. Be sure to pray specifically with the children about not pushing or shoving.
- Watch the children carefully as they play and be ready to help the children to help one another.
- Encourage those who help others and are obedient to the rules.



CRAFT

Guess Who?

The children will play a game in this center instead of making a craft. This game will teach the children that even though we can't see God, He can see us and hear us every time we pray.

Materials

For the teacher:

- a scarf or bandanna (to be used as a blindfold).

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the game.

Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle, and ask for a volunteer of one child to be blindfolded.
2. Have the blindfolded volunteer sit in the center of the circle.
3. Tell the children that even though the blindfolded child cannot see them, she will be able to hear whoever speaks to her.
4. Point to a child in the circle, without using his name, and have him say something to the blindfolded child.
5. The blindfolded child can either identify the speaker by name or point to the direction where the voice is coming from. Say, *Can you see the person who is talking? (No) Can you hear them? (Yes) That's how it is with God: even though we do not see God, he stills hears us when we talk to him!*
6. Whoever was chosen to speak gets to be blindfolded next.
7. Continue the game until each child has had a turn to be blindfolded.

Conclusion

Throughout the game, discuss the idea that God can hear everything we say to Him. Talk about how the group can see the blindfolded child even though she can't see the group. In the same way God sees us even though we can't see Him.

Teacher Tips

- If some of the children do not want to be blindfolded or close their eyes, then have them sit next to you and assist you. Maybe they can help you choose the person to speak. They may decide to play when they see how much fun it is.
- Have the children recite the memory verse as something to say to the blindfolded child.



supplement

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God Listens to Me

The Nature of God

Lesson 5



Bold Prayers

The children will learn that God listens to us when we pray.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."
Joshua 4:24

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- 1 piece of white construction paper
- a bag or a hat

Preparation

1. Cut out 5 yellow and 5 white circles, about 3" in diameter. These will be suns and moons.
2. Place them inside the bag.

Instructions

1. *Our Bible story today is about how God answered a prayer of Joshua's. Joshua prayed that the sun and moon would stand still so that the day would be longer, and God answered his prayer.*
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3. *Show the children the bag. Here is a bag of suns and moons. If you pick a sun, I want you to tell us something that you can pray for in the morning. If you pick a moon, tell us something you can pray for at night. Do you think God will hear you in the morning? Is he still asleep? No, God doesn't sleep! Do you think he will listen to you at night? Is he too tired or too busy? No!*

He's never too tired or busy, he always hears us. He is our father in heaven and he wants us to ask him for help. That is how we talk to God isn't it? By praying and talking to him any time we want to.

4. Have the children take turns picking a sun or moon from the bag and telling the group what they would pray for.
5. After every child has had a turn, pray with them about all of the things that they talked about.

Scripture Memory Activity

Have each child pick from the bag again. If they choose a sun, have them recite the memory verse. If they pick a moon, let them choose someone else to recite the verse for them.

Conclusion

Ask the children, *who can you talk to about what we learned in class today? Can you tell your friends about how God always hears us when we pray? Ask your friends if they want to come to Bible class to hear about exciting things God does, like make the sun stay in the sky all night!*

Encourage them to pray during the week, that God will be waiting to hear them.

Teacher Tips

- If you have a small group or time allows, have the children pray for the things they talked about.
- Encourage the children about their prayers during the activity.
- Share with the children an answered prayer from your life. Choose something that would be easy for them to understand. Share it with a thankful heart!
- Write the memory verse on each sun and moon. You may want to make extras so every child can take one home to remind them to pray.



“The hand of the Lord is powerful.”

Joshua 4:24

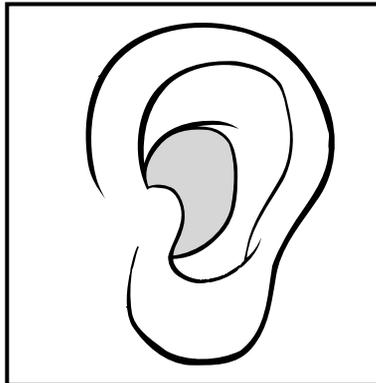
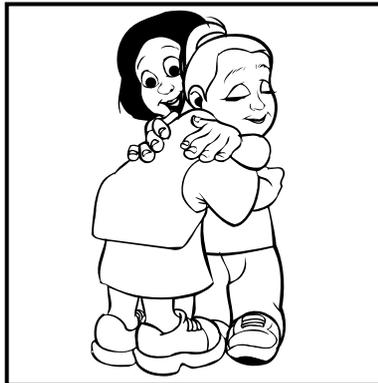
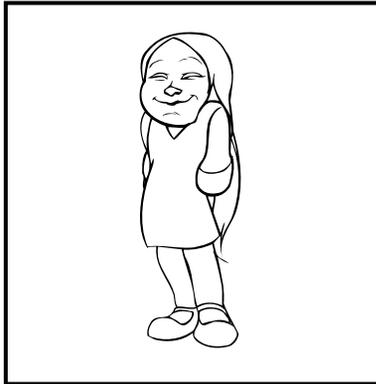
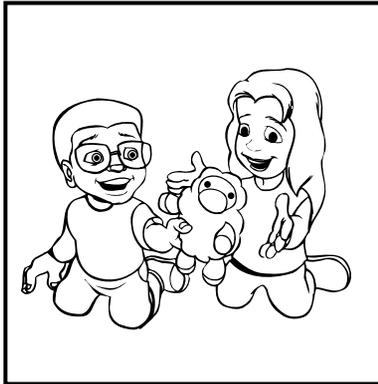
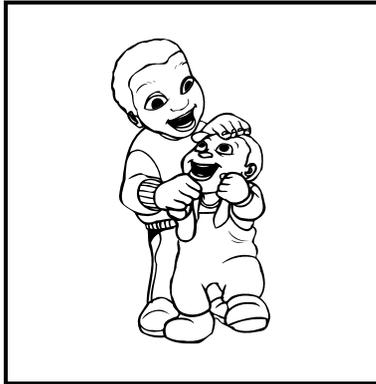
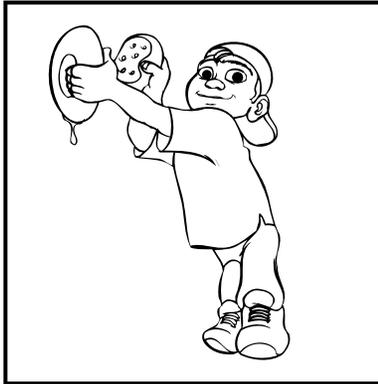


Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

REPENTANCE

Page

A



prayer pictures

I can pray day or night.

memory verse strip

"The hand of the LORD is powerful"
Joshua 4:24

title strip