

Adventures with GOD!

INTRODUCTION: GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE (C.1. FALL)

LESSONS FOR CHILDREN AGES 9-11

GOAL FOR THE TRIMESTER: Help children foster a relationship with God. Learn from the patience and care of God, even when the chosen people were not following in God's ways. Know the faithfulness of God in the lives of imperfect people. Decide to follow the perfect ways of God.

MESSAGE FOR THE TEACHER:

As you enter into God's word keep in mind the focus is first about fostering a relationship with God. This is why every session begins and ends with a special time of prayer. We prayerfully enter into the presence of God and we end remembering God is with us and goes with us.

There are moments in life when we choose the way that is not in God's will for our lives. A moment like this in the Bible is when the people of Israel chose a human king as their ultimate authority.

Between the ages of 9 and 11 there are many changes in lives of children and in their socialization. During these years children are becoming less egotistical and they begin to focus more on the group. As they continue to grow they will give more and more importance to what their peers say and think.

For that reason, the level of interest in the class will be determined by a group of children and not by individuals. If the story is boring for one child, it will be boring for the whole group. If the activity is interesting for one child it will be interesting for all of them, or at least for a group of them

The teacher that understands this mentality can encourage the whole class. Children this age want to be part of a group. It is a real need that they have.

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A wise teacher will teach remembering the needs of the children and creating an environment of healthy relationships and friendships. Below you will find some ideas of things that you can do to help them in this area of their lives.

1. Give the class a special identity. For example, maybe the children will choose a name like “The children of the king” or “The company of lights.” It will be a name that will identify them as a group. All of the members of the class will have this name and it will help them to feel a part of a group.
2. When planning activities for the class, plan things that can be done in a big group or in small groups. That way you can include those children that many times don’t fit into a particular group.
3. Use games, activities and competitions that are done in team (memorizing verses, attendance, remembering details of the Bible story, etc).
4. During the week, if possible, it would be good to visit students, share a snack with them, play soccer, make cookies in a group, etc. Then they will get to know each other better and learn to relate to one another as friends. Also, then new students in the class will have a way to get to know some of their classmates.
5. If it’s economically possible, make special shirts for the members of the class. You can buy relatively cheap t-shirts and decorate them, with the class’s name.

Note: The children in the class need individual attention, but at this age the teacher should keep in mind the group mentality.