

Adventures with GOD!

INTRODUCTION: PEOPLE OF GOD (C.1.Winter)

LESSONS FOR CHILDREN AGES 9-11

GOALS FOR THE TRIMESTER:

Help children foster a relationship with God. Learn that Jesus' coming was part of God's plan from the beginning. Understand that God's love is eternal and doesn't change. God showed us love in a visible way in sending us his son.

MESSAGE TO THE TEACHER:

The Bible is a fascinating book. Unfortunately today the Bible is taught to be two different books: Old Testament as an interesting book of stories about how God used to act in the past and the New Testament as the more important book that teaches how to live a Christians. Sometimes we see the Old Testament as God's book for the Jews and the New Testament as God's book for Christians.

But this is a completely wrong way of understanding the Bible. Jesus always said that he came into the world not to take away from the law that was given in the Old Testament. He always indicated that what was important were the Scriptures (which in his time were the Pentateuch life and the books of the Prophets). Jesus saw his life as a fulfillment of the Old Testament. When he says we no longer live under the law, he's not saying that the law isn't valid. He's teaching us that our obedience to the law doesn't have to be something difficult, because Jesus has taken the weight of the law through his loving and generous act of dying on the cross.

In these lessons we will see how the Old Testament and New Testament are tied together. The children will learn that the words of the Old Testament were fulfilled in the New Testament. The truth of God's love begins in the Old Testament and continues in the New Testament.

Pray that you students will draw closer to God as they explore the Bible as one book, the book that communicates God's love to us.

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ACTIVITY FOR THE TRIMESTER

Hidden picture

To reinforce the concepts of prophecy and its fulfillment, you can use the attached puzzle or hidden picture to decorate your classroom. Each week you will take two pieces off of the hidden picture (the verse for that day), revealing two more parts of the picture. When you take the pieces off, you can put the words of the Bible verses of prophecy (using tape) on the wall on one side of the hidden picture and the Bible verses of fulfillment on the wall on the other side of the hidden picture.

Color the illustrations of the picture to make them more interesting. In order to be able to reuse the hidden picture, it's recommended that you laminate the 12 parts (or use contact paper to cover them). In the left-hand corner you will find a number. You must hang the squares in the order that you see in Illustration 1. Illustration 2 shows how to cover the picture squares with the Bible verses. The verses for week 1 of the trimester will be hung (with tape) in the place where you see "week 1" in the illustration 2, etc.

When it's time to take off the pieces each week, the children should find the Bible verses that pertain to what they have studied that day. After repeating the verses several times, they can take them off and hang them on the respective sides of the hidden picture. Make sure you have hung the whole picture and covered it with all of the respective Bible verses (so they don't see the picture ahead of time).

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HIDDEN PICTURE

Illustration 1

To put together the picture you should begin by hanging the squares on the wall in the order shown below, the 12 illustrations in Appendix 1, face up (so that you can see the whole picture put together). The number corresponds to the number on the bottom left-hand corner of each of the 12 sheets with the illustrations. You might need to trim the squares a bit to make the illustration line up just right.

Illustration #12	Illustration #11	Illustration #10
Illustration #9	Illustration #8	Illustration #7
Illustration #6	Illustration #5	Illustration #4
Illustration #3	Illustration #2	Illustration #1

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HIDDEN PICTURE

Illustration 2

Cut out the pages with the Bible verses (Appendix 2) along the dotted line (cutting them in half) and hanging the Bible verses (so that the words of the verse are not showing) in the order you see in the following illustration. Each week you will remove 2 Bible verses and little by little uncover the hidden picture. The number of the week is found in each verse. You can write the number on the back side to know which squares to remove each week.

Verse Lesson 11	Verse Lesson 12	Verse Lesson 1
Verse Lesson 8	Verse Lesson 10	Verse Lesson 11
Verse Lesson 10	Verse Lesson 3	Verse Lesson 12
Verse Lesson 7	Verse Lesson 9	Verse Lesson 2
Verse Lesson 3	Verse Lesson 8	Verse Lesson 5
Verse Lesson 9	Verse Lesson 2	Verse Lesson 4
Verse Lesson 6	Verse Lesson 5	Verse Lesson 7
Verse Lesson 1	Verse Lesson 4	Verse Lesson 6