

Adventures with GOD!

GOD FORGIVES (C.2.WINTER.11)

Biblical Reference	2 Chronicles 33:1-6, 33:9, 33:10-16
Key Verse	2 Chronicles 33:13
Key Concept	Even if a bad king leads His people to sin, God hears prayers of repentance.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining God's forgiveness. 2. Explain how God can get our attention as this teaching. 3. Say the key memory verse.

Life Application

God reminded the people of Israel not to obey other gods but Him. However, King Manasseh surrendered to false gods and practices. So God decided to strongly discipline for disobedience Manasseh giving opportunity to repent and acknowledge him as their God. In this week children will write in their take-home sheet, ways to practice forgiveness and pray for those they need to forgive as God forgives.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Review	See instructions	5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, illustration	15-20 minutes
Craft	Heart illustration, craft supplies	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Review: Invite children to share the good choices they made this week. If they have brought their sheets, they may place them in their folders after the discussion. Briefly review the previous class. Reminding them of the good choices Joash made with the help of God and his good friend the Priest Jehoiada, and the bad choices he made when he listened to those who did not follow God.

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the key verse Bible passage for the day two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the verse?

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Bible Exploration: Have children open to 2 Chronicles 33:1-16. Read 2 Chronicles 33:1-6, 9

Discuss: Children may want to look at or color the illustration (page 6) while discussing the story.

1. What are your 1st thoughts?
2. Is there anything you find confusing?
3. What is Manasseh like? Why do you think he reconstructed the evil things his father had destroyed?
4. What is it that makes us do the wrong thing that may even hurt others?

Read: 2 Chronicles 33:10-16

Discuss:

1. Do you have questions for God about this passage?
2. How does God try and help the people?
3. What does he allow to happen to Manasseh and the people?
4. We often ask for forgiveness but repentance means really changing – doing the opposite of the wrong we were doing. Do you think Manasseh repented? Why?
5. What does this story tell you about God?

Craft: Make copies of the heart illustration. Give the children a piece of red construction paper to trace her heart. When done, children can decorate the heart any way they want, but in the center of the heart write The Lord Spoke (2 Chronicles 33:10).

Provide glue, colored paper, markers, pencils or any other material you have on hand. When the heart is finished, help them to punch two holes in the sides of the top to attach a piece of yarn to make a necklace or sign.

As you work on this, remind them that many things in our lives we would avoid if indeed we listened to God and loved God with our hearts, just as God loves us. At first Manasseh did not listen to God. But later he had a change of heart, loved God and followed God.

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Conclusions: In conclusion, emphasize the duty we have to obey the voice of God and keep His commandments without God having to discipline harshly. Remind them also that God's forgiveness is complete, total in our lives. Never reminding us of our sin.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story)

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead)

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week)

W: Worship: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

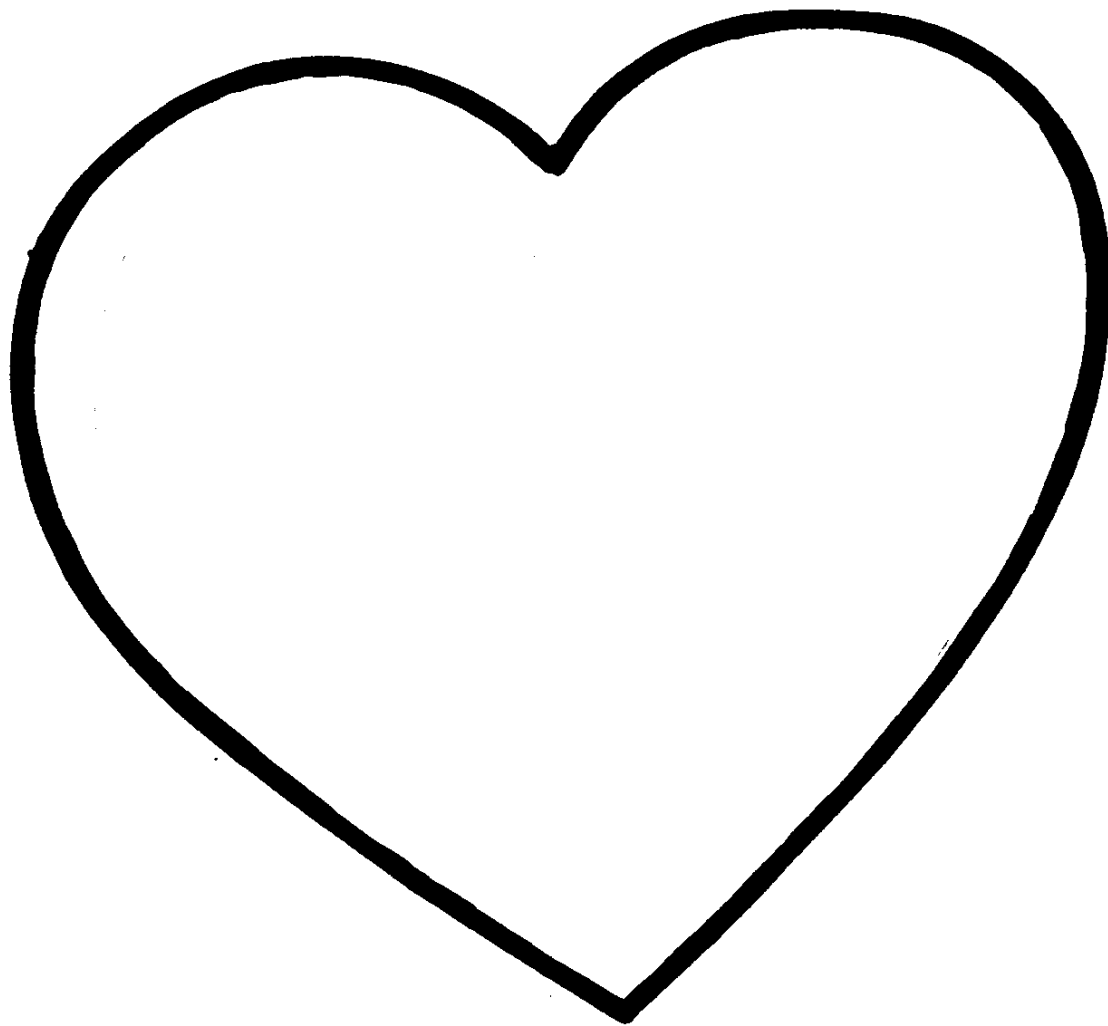
Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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CRAFT

HEART: KEEPING THE LAWS OF THE LORD

Materials: construction paper, scissors, crayons, glue, hole punch, yarn



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ILLUSTRATION

LEADING THE PRISONERS TO SYRIA



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WORKSHEET

SEEK GOD AND ASK FORGIVENESS FOR YOUR SINS

This week, write your own concept of "forgiveness" and then list the times when you had to forgive or be forgiven. Remember that God is always ready to forgive our sins. Also you must forgive those who offend you. Read your Bible, pray and remember:

Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. (Deuteronomy 11:16)

DAY	ACTIVITY 1	ACTIVITY 2	ACTIVITY 3	ACTIVITY 4
Sunday				
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				