

Adventures with GOD!

THE SINS OF REHOBOAM AND JEROBOAM (C.2.WINTER.4)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 12:25-33, 13:33-34, 14:21-24
Key Verse	Exodus 20:2, 3
Key Concept	The Lord has first place in my life because He is my God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how to turn God's priorities into ours. 2. Write a thought of gratitude for God's presence in our lives. 3. Express through demonstration with others – how to praise God.

Life Application

God has been, is and will always be the same. God expects us to praise him as the Lord of Lords and King of Kings. Throughout the passages teach us that God comes first in our lives, but as we humans we often put other things before God. This happened with the kings of Israel – they forgot God and gave priority to their own desires and interests, so the people suffered from misdirection. Children will learn that God is above all things and that we must give God a place in our lives.

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	Bibles	15 minutes
Activity	Worksheets, Crayons	10 minutes
Activity	Paper, pencils	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.

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 1 Kings 16:29-33 two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this Psalm? 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 passage?

Bible Exploration: Have children open their Bibles to 1 Kings 12:14-24. Briefly review last week. Ask if they remember the name of the king who led Israel to sin (Jeroboam). Jeroboam is removed to correct actions made in the reign of Solomon, while King Rehoboam began a reform that later led disaster. If possible, have children write the sins of Jeroboam and Rehoboam.

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Discuss:

1. What are your 1st thoughts?
2. Is there anything you find confusing?

God sends messages to Jeroboam to change his ways but Jeroboam continued to sin before God. Instead, Judah and Benjamin, proving to be more faithful to God, remained united.

Reflect:

1. What do you think should have been the attitude of the kings?
2. What do you think they needed to acknowledge God as their god?

Listen to their comments. Explain the term "humility." Humility means "be meek" This is what God expects from us - a humble servant that repents and acknowledges His greatness and power.

Activity: Make a copy of the activity sheet 1 & 2 for each child. Ask children to draw faces and write a thought to show humility (recognizing God's greatness).

Activity: Give a child a piece of paper and have them write a list of priorities. Once they have listed, explain that these activities can absorb all our time. Explain how God can become less of a presence in our lives if we don't pay close attention. Discuss with children opportunities to seek God in our daily lives especially when we are busy. Also talk about ways we can talk to God through prayer and reading the Word. Encourage them to read the bible on a daily basis.

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).

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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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Worksheet – Humble thoughts

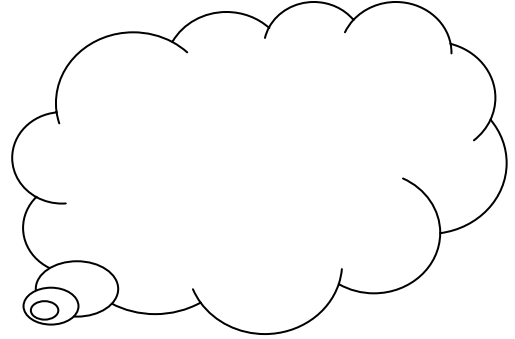
Write a thought that you consider is humble before God. Remember that when you write, you must not only write but really feel that is the case and put it into practice in your life.



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Worksheet – Humble thoughts 2

Write a thought that you consider is humble before God. Remember that when you write, you must not only write but really feel that is the case and put it into practice in your life.



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Worksheet

WE LOVE AND RESPECT GOD'S LAWS

Every night during the week, take time to reflect on the day's events. Write about the different things (people, experience) that influenced you and how you decided to react to them.

Remember:

"They refused to obey his rules. They broke the covenant he had made with them. They didn't pay any attention to the warnings he had given them. They worshiped worthless statues of gods. Then they themselves became worthless. They followed the example of the nations that were around them. They did it even though the LORD had ordered them not to. He had said, "Do not do as they do." They did the very things the LORD had told them not to do." (2 Kings 17:15)

Day	Influences	Reactions
Sunday		
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		