

Adventures with GOD!

AHAB, A BAD KING FOR ISRAEL (C.2.WINTER.5)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 16:29-33, 21:1-16, 20-29
Key Verse	2 Kings 17:15
Key Concept	God expects me to keep the laws and commandments that God has given us.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the role of a prophet in the community. 2. Pray asking forgiveness for their sins. 3. Draw a picture of some ways to show God our love and obedience.

Life Application

One of the goals for this session is that the children learn how to have absolute appreciation for God's power and obey his commandments, which leads us to victory. We know that disobedience will always have serious consequences, so it is important to talk about the ways that we should love and respect God's commandments as a way of showing God our love and commitment. During the week have children write on their calendars how God's presence and power have been evident through daily demonstrations of protection or provision and how they have responded to these experiences.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Review/Introduction	See instructions	10 minutes
Bible exploration	Bible	15 minutes
Drama	Bible story	10 minutes
Activity	Paper, markers, paints	10 minutes
Craft	Bible Bookmark	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

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?

Review: When the children are sitting down choose two children to share in front of the class what they have written on their calendars and tell a little bit about their experience in the past week, too. Then ask everyone to put their sheets in their respective folders. Then, we suggest a brief review of what they learned last week, especially for the children who for any reason were not able to be present. This will help catch them up on some details of the story.

Introduction: Have newspaper clippings or magazine figures about sad events that have occurred in your country or outside it. Place them on the board and ask the following questions: What is happening in our environment or in our country? What do you think has caused this problem? What name can we give to this? What does the word "evil" mean? If someone said: Could someone define the word "evil" how would you answer? Can you give some examples? In any case, if they are unable to define the word evil, explain this saying

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means "wrongdoing, evil." Explain with examples so that they can understand. The story today is about a king who did evil in God's eyes. He worshiped other idols and forgot about God.

Bible Exploration: Before you begin, make a brief review of the main points of the last class noting that when the people sinned it made God sad and angry, but God in his love gave the people the opportunity to turn from their evil and disobedient ways and repent. In today's class we will study about Ahab, an evil king. Ask them to open their Bibles to 1 Kings 16:29-33. They will also read 1 Kings 21:1-16, 20-29. (This is a way to remind them that you are not making up the story but that the story is written in the Scriptures).

Some salient facts of the life of King Ahab were:

- He worshipped Baal, the god of the Sidonians.
- He built a temple and an altar for Baal in Samaria.
- He was the king who made an Asherah pole and provoked God's anger.
- He abused his power by using the law to obtain a foreign land. Ahab's and Jezebel's greed led them to murder God's prophets. And he murdered a man for his property.

Life of King Ahab is the illustration of a man who did not appreciate or respect God. God was patient but persistent and showed the king of Israel that the God of heaven rules the affairs of men. God used Elijah (1 Kings 18 and 21) to speak to Ahab and to show him God's power and God's commandments. He was eventually killed in battle even though he tried to be tricky and disguise himself (1 Kings 22)

All the times the prophets tried to call him back to God, to remind him of the Lord's commandments and love, and he ignored it.

Ask them questions about the story. What evil things did the king do? Why was God angry? What did King Ahab do when God offered him a second chance? What was the role of the prophet, Elijah?

What should our response be when we don't follow God?

Spend time praying together and ask them if there is anything specific they want to ask forgiveness for today.

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Drama: In teams have them act out a part of the Bible story today. Have them choose just one of the stories about King Ahab. Choose from the following:

1 Kings 16:29-33

1 Kings 21:1-16

1 Kings 21:20-29

Talk about how the story would have looked different if Ahab would have been following God's commandments.

Activity: Have a big piece of blank paper available. Explain that in the same teams they will draw a picture of the ways that we can show we love God and follow God's ways. Have the write on their picture:

"God, we love you and remember to keep your commandments"

Verse: The instructions to prepare a Bible bookmark are attached. Everyone should make their own bookmark and write today's verse on it. As the children decorate the bookmark they should be memorizing the verse. Finally, ask everyone to show their work and say the memory verse.

Conclusions: Give each child their weekly calendar to take home and remind them do the daily work required. You could offer a prize for the children who have completed their calendars. Remind them to bring them the next time your class meets.

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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

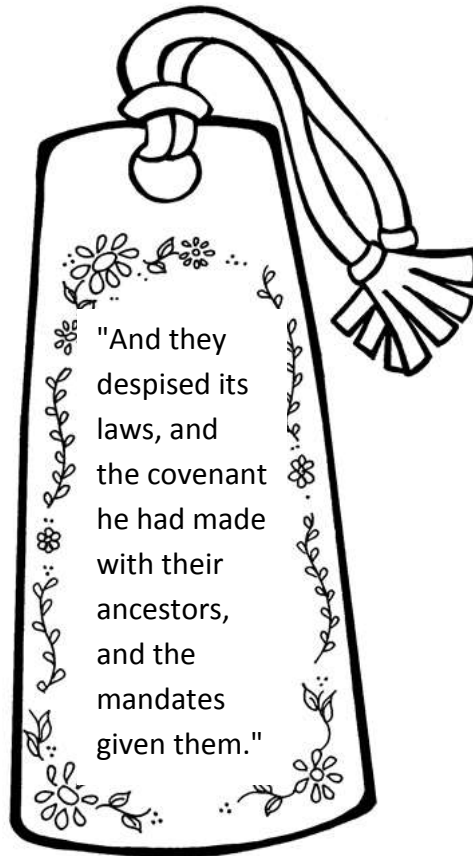
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Verse - Bookmark

Materials: construction paper, scissors, glue, crayons, markers

Preparation:

1. Give the children materials to make a book mark. Have different colored paper available, as well as markers, stickers, yarn/ribbon, etc.
2. Have the verse written out somewhere and as they are working on the craft remind them to be practicing the verse.



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Illustration

Ahab and Jezebel



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Worksheet

Schedule: 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:

"And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and have testimonies which he prescribed to them." (2 Kings 17:15)

Day	Influences	Reactions
Sunday		
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		