

# Adventures with GOD!

## ASA, GOOD KING OF ISRAEL (C.2.WINTER.7)

Biblical Reference	2 Chronicles 14, 15:1-13
Key Verse	Isaiah 55:6-7
Key Concept	I love and obey the one and only true God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify five positive purposes of the reign of Asa.</li> <li>2. Explain how we can seek God.</li> <li>3. Make a written commitment to seek the Lord with purpose during the week.</li> </ol>

### Life Application

King Asa had in mind the purpose of seeking God with all his heart and God gave him peace with his neighbors. When Azariah the prophet told King Asa that God was with him and his people, he removed all of the idols and repaired the altar of the Lord. The people decided to turn to the Lord their God, and God was there to help. Today, we can seek God, turning away from idols and other things that take away our attention. This is what God wants. Today the kids will have a chance to propose their ideas for how they want to serve God with purpose.

### 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	5 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, see instructions	15 minutes
Game	Worksheet	10 minutes
Dialogue	See instructions	10 minutes
Conclusions	Schedule	5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

# Adventures with GOD!

## 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. 1 Chronicles 14:1-6 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 passage?

**Review:** Allow a few moments for a few of the children to share their experiences of the previous week in their decisions to seek God. Remember these exercises will serve them throughout their lives as they have to make decisions about whether or not to follow God.

**Introduction:** Have the children open their Bibles to 2 Chronicles 14 and 15. Today they will learn about a king whose deeds were good and right in the sight of God (2 Chronicles 14:2). Point out how the people were happy to have a good king to guide them to do good things.

**Bible Exploration:** Divide them in two groups. Have one group read together 2 Chronicles 14, while the other group reads chapter 15. Each group should record the positive and negative things King Asa did, to discover what type of king he was. They will discover that what Asa did was good and right in the sight of God.

# Adventures with GOD!

(The following table points out the positive things he did that are recorded in each chapter.)  
Have each group share what Asa did that made him a good king in God's eyes.

POSITIVES	NEGATIVES
<b>Chapter 14</b>	
He removed the foreign altars and false gods. (v. 3)	
He smashed the sacred stones. (v. 3)	
Judah ordered the people to follow the Lord and to fulfill the law and the commandments (v. 4)	
Removed the heathen shrines and altars (v. 5)	
There was peace during his reign (v. 5)	
He sought God (v. 7)	
Invoked the Lord for help in the battle and won. (v. 8-12)	
<b>Chapter 15</b>	
Repaired the altar of the Lord (v. 8)	
He gathered all Judah and together they made sacrifices to the Lord (v. 9-11)	
They pledged to seek the Lord wholeheartedly (v. 12)	
Remained faithful (v. 17)	
Put gold & silver in the temple (v. 18)	

# Adventures with GOD!

**Game:** Before you start to memorize, have them complete the verse with the missing words. In this game we will see the positive actions of King Asa. For this, make enough copies of the game. Give a limited time to work. You can also find craft materials and have them make a sign to take home that has the verse on it.

**Dialogue:** King Asa lived with the purpose of seeking God with all his heart and God gave him peace with its neighbors. When Azariah the prophet told King Asa that God was with him and his people, Asa sought to get rid of the sin in the lives of the people, eliminating the idols and Asherah poles. The people then decided to turn to the Lord their God, who was there to help them. Today, God is there waiting for us to seek him. What motivates your thoughts and actions? Who do you follow? What direction are you going? Towards good or bad? What does God want you to do? Ask them to consider the following situations and then to give their opinions.

Location: Marisa wants to learn to play guitar to join the worship team at her church. Last week we had a class but feels like she can't play very well. What should she do?

- Continue taking classes.
- Rehearse every day.
- Don't give up.

Situation: The kids in my class are always making fun of a girl named Tamala. Tamala is nice and is kind to me. What should I do when the other kids start making fun of her?

- Tell them it's not nice to treat people like that
- Talk to the teacher
- Tell Tamala that you are sorry and that you think she is nice.

Ask the following reflection question: What can you do to seek and serve God in your life? (Allow them share their ideas and write them on the board). They may give you ideas like:

- Pray every morning before going to school.
- Read the Bible with my family.
- Pray for a country and a missionary family working there.
- Bake cookies and take them to a shelter or a nursing home.
- Take the initiative to help my parents in the house.
- Write a love note to a different person every day this week.
- Invite someone to Sunday school and pray for this person

After talking a bit about these ideas, give them the schedule for the week.

# Adventures with GOD!

**Conclusions:** Take a few moments to submit your desires for the coming week before the Lord to seek and ask for God's direction. Be attentive to the needs of children. Spend time praying with them for their needs.

**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

# Adventures with GOD!

## Game

### Working on game - Isaiah 55:6, 7

LORD, LATE, ROAD, READY, EVIL, TENDER, FORGIVE, ALWAYS

Turn to the \_\_\_\_ before it's too \_\_\_\_\_. Call out to him while he's still \_\_\_\_\_ to help you.

Let the one who is \_\_\_\_\_ stop doing evil things. And let him quit thinking \_\_\_\_\_ thoughts.

Let him turn to the \_\_\_\_\_. The Lord will show him his \_\_\_\_\_ love. Let him turn to our God.

He is \_\_\_\_\_ ready to forgive.

# Adventures with GOD!

## Working on game - Answers

LORD, LATE, ROAD, READY, EVIL, TENDER, FORGIVE, ALWAYS

Turn to the **Lord** before it's too **late**. Call out to him while he's still **ready** to help you.

Let the one who is **evil** stop doing evil things. And let him quit thinking **evil** thoughts.

Let him turn to the **Lord**. The Lord will show him his **tender** love. Let him turn to our God.

He is **always** ready to forgive.

Isaiah 55:6, 7