

Adventures with GOD!

PUBLIC SERVANTS ARE A GIFT FROM GOD (A.3.WINTER.8)

Biblical Reference	2 Chronicles 22: 10-12, Romans 13: 1-6
Key Verse	Romans 13: 4
Key Concept	Public Servants are a gift from God
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss who are known as public servants. 2. Discuss the ways the help. 3. Give thanks for public servants.

Life Application

God has given us some very important people who help us in our neighborhood, school and community: police, firefighters, mail carriers, janitors and so on. It is important for children to respect and pray for these people, because they are friends and helpers. Encourage children to thank one of these people if they encounter them this week.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction	Illustrations	5 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, Illustrations	10 minutes
Activity	Costumes	10 minutes
Craft	Illustrations, Crafts	15 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 at CovChurch.org/adventures-with-god.

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 it 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 2 Chronicles 22:10-12 and Romans 13:1-6 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 story?

Introduction: Show a variety of pictures of public servants (police officers, firefighters, janitors, etc.). Be sure to display sensitivity by selecting pictures that represent a diverse range of ethnicities and gender. As you go through the pictures, engage with children by asking them to describe what each public servant does, and why children are thankful for them.

Bible Exploration: Today's story talks about Joash and how he was helped in a time of need when he was seven-years-old. When finished telling this important story, talk about the people in our communities and churches who help and protect us.

Activity: Children can dress up as police officers, firefighters, mail persons, bus drivers, janitors, etc. Show pictures of the places where each one of these people work. Children can talk about

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the relatives and friends they know that do this for a living. Do not forget to mention that "public servants" deserve our respect, because they are a gift from God, too.

Craft: Children can decorate the public servants found on pages 5-7 using construction paper, crayons, markers, etc. Once decorated, children can cut and glue the illustration on a cardboard roll. If there is extra time, there are additional illustrations found on pages 8-9 for children to decorate.

Snack: Encourage children, through prayer, to thank God for the work performed by public servants who sacrifice to keep us safe. Provide a snack, and encourage children to collect the garbage, as a way to help the church serve the community.

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. Give children 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? 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. The candle 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.

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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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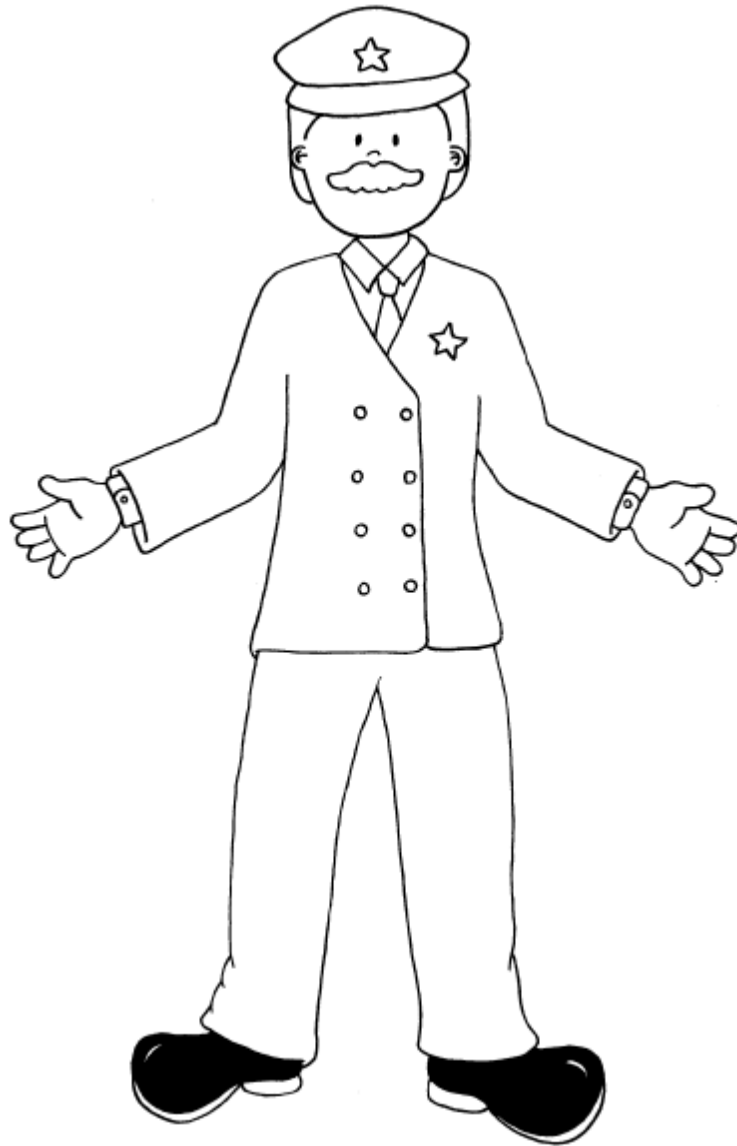
Craft

Mailman



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Police Officer



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Fireman



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Illustration

King Joash



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ILLUSTRATION

King Joash

