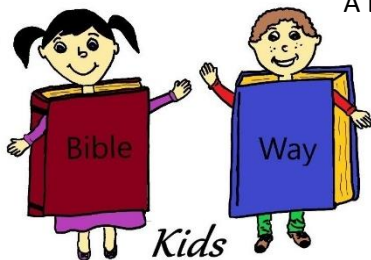
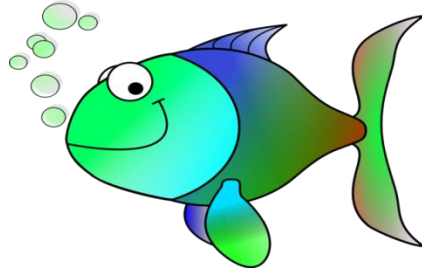


Treasures of the Deep



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Treasures of the Deep

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Treasures of the Deep

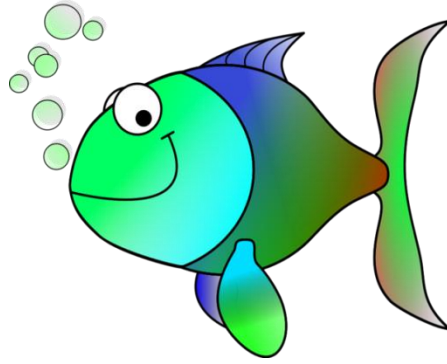
This series is all about water. Each story has something to do with water or someone who was in the water!!

Most of the stories are familiar to the children. Our younger children especially liked this series.

The dress for the series is clothing that has a fish pattern on it. Some of the teachers found scrubs with fish, others made something that had fish on them.

The room décor is underwater. We went to a scuba diving shop in town and the owner graciously loaned us a scuba diver that we hung from the ceiling and we were all under the water with him. Fish all over the walls and ceiling.

Have fun and don't get too wet!!



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson One

God Created the Waters of the Deep

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Fish pencils-one per child

Pre-session: Dry erase board, marker

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, marker

Craft: Popcorn, blue construction paper, black crayons, fish stickers

Lesson: Balloons-one per child

Extended Time Game: Blue balloons, two brooms

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson One

God Created the Waters of the Deep

Scripture Text: Genesis 1

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Welcome the children to Children's Church being sure to recognize those that are new. Give each child a new fish pencil to take home to remind them of the new series we are beginning today.



Pre-session :(10 min) On a dry erase board let the children list all the things that we use water for. Help them along if they get stuck. Talk to them about where water comes from.



Prayer: (10 min.) Open the session with prayer, making sure you thank God for water. Our new series is about “Treasures of the Deep”. We want to help our children find the true treasure that we are searching for-Jesus.



Offering: (5 min.) Let the children put their offering in the offering pan of water. Let each child have a turn putting a coin in. Have change available for those that bring dollar bills.



Songs :(10 minutes) Running Over, It's bubbling, One Way to God



Memory Verse: (15 minutes) Write the memory verse on a poster board or dry erase board. Read the verse from the Bible with the children and then read it from the board. Cover up one word or phrase and read the verse again. Continue covering phrases and reading the verse the verse is covered. At this point the children will be quoting the verse from memory.



Craft: (15 minutes) Give each child a cup of popcorn, blue construction paper, black crayons, and fish stickers. Let the children glue the popcorn onto the sky in cloud forms. Use the black crayon to draw waves and then put the fish in the water.



Lesson: (15 minutes) Give each child a balloon. “When I say go, I want everyone to blow up their balloon and then hold it closed when it is full”, (some children will need help with this, especially the younger children) After the children all have blown up balloons, ask them what is inside the balloon that makes it big. Explain that it is air that they blew into the balloons that made them expand.

Let the children let the air out of the balloons and let them go. Let everyone recapture their balloons and put them under their legs to play with later.

What would happen if there was no air? What if the whole world was covered by water? We wouldn’t be able to live, would we. That is how the world used to be. There was no sky anywhere and no air. Water was everywhere.

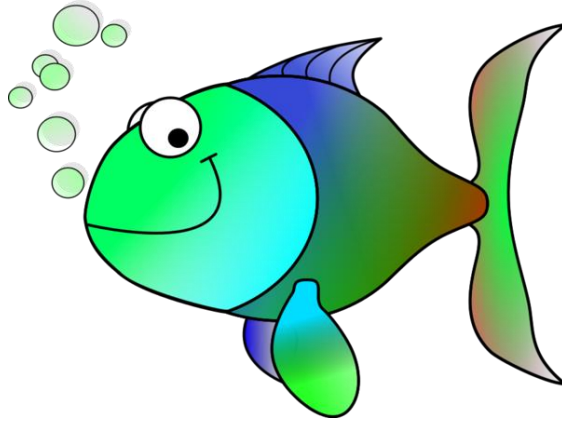
Remember our bible stories about the days of creation? Let’s try to remember what God created on day two. On the second day of creation God did something very amazing. Can you remember? God divided the water into parts so that there could be water and air. After this there was sky and there were clouds. The wind could blow through the sky and move the clouds around and blow on the water and make big waves. Raindrops could fall out of the sky onto the water. Then later on God created creatures to live in the water.

Without the air that God made by dividing the waters we wouldn't be able to take deep breaths. Can everyone take one with me? That feels good doesn't it?

God knew what his creation was going to need to live, didn't he? By dividing the waters he created an atmosphere that we could live in. Our God is so awesome, He knows everything and plans ahead for us. Let's thank Him for taking care of us and loving us. (Lead the children in worship and prayer)



Extended Time Game: (10 minutes) Balloon relay game: Divide the group into two teams and give each team a blue balloon and a broom. The children place their balloon in front of them and use the broom to move the balloon to the other end of the room and back. The next child in line moves up and play continues. The first team to complete the relay wins.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Two

Moses in the Bulrushes

Lesson at a glance

Pre-session: Basket pattern (Resources), black and brown construction paper strips

Offering: Small basket, blue basket

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, tape recorder

Craft: Small disposable cups or bowls filled half full with blue Jell-O, Nutter Butter cookies, frosting, Teddy Grahams, Fruit roll-ups, green gumdrops, pretzel sticks

Lesson: Four robes, Basket used for offering, baby doll

Extended Time Game: 2 baskets, 2 baby dolls

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Two

Moses in the Bulrushes

Scripture Text: Exodus 1, 2:1-10

Memory Verse: Exodus 2:10 And she called his name Moses, because I drew him out of the water



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min) Greet each child with a smile. Make sure guests are welcomed.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Use the basket pattern to make copies for each of the children. Cut strips of brown and black construction for the children to “weave” onto their baskets. Let them glue the strips down as they weave them under and over each other.



Prayer: (10 min) Thank God today for his care and love for us. . He always takes care of us even when we don’t realize it. God took care of baby Moses in our story today so that he could use Moses later in life to deliver his people. Let the children thank God in their own way for the things He has done for them. Make sure the children hear you pray, you are their example.



Offering :(5 min.) Let the children put their offering in a small basket that would be large enough for a little baby. Put a blue baby blanket in the basket. You will be using the basket for the story today.



Songs: (5 min,) He’s got the Whole World in His Hands, Jesus Loves the Little Children, Our God is So Great, So Strong, and So Mighty



Memory Verse: (15 min.) Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Use a tape recorder to help the children learn the memory verse. Let each child read the memory verse into the tape recorder and then tape them as a group. Play back each child saying the verse. Repeat the verse together several more times.



Craft: (15 min.) Baby Moses in the bulrushes: Items needed for each child. Cup filled halfway with blue jello, Round sugar cookies, blue frosting, nutter butter cookie, teddy graham, four pretzel sticks, four green gumdrops, small strip of fruit roll-up.

Frost the cookie with the blue frosting and place nutter butter cookie on top, use a bit of frosting to place teddy graham on top of nutter butter cookie. Use the fruit roll up strip to make a blanket for baby Moses. Place the completed cookies in the jello. Make the bulrushes around the baby by placing the gumdrops on the pretzel sticks and then sticking them in the jello. Eat and enjoy



Story: (15 min) (You will need four robes for the characters, the basket from offering and a baby doll)

Our story today has a happy ending, but a very scary beginning. A baby was going to be killed unless something could be done to save its life. Let's see what's going to happen.

(Choose children to be Jochabed-, Moses mother, Miriam- Moses sister, Pharaoh's daughter, and the maidservant

(Let the children that are chosen act out the story as you tell it).

The Israelite children-remember they were God's chosen people had become slaves to Pharaoh of Egypt. He was a very wicked man and he wanted to kill all the Israelite boy babies that were under the age of two. He was afraid they would all grow up and become a mightier people than the Egyptians.

Baby Moses Mother (the child being Jochabed comes forward) didn't know what she was going to do. Moses was getting bigger and bigger and soon the Egyptian soldiers that came to kill the babies would find him. She had been hiding him in her tent everyday but he was getting too big to hide.

One day she had an idea. She called for Moses' sister Miriam. (the child being Miriam comes forward). She told Miriam to take baby Moses down to the river and hide him amongst the bulrushes and to keep a close eye on him. Bulrushes were the tall grasses growing along the sides of the river. Don't let him out of your sight said Jochabed. Miriam loved her little baby brother and promised her mother she would take very good care of Moses. (Miriam picks up the basket and heads to other side of the room and puts the basket down and goes a little ways and sits down)

Baby Moses was very happy amongst the bulrushes. It was very shady and cool and the wind would blow the bulrushes and cause them to sway. Miriam was happy watching the baby play in his basket. They came every day and she took care of him.

One morning everything changed. Miriam had placed a fussy baby Moses in his little basket in the bulrushes. Maybe he was teething or had a tummy ache, she wasn't sure, but he sure was fussy. She was just settling down in her usual spot when she heard the sound of voices coming near. Who was coming, Miriam wondered?

Pharaoh's daughter had come down to the water to take a bath and relax a bit with her maidservants. Just as she was settling down into the water she heard a noise. It sounded like a baby crying. How could that be? She sent her maidservants to find out what the noise was. In a few minutes the maidservant returned with baby Moses in his little basket. Pharaohs' daughter looked inside and fell in love with the baby and wanted to take him home to the palace. She wanted to make the baby her son.

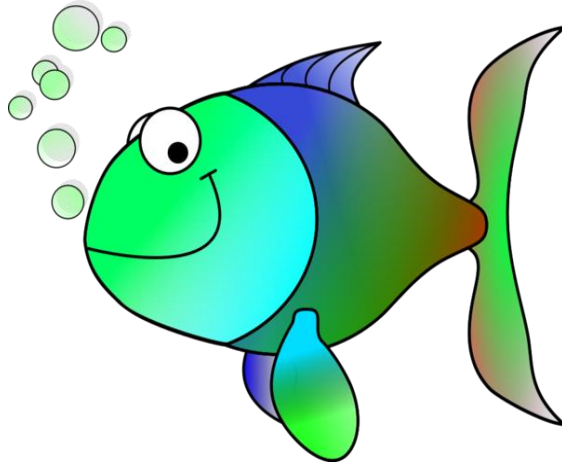
Miriam was watching everything, never taking her eyes off of the baby. She ran to Pharaohs daughter and asked her if she needed a nurse for the baby, she knew exactly where to find one. Pharaoh's daughter said yes she did and Miriam ran as fast as she could to get her mother. Jochabed couldn't believe what was happening.

Baby Moses was going to grow up in the palace and she was going to be able to take care of him as a young child. Not only that, Pharaoh's daughter was going to pay her to take care of him!!

What a story!! That was scary, but God worked it all out didn't he?? Next week we'll hear more about Moses and what happened to him. God had a plan for his life. He has a plan for every one of us. Can anyone tell me the plan of salvation? That's right. Repent, be baptized in Jesus Name and be filled with the Holy Ghost. That's God's plan for everybody. Let's pray together.



Extended Time Game: Divide the group into two teams. Place two baskets with babies at one end and line the children up at the other. Let the children race each other to the other end, grab a baby and come back and give the baby to the next person in line. The next person runs down and puts the baby back in the basket. Play continues until everyone has had a turn. Have a small piece of candy for each of the winners.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Three:

Parting of the Red Sea

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Construction paper letter 'I's and letter 'E's

Pre-session: Large pan of water, small plastic people

Offering: Large pan of water, coins

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, blue balloons

Craft: Homemade play dough (Resources), plastic people, baggies

Lesson: Brown plastic tablecloth, two blue plastic tablecloths, large stick

Extended Time Game: Memory Verse balloon

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Three

Parting of the Red Sea

Scripture Text: Exodus 14

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land...



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Welcome the children with a smile. Give each child a letter E or a letter I to tape onto their back. They will be using these for the story today.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Have a large pan of water available and some plastic people. Let the children try to walk the people through the water and see if they can keep them from getting wet. Is it possible?? We'll see how it really did happen in our story today.



Prayer: (5 min.) Take prayer requests from the children and pray with about their needs. Remember to let them hear you pray for their needs and to ask God to bless the class today.



Offering: (5 min.) Use the same pan of water as pre-session and let the children toss their offering into the water. Give them coins for their bills.



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Write the memory verse in phrases on blue balloons. Make two sets and place them at the end of the room. After practicing the verse with the children several times, divide the children into two teams and place them at the other end of the

room. The children will race to the balloons; grab a balloon and race back to the team, holding onto their balloon. When all the balloons are gone the children will work together to put them in order and tape them onto the wall. The first team to complete is the winner.

For younger children, place all the balloons in the center of the room and let the children run to pick up a balloon and bring it back. The teacher can help them put their balloons in order of the verse and then practice with the children.



Craft: (15 min.) Give the children bags of blue and brown play dough (Resources) and let them make dry ground and use the blue to make the walls of the sea. Use plastic people figures to walk across the red sea. The children can work together as a group or do individually. The play dough can be taken home in baggies at the end of the session.



Lesson: (15 min) (Place a brown plastic table cloth on the floor with two blue tablecloths spread on top of the brown cloth. You will also need a large stick for a rod.)

Each of you are going to help tell the story today. It is an exciting story, one of the most amazing in the Bible.

Listen for a moment and then you will get to help.

Remember how God saved baby Moses? In the story today Moses is going to help the Israelites God's people to escape the Egyptians.

Moses grew up in Pharaoh's house and he began to see how much the Israelites were suffering under the hand of Pharaoh. Moses never forgot that he was an Israelite too.

God used Moses and his brother Aaron to turn Pharaoh's heart so that he would let the Israelites leave his land.

I need all of you that have the letter "I" to line up at the end of this brown tablecloth. This brown tablecloth is going to be the brown dirt that you will walk across. (Choose one child to be Moses and give them the stick for a rod).

All of you who have the letter “E” need to line up behind them.

(The teachers will each hold up the water when ready).

Alright, listen very carefully. The Israelites were headed out of the Egyptian land. God let them by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. At first everything went well. They were so happy to be leaving all that hard work and slave masters behind, they would be a free people.

As they traveled all a sudden they came upon a big body of water. How were they going to get across?? But, they had an even bigger problem than that!!. Pharaoh had changed his mind and decided he wanted the Israelites back and he was coming after them. When the Israelites turned around they saw Pharaoh with all his mighty men and chariots coming behind them. What were they going to do??

Moses prayed to God and asked him to help them. God told Moses to hold out his rod and let the Israelites go across the water. Were they supposed to swim across the water or walk on top of it?? No, God had a better way.

(Let the teachers pick up the blue tablecloths and hold them on each side of the brown tablecloth.)

Those of you that are Israelites walk across on dry land. (Children with “I” walk across the tablecloth) God made a way for them. He parted the water, and the ground was dry instead of wet. All the Israelites crossed on dry land to the other side of the water. But what about the Egyptians?? Here they come.

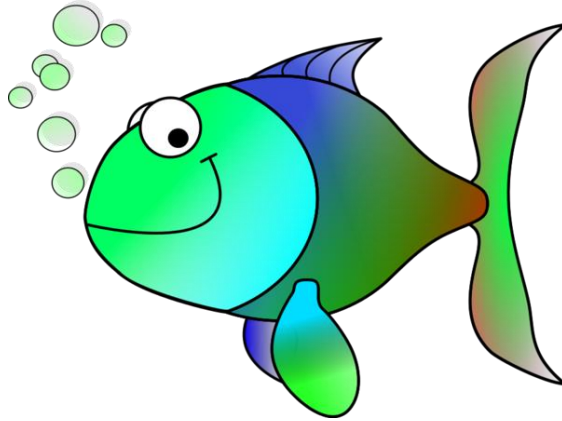
(The children with “E” begin across the water). Just as the Egyptians started across the water Moses put out his rod (Child puts rod out) and the water covered all the Egyptians and their chariots. (Teachers cover the children with the blue tablecloths.). They were all drowned in the Red Sea and were never seen again.

I told you that was a pretty amazing story, didn't I. We know it's a true story because it's in the Bible, and the Bible is always true.

God made a way of salvation for his people, didn't he? Do we have a plan of salvation also? Yes we do, can anyone remember it? That's right, repent, be baptized in Jesus Name and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Let's pray together.



Extended Time Game: (10 min.) Let the children use the memory verse balloons to do the game. Give each child a balloon and let them rub the balloon on their hair or clothes and then stick the balloon on the wall. Let them rearrange the balloons until they have completed the memory verse.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Four

Water from a Rock

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Name Tags

Pre-session: Fish or treasure coloring pages

Offering: Large Rock

Memory Verse: Memory verse written on construction paper rocks

Craft: Tablecloths, smooth rocks, paints, paint shirts

Extended Time Game: Painted rocks from craft, chalk or tape

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Four

Water from a Rock

Scripture Text: Exodus 17

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min) Welcome the children with a smile. For fun today, place a name tags on the chairs or the table today indicating where each child should sit. Mix it up so that the children don't sit in their normal seats.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Choice of coloring pages.



Prayer: (5 min.) Ask the children for prayer requests, specifically asking the children if they have a request for something that they need. Explain to them the difference between a need and a want. Pray with the children for their needs, letting them know that God always takes care of us.



Offering: (5 min.) Let the children place their offering on top of a big rock today.



Songs: (10 min.) God is so Good, God is so Great, so Strong and so Mighty, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus Got Him on My Mind



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Have the memory verse written in phrases on construction paper rocks and taped onto the wall facing out. Go over the memory

verse several times with the children. After they are familiar with the verse, turn the first rock of the verse over on the wall and let them say the verse from memory. Each time they say the verse turn over another rock until all rocks are turned and the children are saying the complete verse by memory. Let each child say the verse by themselves.



Craft: (15 min.) Make painted rocks with paints and smooth rocks. It would be a good idea to use paint shirts for the children and have tablecloths on the tables.



Lesson: (15 min.) (You must be very dramatic when telling this part of the story) Have you ever been thirsty before? You might have been playing outside and you were really hot and you didn't want to go inside for a drink. What should you do? You went over to that big rock that was in the back yard and hit that big rock with a stick and the water that came out tasted so good. Nothing tastes better when you're thirsty than a cold, cold drink of water out of a rock, right?? (By this time the children will probably have interrupted you to tell you water doesn't come out of a rock).

What?? Water doesn't come out of a rock?? It did in our story today. Let me tell you about it.

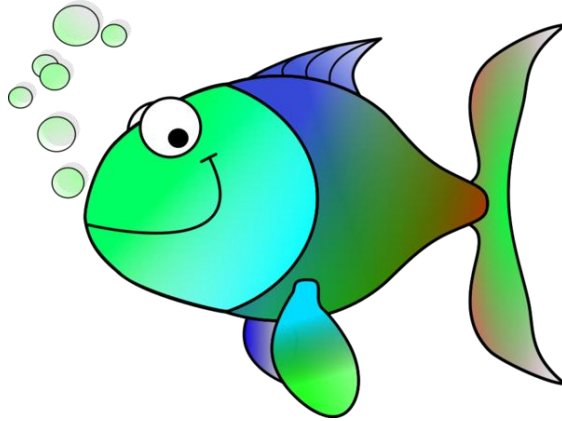
Remember Moses and the Israelites from last week? How God saved them from the Egyptians? Well, now the Israelites were out in the desert going to the land that God had promised to take them to. Deserts are pretty hot places, aren't they? The Israelites were getting very thirsty and there was no water for them to drink. They started whining, and complaining "Where is water to drink, why did we just come out here to die, I want to go back to Egypt," on and on they complained. They had already forgotten how God brought them out and saved them. How sad. Moses wasn't too happy to hear the complaining. He went to God and asked him what he should do. God told him to take the same rod that he had used to strike the Red Sea. He told him to strike a rock in front of the people and water would come out of it. We already know that water doesn't come out of our rocks right? Do you think Moses believed God could do it? Yes, he did. He gathered the Israelites

together and told them what God told him to do. He struck the rock and guess what happened? You're right, water came out of the rock and the people drank from the rock, just like God said would happen.

What did we learn from the story today?? (Give the children time to give their answers) Those are all good things we learned. God takes care of his people and he always supplies our needs. Again, discuss with the children the difference between needs and wants. One thing I know we all need is the Holy Ghost. We need to have the Holy Ghost to go to heaven. We also need to repent, and be baptized in Jesus Name, don't we? Explain the plan of salvation and pray with the children who need the Holy Ghost.



Extended Game Time: (10 min.) Draw a hopscotch board on the ground with tape or chalk. Let the children use the painted rocks that they have made to play the game.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Five

Naaman is Healed

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Band aids with phrases of the memory verse written on them- one set per child

Pre-session- Blank white paper, crayons or markers

Offering-First Aid box

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, dry erase marker, band aids from Welcome, cardstock

Craft: Styrofoam cups, blue and brown crayons, white paper, markers, craft sticks

Lesson: Story Apron (Resources)

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Five

Naaman is Healed

Scripture Text: II Kings 5

Memory Verse: I John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not grievous.



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Welcome each child and give them each a set of band aids that have the memory verse written on them.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Let each child draw a picture of a time when they were sick and let them tell you what happened.



Prayer: (5 min.) God is a mighty healer. Ask the children for prayer requests for those that they know who are sick. Pray with them for each request and let them know that God is able to heal.



Offering: (5 min.) Let the children put their offering in a first aid box today.



Songs: (10 min) Trust and Obey, Father Abraham,



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. (Use only part of the verse for the younger children). Go over the memory verse several times with the children. Give each child a set of band aids that you have prepared before class with the memory verse on them. Let the children peel off the

papers on the band aids and place them in order on a piece of cardstock to make their memory verse.



Craft: (10 min.) Give each child a Styrofoam cup and a blue and brown crayon. Color the cup blue to represent the Jordan River. Make marks on the cup with the brown to represent how dirty the water was. Let the children make happy and sad faces out of white paper and glue them onto a craft stick, one face on each side. Make a small hole in the bottom of the cup and place the craft stick into the hole. The children can place their “Naaman” into the cup and dip him 7 seven times. They can have the sad face facing out for the sixth time and the happy face facing out on the seventh time.



Lesson: (15 min.) (You will be using the “Story Apron” that has been made ahead of time, following directions in Resources)

We are going to pretend today that all you have a terrible sickness. I’m going to make “ouchies” or “ boo-boo”s on you. (Use cotton swabs to daub talcum powder on the children’s arms, reassure them that it will wipe right off)

Now, you look like the man in our story today. (Pull Naaman figure with spots out of apron pocket and stick him on apron) His name was Naaman and he was the commander of the army of Syria. He had won many battles and he was very powerful and famous. You might think he had everything going for him, but he had a very serious problem. See all these white spots on him. Just like you all have. He had leprosy. This was a very serious disease and it made him very sick.

Naaman had many servants. One of them was a little servant girl who worked for his wife. (Pull the little servant girl figure out of the pocket and stick on apron) She said “If my master would go see the prophet Elisha, he would be healed.” This little servant girl knew that Elisha served the one true God and would know what to do to help Naaman.

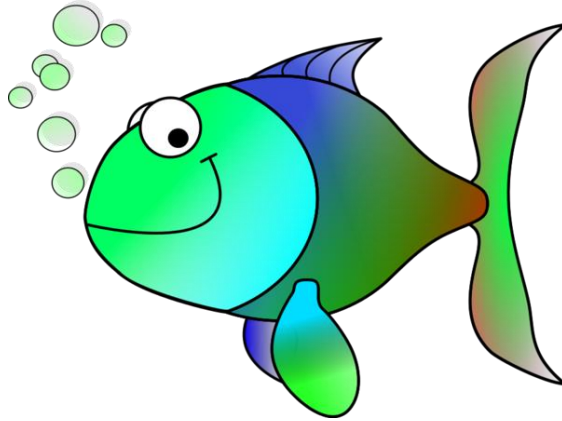
Naaman was getting desperate and he decided to go see if this was true. He got in his chariot with one of his manservants and went to see the prophet Elisha. (Show chariot with Naaman in it). All the way there he kept wondering what great thing

Elisha would ask him to do to get his healing. He was expecting Elisha to ask him for money to get his healing, or ask him to do some great and mighty thing to get his healing. What do you think Elisha told him to do? (Take out Elisha and Naaman with spots and have them talk together) He told Naaman to go dip in the river Jordan 7 times. What? That was the dirtiest river in the land. Naaman couldn't believe it. How could he disgrace himself like that? Everyone would find out and he was a great commander. Just as he was getting ready to leave and go home, his manservant (take out manservant) came to him and said, "If he had asked you to do some great thing you would have done it, why not do what he has said." Naaman gave up. He went to the water and gently stepped into it. (Have the Naaman without spots in the water area of the apron. Dip the Naaman with spots in the water area 6 times and on the seventh time bring out the healed Naaman)

Help me count how many times he dipped. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, he dipped six times and he still had the spots. Would this really work, wondered Naaman? Down he went the seventh time and when he came up out of the water, look what happened. He was healed. Naaman now knew that God was real and had healed him. He was very thankful. Don't you think he was glad he obeyed what the prophet (the man of God) told him? We should always obey our man of God (Pastor) too, shouldn't we? He teaches us the Word of God and the plan of salvation. He prays for us when we are sick. Let's pray together and thank God for his healing touch and that He has given us a man of God to teach us. (Use baby wipes or water to wipe talcum powder off of children)



Extended Game Time: (10 min.) Play a game of Elisha Says. This is played the same as Simon Says, except you use Elisha Says when the children are to do an action. The children are lined up against one wall with the wall at the other end being the end point. One person is Elisha and stands in the middle. Elisha calls out the actions and says Elisha says or just states the action. The children only do the action when Elisha says is spoken. If they do action without Elisha says they have to return to the wall. The first person to the end point is the winner and becomes the next Elisha.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Six

Water into Wine

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Wedding invitations-may be purchased or homemade

Pre-session: Empty boxes, tape, wedding wrapping paper

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, dry erase marker

Craft: White tablecloth, white cupcakes (decorated for a wedding), triangle sandwiches, red punch, cups, plates, napkins, wedding bubbles (one per child)

Lesson: Wedding items-veil, mints, present, bow tie, etc...

Extended Time Game: 2 containers for water, small cups

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson 6

Water into Wine

Scripture Text: John 2:1-10

Memory Verse: Matthew 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Greet each child with a smile. Give children wedding invitations that have been made ahead of time as they enter today. Let them know they will need them for the wedding reception later in the morning.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Let the children use the wedding wrapping paper to wrap empty boxes to give as gifts at the wedding reception.



Prayer: (5 min.) Talk to the children about God caring about the many things that God gives us and let them thank God today for all he does for us. Instead of asking for something today, let the children spend a little time in worship.



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Write the memory verse backwards on a dry erase board. Leave enough room on the board to write the verse correctly. Let the children help you write it correctly below the backward version. Say the verse several times with the children.



Songs: (10 min.) My God can do anything, In the Name of Jesus, We've got the Power



Craft: (15 min.) Have a mini wedding feast-reception. Let each child give you his/her invitation. Have cupcakes (decorated for a wedding), small triangle sandwich and a red drink (be very careful). Have white tablecloth on the table. Talk about weddings that the children have been to as they eat. Give each child a wedding bubbles to take home.



Lesson: (15 min.) Have several wedding related objects available and talk about each one. (Veil, mints, present, bow tie, etc...)

How many of you have ever been to a wedding? I like weddings. Everyone is so happy, especially the bride and groom. After the wedding there is usually a reception-kind of like a party. People bring presents and there is cake, and punch and mints. It's a lot of fun.

In our story today, Jesus went to a wedding. The Bible doesn't tell us whose wedding it was, but everyone was having a good time, until they had a big problem.

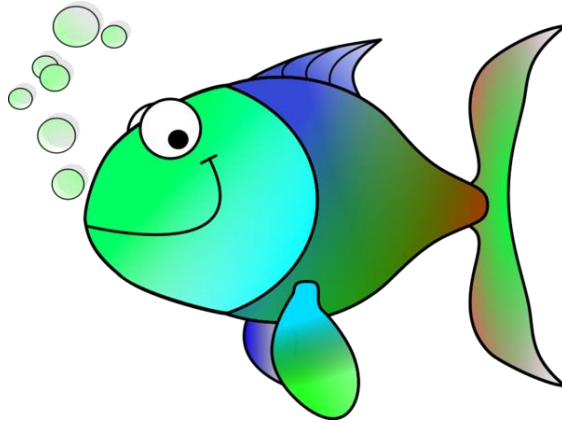
They ran out of wine for their guests to drink .What were they going to do?? They were very embarrassed and felt really bad. Jesus' mother thought she might be able to help. She went to Jesus and told him what had happened. She knew that Jesus was a miracle worker and she knew he could provide wine for the wedding. She told the servants to go to Jesus and do whatever he told them to do. Jesus didn't want his friends at the wedding to be embarrassed. He told the servants to go get water pots and fill them with water. They filled them up to the brim. Jesus then told them to draw out of the water pots. They were filled with wine now. The governor at the feast drank the wine and told the bridegroom it was very good.

Jesus took care of something that was probably a small thing for him to do, but it was greatly appreciated by the bride and groom. They were very thankful. Jesus is a miracle worker.

We should always say thank you to God for the things he does for us. We don't want to take him for granted. Let's think of some things that God gives us and then thank him for them. (Let children name several things and then pray with each one as they thank God)



Extended Time Game: (10 min.) Water Jug Relay –Have two containers with water set up at one end of the room. Divide the children into two teams. Give the first child on each team a cup of water almost full. The children will run down to the other end of the room, balancing the cup of water on their head, dump their water, refill the cup and run back to the next child in line. (they can carry the cup on the way back) The play continues until all players have had a turn.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Seven

Fishers of Men

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Pencils, string, magnets-make pencil fishing poles-one per child

Pre-session: white paper, crayons, art materials

Offering: Gold fish bowl with water, coins

Memory Verse: Colorful construction paper fish-memory verse written on one side, paper clip on top-one per child, blue construction paper, glue, pencils

Craft: Paper plates, crayons, cupcake liners, scissors, google eyes

Lesson: Large blue blanket or sheet

Extended Time Game: Two to three hula hoops

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Seven

Fishers of Men

Scripture Text: Luke 5:1-11

Memory Verse: Matthew 4:19 And he said unto them, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.”



Welcome and Attendance: (5min.) Welcome children and give them a “pencil fishing pole”



Pre-session: (10 min.) Give children materials and let them draw a fishing picture. They can use their imagination and make a boat to go in the lake.



Prayer :(10 min.) Talk to the children about what it means to be “fishers of men”. We should be a witness everywhere we go. That was Jesus’ reason for shedding his blood. Help the children pray for those that they know are lost.



Offering: (5 min.) Let children put their offering in a small gold fish bowl with water. (Have coins on hand to make change for dollar bills.)



Songs: (10 min.) If You Follow Me, Jesus Loves Me, At the Cross



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Have colorful construction paper fish with the memory verse written on them-one fish per child. Let the children “catch” a fish with their pencil pole and then write their verse on blue sheets of construction paper and glue their fish on.



Craft: (15 min.) Color paper plates. Give the cupcake liners to the children and let them color them if they desire as well. Cut a triangle shape out of the paper plate, this will be used as the tail and the opening will be the mouth. Cut the liner into pieces and begin gluing them onto the plate (making fish scales). Leave front by the mouth scale free. Glue google eyes on. Glue on tail and fins if desired.



Lesson: (15 min.) Place a large blue blanket or sheet on the floor and seat the children around it.

Our story takes place today around a big lake, just like you are sitting around. Let's use our imagination and see if we can pretend that we were there.

The Bible said that there were many people that had come to hear the word of God. Jesus was a wonderful teacher and the people were hungry to hear what he would say. There were so many that they were pressing upon Jesus.

Jesus saw two ships standing by the lake, but the fishermen were not in them, they were out washing out their nets. Now, these were real fishermen. They fished to make a living. They weren't just leisurely fishing; they had a job to do.

Jesus entered into one of the boats and asked Simon (one of the fishermen) if we would go a little ways away from the bank. There Jesus would sit and teach the people out of the ship. When Jesus finished teaching the people, he told Simon to launch out into the deep, and put the nets out and catch a lot of fish.

Simon was surprised to hear this. He told Jesus that they had toiled all night and caught nothing. But Simon was willing to obey Jesus. They launched out into the lake and let down their net. They were amazed when they lifted up their net; there were so many fish in the net that their net broke. They even called their partners in another ship that they would come and help them. Believe it or not, they filled both the ships with fish, so that they began to sink. That's a lot of fish.

When Simon Peter saw what had happened, he fell down at Jesus' feet. He felt so sinful standing before Jesus. He was astonished at what they had just experienced. So were the other men with him-James and John. Jesus told Simon Peter, from

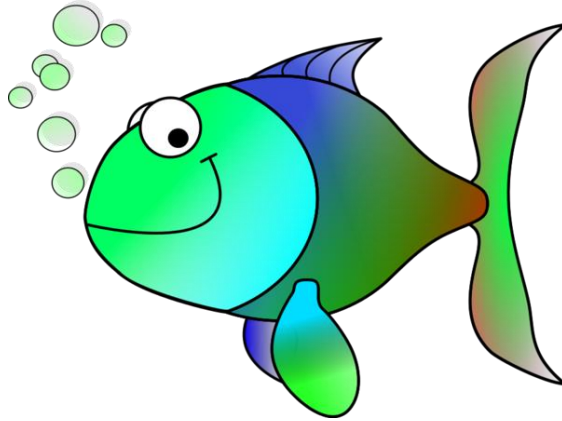
now on “thou shalt catch men”. When they brought their ships to land, they forsook all and followed him.

What do you think Jesus meant when he said “thou shalt catch men”? Let the children give their ideas). Those are all good ideas. Jesus wanted those fishermen to follow him and teach others about God. We can be fishers of men too when we tell someone about Jesus. When we tell someone about how to be saved we are fishing for their soul. What is the plan of salvation? That’s right. Repent, be baptized in Jesus name and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Let’s pray and ask God to help us be fishers of men.



Extended Time Game: (15 min) Fisherman Tag

One person is the fisherman, everyone else are fish. Place a couple of hula hoops in the middle of the play area. At go, the fish run from the fisherman. Whenever a fish is tagged they stand in the hula hoop until all the fish are caught. The game is over when everyone is caught.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Eight

The Two Builders

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Baggies, rocks-one per child

Pre-session: Legos or wooden blocks, box with sand, box with a rock

Offering: Large rock

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, dry erase marker, memory verse word search (Resources)

Craft: Graham crackers, icing, frosting pens, small candies

Lesson: Large rock, box of sand, poster with wise man/foolish man song (Resources)

Extended Time Game: Wooden blocks- on half the blocks write good things to build our lives on, on the other half write things that are bad to build our lives on

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Eight

The Two Builders

Scripture Text: Matthew 7: 24-27

Memory Verse: Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Greet each child with a smile; give each child a baggie with a rock in it. Tell them to be sure not to lose their rock.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Let children build houses with Lego blocks or wooden blocks. They can work together or build alone. Have on hand boxes with sand and boxes with rocks. Let the children place their houses into the boxes. Talk to them about which house would be the safest in a heavy rain storm.



Prayer: (5 min.) Pray with the children reminding them to build their lives on the solid rock-Christ Jesus.



Offering: (5 min.) Bring a large rock. Talk about how solid the rock is. Let the children place their offering on the rock.



Songs: (10 min.) Be Careful Little Eyes What You See, Showers of Blessings, Send It on Down



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Let the children find the hidden memory verse words and circle them. They can then put them in the correct order to complete the memory verse.



Craft: (15 min.) Let the children make graham cracker houses using icing and graham crackers. They can decorate them with frosting pens and candies. They can choose to eat them now or take them home.



Lesson: (Have a large rock and a box of sand). Have you ever noticed the difference between a rock and sand? Rocks are usually bigger aren't they? Sand is much smaller and it moves around a lot easier than a rock does.

Let me teach you a song about two different men who built their houses on different foundations. One built on a rock, the other built on the sand. (Sing the song with the children, using the poster that has been made).

That was a great job. You guys caught onto that song pretty quickly.

Did you know that song is written about a parable that Jesus told in the Bible? Can anyone remember what a parable is? It's a story that Jesus told that has a meaning for us. Let's think about this parable of the Wise Man and the Foolish Man.

Jesus said the Wise Man built his house on a solid rock, when the rain came and the winds blew the house on the rock stood firm. It didn't blow over and it resisted the storm. But the Foolish Man's house didn't do as well. His house was built on sand and it didn't have a firm foundation. When the rain came and the winds blew his house did not stand.

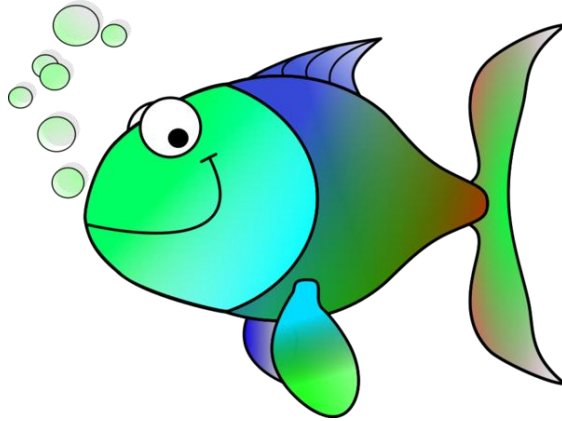
What do you think this parable could mean for you children today? Should we build our lives on temporary things that change and shift around, or should we build them on a firm foundation? The Word of God never changes, so that would be good thing to build our lives on, right? Jesus, never changes. He said he is the same yesterday, today and forever. The church never changes. Those are really good things to build our lives on. We want our lives to withstand the storms of life.

Each of you has a rock to take home with you today. Keep the rock in a safe place to remind you to build your house on the right foundation.

Let's pray together and ask God to help us be wise boys and girls and build our lives on a solid foundation. Pray with each of the children as they pray.



Extended Time Game: Let's build it right game. (10 min.) Give the children wooden blocks that have good and bad things to build our lives on written on them. Mix the blocks up and let the children as teams or as a group build a house using the good things. Talk with them as they build, helping them to understand the things that are written on the blocks.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Nine

A Well that Never Runs Dry

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome and Attendance: Small cups of water

Pre-session: Grey and brown construction paper, glue

Offering: Old bucket

Memory Verse: On a poster board draw a well, water drops for memory verse, rope, bucket

Craft: tin cans, construction paper wrappers for tin cans, construction paper to make dippers, pencils

Lesson: Popcorn, cups, cooler with ice and bottles of water

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Nine

A Well That Never Runs Dry

Scripture Text: John 4: 4-30

Memory Verse: John 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Welcome each child with a smile. Have small cups of water to give each of them.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Talk to the children about what a well is. Some of them may never have heard of a well. Tell them what a well was like in Bible days and what they are like today. Let them glue paper rocks onto construction paper to make their own well.



Prayer: (5 min.) Spend a few minutes thanking God for the Holy Ghost. He is that well of living water in our souls.



Offering : (5 min.) Let the children put their offering in an old bucket.



Songs: (10 min.) It's bubbling, Deep and Wide, He's Got the Whole World in His Hands



Memory Verse: (10 min.) Use the poster board well that has been made and the water drops memory verse. Stand the poster board up-have a small bucket with string or yarn attached to it so it can be lowered behind the well. Put the memory verse water drops in the bucket. Let the children take turns “drawing up” the bucket and taking out a water drop. Line children up and put the verse in order and read it together several times.



Craft: (10 min) Give each child a tin can with the label removed. Let the children color the rock wrapper and glue or tape it onto their can. Cut out a dipper and let the children glue it onto the side of their “well”. Give each child three pencils to put in their pencil holder.



Lesson: (15 min.) We are going to have fun today with our story. How many of you enjoy eating a big bowl of popcorn by yourself or with your family? That’s what you’re going to do today while I tell the story. (Give each child a cup or bowl of popcorn, make sure the popcorn is extra salty, remind the children at intervals in the story to keep eating their popcorn, have another teacher on hand to refill as they empty their cups).

Just sit back and relax and eat your popcorn while I tell you a story about Jesus from the Bible. One day Jesus had been preaching with his disciples and he needed a rest. He went and sat down by a well in a city of Samaria. The Jewish people did not really like the Samaritans (those who lived in Samaria). They thought they were better than them and didn’t talk to them and weren’t friends with them. But Jesus wasn’t like that. He was a Jew but he loved everyone.

Jesus sat down at the well and sent his disciples into the city to get everyone some lunch. As Jesus sat by the well a woman came to draw water. Jesus asked the woman to give him a drink from the well. The woman was amazed!! She couldn’t believe that he a Jew would even talk to her. Jesus answered her and said “If thou knewest the gift of God and who it is that saith to thee, give me to drink’ thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water”. She was

really confused now. This Jewish man didn't have anything to draw from the well with. How was he going to get "living water" out of the well.

Then he surprised her even more. He told her "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

The woman thought he meant that she would never have to come to the well again if she drank of his water. She wouldn't have to bring her bucket and carry the heavy water home. She didn't realize that Jesus was talking about a well of living water that would be in her heart. Jesus was talking about his spirit living in her life. Jesus began to tell her about things in her life that she thought no one knew about. She couldn't believe this man knew everything about her. How did he know those things? He was God wasn't he and God knows everything about us. We can't hide anything we do from him. At the end of the story, the woman went her way into the city and told other people about Jesus. She said, "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"

When she left Jesus she was convinced that he was the Messiah and she brought back others to hear him teach.

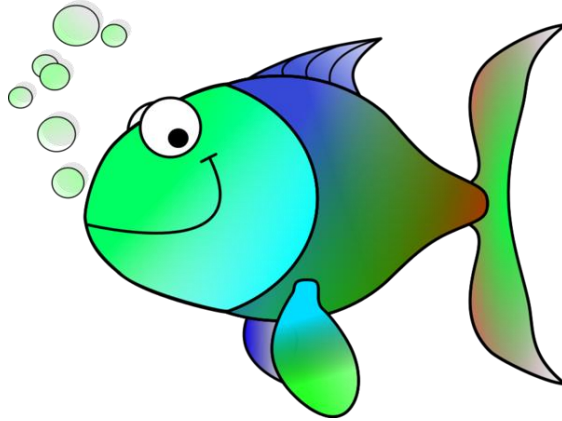
When Jesus gives us that living water-the Holy Ghost, we want to tell everyone about it. We want everyone to experience what we've experienced. We should tell all our friends and family and everyone we know to repent, be baptized in Jesus name and receive the Holy Ghost.

Wasn't that a great story? Anyone want more popcorn? I thought you all might want something else for your mouth by now. Maybe everyone would like a bottle of ice cold water. That popcorn made you really thirsty didn't it.) Hand out bottles of water). That's how thirsty we should be for the Holy Ghost. So thirsty that we want to pray and seek God every day. Take a good long drink of your water, put the lid back on and then let's really pray. Let's thank God for the Holy Ghost. If you don't have the Holy Ghost, today is a good day to receive it. Pray with the children.



Extended Time Game :(10 min.) Run for Your Water

The children stand in a circle holding hands. (boys with boys, girls with girls). One child is “It”. It goes around the circle and picks two children who are holding hands. “It” yells “living water”. The two children run opposite directions to race back to the spot where “It” is facing outward. “It” slaps the hands of the winner. Winner goes into middle of the circle-the loser becomes it.



Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Ten

Baptism by Water

Lesson at a Glance

Pre-session: Glue, sand, small box lids

Offering: Small baptismal tank

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, scented dry erase marker, sand pictures from pre-session, Hershey's Kisses

Craft: Various art materials

Lesson: Two identical dolls (must have the same clothing), one doll is dirty, the other is clean, deep tub filled with water-make a divider in the tub

Extended Game Time: Coloring pages, word searches, pencils, crayons

Treasures of the Deep

Lesson Ten

Baptism in Water

Scripture Text: Acts 2:38

Memory Verse: Acts 2:38



Welcome and Attendance: (5 min.) Welcome each child with a smile.



Pre-session: (10 min.) Let the children glue sand onto the words of Acts 2:38. They will put glue on the words and then cover with sand. (Have small flat box lids for them to work to cut down on the clean-up, they could even take them home in the lids).



Prayer: (5 min.) We will be talking about the whole verse Acts 2:38, placing emphasis on baptism. Pray with the children thanking God for truth today. Not every child is blessed to know the truth of the word of God and have the opportunity to be baptized in Jesus Name.



Offering: (5 min.) Let the children put their offering in a mini baptismal tank. Any object that is an oval shape and holds water should work.



Songs: (10 min.) I've Already Been to the Water, One Way to God, Praise Him



Memory Verse: (15 min.) Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. (Use a scented marker). We will try to use all five senses today to learn the verse.

Sight: Have the children read the verse off of the board.

Hearing: Have the children read the verse to each other.

Touch: Have the children trace the memory verse on the sand pictures they have made in pre-session.

Smelling: Have the children come to the dry erase board and “smell” the memory verse.

Taste: Have each child recite the memory verse to the teacher and give them a Hershey’s Kiss. Taste and see that the Lord he is good!!!



Craft: (10 min.) Write Acts 2:38 on the dry erase board. Give the children art materials to make their own Acts 2:38 placemat. Let them decorate it as they choose and write the verse in the middle of the placemat.

Party: Let the children use their placemats for a party. Since this is the last lesson surprise them with a small snack and drink and a treat to take home.



Lesson: (20 min.) By this time I’m sure every one of you can quote our memory verse today. Let’s all say it together.

This verse is the plan of salvation. It is so easy for anyone to understand. We must Repent-tell God we’re sorry for our sins- the wrong things that we have done, be baptized in Jesus Name for the remission of sins and we will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.

When we get baptized, does the pastor just sprinkle a little bit of water on our heads? No, we go all the way down into the water and come back up. That’s because we are being buried with Him in baptism. All our old sins are buried away.

We come up out of the water a new and clean person.

We're going to pretend that this doll is a little girl that is hungry for God. All of you can help me show her the plan of salvation. Her name is Susie.

(Hold the doll in your hands as you speak to her, encourage participation).

Susie, we're so glad you came to our Sunday School-Children's Church today.

We saw you praying a few minutes ago and the children and I want to help you.

That was really good, the way you were praying-you were asking God to forgive all your sins. The Bible says he forgives us of all our sins. The next thing you need to do Susie is (let the children tell her to be baptized in Jesus Name). We have a baptistry ready here for you to be baptized. I see your clothes are all dirty and yucky. That's the way our hearts look before we get baptized. Sin has made them so filthy. That's why we need to get baptized, to wash away all those sins and get a clean heart.

(Have the tub that you are using divided in half with a board or piece of plastic. On one side of the tub, have a clean doll that looks identical to Susie-same clothes also-be sure the tub is tall enough that the children cannot see over it)

We are going to baptize Susie in Jesus Name for the remission of all her sins. (Baptize Susie in Jesus Name placing her on the other side of the tub. Bring the clean Susie up out of the water)

Look how clean you are Susie. Jesus washed all your sins away and made you clean. Let's all lift up our hands and thank Jesus for washing Susie's sins away.

Let's help her pray for the Holy Ghost. (Let children pray with the doll for a few minutes. Keep the children's attention during this time, praying with someone is serious)

Does everyone understand the plan of salvation now? Answer any questions the children have. (We want to make sure our children are not just quoting Acts 2:38 but also understanding what they are quoting. Children can receive the Holy Ghost and be baptized at a young age, when their hearts are tender.)

Pray with any children who have a desire for the Holy Ghost.



Extended Time Game: (10 min.) Let the children choose an activity. Have available: word searches, coloring pages, etc... End the session in a quiet relaxed way, we want the lesson to sink in their hearts today.

Party and Review

Provide a party for the children today, of course main foods served will be fruits. A fun activity is to carve a watermelon and let the children help put fruit into it. You could make a fruit dip for them to dip their fruit.

Review the lessons and see how many know the fruits of the spirit. Review memory verses and play some of the games that were played. If possible go outside and play some active games

Do a small introduction to the next series. (We always have a Holy Ghost Sunday the next Sunday with puppets and skits and a Bible lesson. We come expecting God to fill someone with the Holy Ghost. This also gives the teachers another week to get room decorations done.)

Resources



Story Apron

The story apron is simply a white tool apron with a large pocket in the middle. It works best with a full body apron.

I painted the pocket of the apron blue, with blue tempera paint. This becomes the water for a host of stories.

Naaman gets his healing in water, Jesus is baptized, the list is endless. All you need to do is make your own bible characters or use a pattern from online. Put Velcro on the top part of the apron, put velcro on your characters and you are ready to tell any story with the characters in your pocket, taking them out when needed.