

WORK FOR PARENTS TO DO WITH CHILDREN AGED 4-7 YEARS OLD

OPENING PRAYER

Worship time is an important part of every lesson, even for young children. It signals that it is time to start the class and end the arrival activities. Prayer lets the children know it is time to get serious. Second, worship time gives you an opportunity to invite the Holy Spirit to be in control of your class.

The Opening Prayer should always include the following:

1. Praise to God for the opportunity to meet and for the attendance of everyone present.
2. A request for guidance, especially for the teacher so that the Word of God can be shared in a meaningful way.
3. Asking the children to be open to learning the Word of God and to invite the Holy Spirit to be present in both everyone's heart and in the classroom.

When including prayer request and praises, always consider the following:

1. Ensure everyone has a chance to contribute.
2. Rather than trusting your memory, be prepared to jot down what is said.
3. Be sure to touch on each child's requests. It is important to them to know that you care about them and that their prayers are important.
4. Make sure special needs of your church or church members are also mentioned.

BIBLE VERSE (5 minutes)

But I trust in you, LORD; I say, "You are my God." Psalm 31:14 NIV

Read this verse to the class a couple times and then have the children repeat the verse with you.

THE QUIET GAME

A challenging game to see who can keep the quietest.

TOPICS:

Listening, Patience

MATERIALS:

Table or desks

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Begin by explaining to the children that the object of the game is to be as quiet as possible. The person who keeps from making any noise the longest wins the game.

Round One - Have the children sit at their table or desk. The teacher will make funny faces and act silly in an attempt to get the kids to laugh or make noise. After several minutes congratulate any of the children who could refrain from making noise.

Round Two - Explain that round two will be a little harder because the class will be walking around the table or desks instead of sitting down. Once again the teacher will make funny faces and act silly in an attempt to get the kids to laugh or make noise. The person who keeps from making any noise the longest wins the game. After several minutes congratulate any of the children who could refrain from making noise.

Discussion Questions:

1. Was it hard to keep quiet?
2. When is it important to be quiet?
3. When is it okay to be loud?

BIBLE STORY (15 minutes)

Use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

Introduction:

Joshua and the Israelites had just crossed the Jordan River and entered the land God had promised to give them. Shortly after crossing the Jordan River, God's people came upon the city of Jericho. A big wall surrounded the city. Should the people believe God and have faith that He was going to give them the land He promised, or should they turn around and go back into the desert? Let's open our Bibles and see what God's people decided to do.

Read Joshua 6:1-16, 20 (The Fall of Jericho)

Discussion Questions:

1. What did God tell the people to do? (*March around Jericho.*)
2. What kind of trumpets did the priests carry? (*The trumpets were made from ram's horns.*)
3. How many days did God tell His people to march around Jericho? (*Seven days.*)
4. What did the priests do as they marched around Jericho? (*The priests blew their trumpets.*)
5. Did the rest of the people make any noise when they marched around the city the first six times? (*No, Joshua commanded them to be quiet until he told them to shout.*)
6. On the seventh day, how many times did the people march around Jericho? (*Seven times.*)
7. What did Joshua tell the people to do when they heard the trumpets, after marching around the city seven times? (*Give a loud shout.*)
8. What happened to the wall of Jericho when the people gave a loud shout? (*The wall fell down.*)

CRUMBLING WALLS

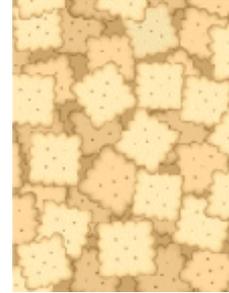
When we place our faith in God, even the biggest problems crumble.

TOPICS:

Believing, Faith, Joshua, Miracles, Power of God, Promises

MATERIALS:

Brick or Cinder Block
Crackers



DURATION:

Approximately 7 minutes

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

You will explain how God will meet our needs when we place our faith in Him.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Explain to the children that the Bible is full of examples of God meeting the needs of His people when we place our faith in Him. One example happened a long time ago. Joshua and the Israelites had just crossed the Jordan River and entered the land God had promised to give them when they came to the city of Jericho. A big wall surrounded the city of Jericho. *(Hold up the brick or cinder block.)*

Should the people believe God and have faith that He was going to give them the land He promised or should they turn around and go back into the desert? God told Joshua how to knock the wall down without even touching a single stone. The people trusted God and the wall came tumbling down. In the end, Jericho's big wall was no stronger than a crumbling cracker. *(Show the cracker to the class and then crumble it in your hand.)*

Just as God met the needs of His people in the past, He will meet our needs today making even the biggest problems crumble like crackers.