

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level K • Unit 2 • Week 1

GOD IS OUR FATHER

OBJECTIVE:

To help children learn some of the attributes and character of God as our Father.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Say: Today we will be talking about a special Daddy. This Daddy is a Daddy to everyone who ever lived and who ever will live. Do you know who this Daddy is? That's right, He is God, our Father. We will learn something about our Daddy, God Our Father.

Supplies Needed:

White crayons

White construction paper

Paintbrushes

Watercolor paints or a mixture of half tempera paint and half dish soap

Say: God is invisible. This means our eyes cannot see God.

Do: Give each student white construction paper and a white crayon.

Say: Can we see God, our Father? [No]. Pick up your white crayon and draw on white construction paper. Can you see your drawing easily? [No.] But what if we paint over it?

Do: Put out paintbrushes and watercolor paints or the tempera/liquid soap mixture.

Say: Try painting lightly over your crayon drawing. Can you see your drawing now? [Yes.] The paint makes the crayon show through. God is like the white crayon—He is with us but our eyes cannot see God.

Alternative Attention Getter:

Supplies Needed:

Balloon
Confetti.

Do: Have children put confetti into an uninflated balloon.

Say: Can we see air? [No.] God is like air. Our eyes cannot see God, just like we cannot see air in this room. But we know this room has air for us to breathe. Watch what happens as we fill this confetti-filled balloon with air.

Do: Blow up balloon.

Say: Now I'm going to let go of the balloon. The confetti paper is like air. We can see the paper come out of the balloon, but did you see the air come out of the balloon? [No.] God is like air. Our eyes cannot see God. God is invisible. What is God, boys and girls? [God is invisible.] Can we see God? [No.] Why not? [God is invisible.]

BIBLE LESSON:

Supplies Needed:

Paper and marker to draw person
Paper or white board to write key objectives:

God is invisible.
We are made in God's image.
God is always with us.
God is a pillar of strength.
God's behavior is kind, gentle and good.

Say: Today we will learn about what God is like. We know God is invisible. Can our eyes see God? [No.] We can't see God just just like we could not see our white drawing/the air in our balloon [whichever attention getter you used]. We now know God is invisible. Tell me, everyone, what is God? [God is invisible.]

Say: Let's play a game called "God Has." This game is similar to "Simon Says" only we'll take turns naming a part of our body and then everyone else will touch that part on our bodies.

Do: Play game.

Say: This game shows we look like God. Who do we look like? [God.] So God has _____.

Do: As children name body parts, gradually draw a picture of a person.

Say: We are made in God's image. What does this mean? [We look like God.]

Say: Here's another thing about God—He is always with us. Can anyone think of something that we cannot see but is always with us? I'll give you a clue. Take a deep breath. What are you breathing? That's right, air. Air is always with us just like God is. Who is God always with? Say it one more time. God is always with us.

Music:

Sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?"

God is kind.
God is kind.
He gave the earth.
He gave the earth.
Thank you, God, for being kind,
Thank you, God, for being kind.
We love God. We love God.

God is gentle. God is gentle.
He gave His son,
He gave His son.
Thank you, God, for being gentle,
Thank you, God, for being gentle.
We love God. We love God.

God is good. God is good.
He gave us life.
He gave us life.
Thank you, God, for being good,
Thank you, God, for being good.
We love God. We love God.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Option 1:

Say: Now we will do as God does. God behaves a certain way. 1) God is kind. We will show kindness by taking turns and helping each other make a house. 2) God is gentle. We will gently hold hands and walk to our table. 3) God is good. How will we show goodness? We will be good by sharing a treat with the class.

Option 2 (give advance notice to fathers):

Say: Now we will do as God does. God behaves a certain way. 1) God is kind. We will show kindness by helping others or by asking ____ (optional, bringing a dad back to class to help us) to make our pillars and paper house with us. 2) God is gentle. We will gently hold hands. We

will go back to the church hall and bring a guest dad back. 3) God is good. How will we show goodness? We will be good by sharing a treat with our guest dad.

Say: God is a pillar of strength. We will make some pillars and a house to remind us of God's strength. A pillar is a pole that holds up the house and makes it strong and sturdy.

Do: Have a sample or two so students (and guests) can work together to make a house.

Say: Our play dough pillars will be strong and hold up our house. Just as God gives us strength and helps us through hard times like a lost toy or being sick.

Supplies Needed:

- Container/bag of play dough per child
- Card stock or heavy construction paper
- Snacks for dads and children

Out of the card stock or construction paper, you will need:

- Five square pieces (4" x 4") for floor and walls
- One rectangle 4.25" x 11" for roof
- Two triangle pieces (4" on each side) to fit between the end walls and the roof

Make a house using pillars formed of play dough to hold up the house.

- 1) Have play dough for each child/dad. Have them use the dough to make four cylinders. These will be the pillars.
- 2) Have one sample square for them to use to trace and cut four more squares out of card stock or paper. These will be the floor and walls of the house
- 3) Have a sample triangle for them to use to trace and cut out one more. These will be for the peak of the house.
- 4) Have them fold the rectangle and place on top as the roof.

Let them know they are showing how strong pillars are to hold up a house and they are to show God's behavior of being kind, gentle and good. This example is shown as they work together to make their house with pillars as a strong support.

Sing the song as working. Have copies of song for each dad and child to share. Have child come get snack for himself and his /her dad. After snack, have each child repeat memory verse.

MEMORY VERSE:

2 Corinthians 6:18 "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."

Scriptures used for this lesson are: Genesis 1:26-27, Psalm 31:19; 100:5; 111:2, 10; 139:7-12, John 1:18, 2 Corinthians 6:18.

family activity

THE POINT:

God is our Father.

ASK ME...

Ask me to tell you about some of God's characteristics: God is invisible. We are made in God's image. God is a pillar of strength. God is kind. God is gentle. God is good.

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

1. God is invisible. Play "Hide and Seek" as a family. Have a family member who's hiding talk to you. You can't see this family member but you hear him/her. This family member is invisible at this moment to the family.
2. We are made in God's image. Play "God Has" (similar to "Simon Says"). Have each family member name a body part as other members touch that part on their body. Or trace each family member using butcher paper and color in features to remember that we are made in God's image.
3. God is always with us. Each member of the family names something they have had with them.
4. A father should be a pillar of strength. Each member states a strength of Dad and how Dad uses this strength to help the family.
5. God is kind, gentle and good. Each family member tells what he or she does to show these characteristics and how God shows these behaviors.

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Scriptures used for this lesson are: Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 31:19; 100:5; 111:2, 10; 139:7-12; John 1:18; 2 Corinthians 6:18. Read and talk about one scripture each day to your child.

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He gave us life.
He gave us life.
Thank you, God, for being good,
Thank you, God, for being good.
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