

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level K • Unit 2 • Week 2

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

OBJECTIVE:

To show, through the Bible, that the Word of God is the path to true safety and happiness.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Prepare before class: Make two paths that are lined with pictures. The first path is one that the children should NOT walk down. Line the path with pictures that depict inappropriate behavior for 5- and 6-year-olds, such as a child with his hands folded and a bed next to him/her (refusing to go to bed). On this path, put a couple of roadblocks (pebbles or a small tree branch that blocks the path). The children won't use this path, of course. Line the second path with pictures of children acting in appropriate ways, such as a child, toy box and toys filled to the top of the box (picking up all of his/her toys).

In class: Turn down the light, give each student a Bible and a flashlight, and guide them down the good path with their flashlights on. Tell them that God's Word is the Bible and is a light to show them the path to happiness. Point out along the way what the pictures depict and that obeying and telling the truth are part of God's expectations and will bring them happiness. At the end of the path, have happy face stickers for each student to reinforce this truth. Turn on the lights and show them what would have happened if they had chosen the path of disobedience.

BIBLE LESSON:

Do: Hold up the Bible and put the flashlight on it for a few seconds.

Say: The Bible shows us how to live. It shines brightly in our world, so we can see how we should treat others, love others and love God. Let's open it and see what God says. [Turn flashlight off.]

Ask: Does anyone know how God wants us to treat our parents? [Go around the room and allow

everyone to comment. Allow a little time; kids are slow to speak up sometimes.]

Say: Yes, that's right. [Reiterate their responses.] You are already obeying God if you are treating your parents that way.

Do: Read Exodus 20:12 and talk about honoring their parents and what it means that "your days may be long upon the land."

Ask: Should anyone ever lie? [Wait for responses.] What if a boy accidentally broke a glass, or took a cookie from the plate. He knows his mom will not be happy. Should he lie? [Wait for response.] No. He shouldn't lie and say he didn't do it if he did. Usually, he'd be found out and that only makes things worse. God doesn't want us to lie. We shouldn't lie to our mother and father or anyone.

Say: Let's see what God says about lying.

Do: Read Exodus 20:16 and explain what bearing false witness means to them. Talk about how hard it is for everyone to always tell the truth, but explain that we are blessed by God when we do. Read Ephesians 4:25 and talk about the fact that God does not lie, God inspired the words in the Bible and the Bible is, therefore, all true. If you can, give a personal example of how telling the truth worked to good.

Ask: Is it wrong to kill someone? [Wait for response.]

Say: That's right. It is very wrong to kill or even to hate someone.

Do: Read Exodus 20:13 and also talk about 1 Samuel 26:7-25. Explain about David and his life being in danger. He didn't kill Saul, he let God take care of the dangerous situation and was later anointed king. God kept David safe.

Say: Is stealing wrong? [Wait for response.]

Do: Read Exodus 20:15 and then ask, "What is stealing?" Comment on their reactions and bring in such points as stealing from their friends or finding money and not seeking the owner of it. Read and paraphrase Ephesians 4:28 and explain that God wants us to work for what we have. Ask them how they would feel if someone took something that was theirs.

Say: God speaks to us through His Bible. He tells us how to live so we can be happy. He tells us how to love and obey our parents and Him. He tells us not to steal, lie and kill. These are some of the ways we obey Him so we can have a happy life.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Draw a Bible in the center of a piece of paper. Draw rays of light coming from several places on the Bible to show illumination. Photocopy for each student. From each ray of light have students draw and color pictures of something they do or should do that would be pleasing to God. Alternatively, provide magazine pictures of good actions for students to glue.

Music:

Sing to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down."

God shows me
The way to live,
Way to live,
Way to live.

God shows me
The way to live,
In His Bible.

If I follow
God, I'll be
Safe and free,
And happy.

If I follow
God, I'll be
Safe and happy.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalms 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Remind them of the attention getter and the fact that God's Word is like the light that helps us see the right path to take in order to live a happy life. Putting the verse to music is an easy way to remember it.

family activity

THE POINT:

God speaks to us through His Word, the Bible. God's Word is the only path we should take to find true happiness. God loves us and knows what's best for us. He left His instruction book, the Bible, for us so we would follow directions and make life work well and safely.

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Pick out a favorite verse that teaches God's law and relate it to everyday situations. For example: Exodus 20:15 and 17 is about coveting and stealing. What if your child is playing and a playmate takes a toy. This may cause him/her to become upset. It is better to live by God's Word and respect other people and their property.

Read Psalm 119:11 and discuss what this verse means and why it is helpful to memorize God's Word.

Ask your child to sing the song he/she learned today.

Review the memory verse. Give your child an opportunity to explain its meaning—that just as a lamp helps us to see, God's Word helps us to see where to safely go.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."