

JUNIOR

BIBLE SUNDAY
25 OCTOBER 2020
AT HOME SUNDAY RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

This lesson has been written to be delivered either at church as part of Sunday Club, or at home for those who may not yet have returned to church because of Covid-19. It is easily adaptable for either setting.

STARTER GAME

You will need:

- Tray
- Five to ten small objects that will fit on the tray
- Paper and something to write with

HOW TO PLAY:

Gather five to ten (depending on your children's ages) small common objects and place onto the tray. Tell the children that this is a memory game and they need to remember as many objects as they can. Put the tray with the objects in front of the children for 30 seconds, or longer if needed. Then remove the tray from sight. Ask the child to write a list of what they saw on the tray or ask them to tell you what was on the tray (depending on age). See how many items they are able to remember. You can do this several times changing the items, the viewing time or the number of items to challenge the children.

GAME TIE-IN:

Today's story from the Bible is about some of God's people who had to remember what God had told them for a very, very long time because just as the tray was taken away in this game, God's written word was taken away so they couldn't read it or even hear it for almost 50 years.

INTRODUCTION, STORY AND CHAT:

- Attached
- Set the stage with the 'Introduction' and ask the questions in the box before you begin the story.
- Read 'A Joyful Day' in a storyteller voice
- Chat about the questions at the end. Don't worry about the answers being right or wrong. Rather, enjoy discussing and discovering the Bible together.

MEMORY VERSE:

When the people in this story were away from the Temple, the only word of God they had with them was what they had memorised. When we memorise God's word, it is with us with us no matter where we are and no one can take it away from us.

Fun ways to memorise Bible verses (choose one):

- Write each word of the verse on to a different index card (be sure to include where it is found in the Bible) or small pieces of paper. Then shuffle the cards and together, with the children, put them in the correct order. Do this several times until they can do it by themselves. (At home? You could put the cards on the fridge and mix them up each morning. Then ask your child if they can put them back into the correct order)
- Write out the memory verse on a piece of paper. Read it through a couple of times with the children. Then, using a sticky note, cover up one or two of the words and try to say the verse without seeing all of the words. Continue, covering more words until all are covered
- Let one of the children teach you the memory verse using one of the methods above. Make some mistakes intentionally so that they can correct you. It's fun for children to get to do the teaching for a change!

MEMORY VERSE:

Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 8.10b (NIV)

Or

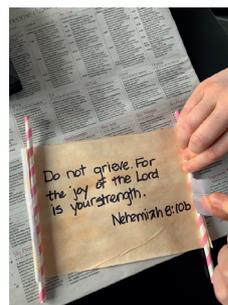
Don't feel bad. The joy of God is your strength. (The Message)

CRAFT

Supplies:

- one piece of paper
- scissors
- cool wet tea bag
- two drinking straws or sticks slightly longer than the paper
- tape or glue

A very long time ago there weren't books like we have today. Instead, things were written on scrolls. In today's story, you will remember Ezra read from a scroll. You can make your own scroll. Also, you can use a cool wet tea bag to stain the paper to look old. After the paper is dry, cut it so that it is slightly narrower than the straws or sticks you are using. Then write the memory verse onto your paper. Attach the sticks or straws to the top and bottom of the scroll using glue or tape and roll toward the middle. (At home? Ask the children to open the scroll like Ezra did and read it to your family at dinner.)



CLOSING

Take some time to pray together:

- Pray for people in the world who aren't allowed to have Bibles
- Pray for people who want to know more about God
- Do you know anyone who might like to learn more about God and his son Jesus? Pray for them
- What is something that you would like to learn about God? Ask him to teach you this

COLOURING