

Trusting God for Protection

Lesson Scripture: 1 Samuel 17

Bible Truth: I will trust God to protect me.

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 17

Bible Verse: “You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble...” (Psalm 32:7a, NIV)

FOCUS

Learning Activity: “What Can Protect Me?”

Preparation

Make a shield out of poster board or use the lid of a large container. Crumple several sheets of paper to create paper balls.

Plan to do this activity outside if you want to demonstrate how an umbrella protects us from water.

Materials
poster board
paper
umbrella
cup of water

Presentation

Invite two volunteers to play a game. One child will throw balls of paper at another child holding the created shield. The goal is for the child holding the shield to be protected from the paper balls.

Say: **The shield did a good job of protecting that child from those paper balls. Today we are going to be talking about protection.** Show an umbrella. **Here is another object that can be used for protection. How can an umbrella protect me?** Allow children to answer. **Yes, an umbrella protects me from the sun and rain.** If you are outside, invite a child to pour a cup of water over your head as you use the umbrella to protect you from getting wet.

Paper balls and a little water aren’t really big dangers to children. However, sometimes children face big troubles or problems in their life from which they need to be protected. We can trust God to protect us. He is so much better than a shield or an umbrella.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Psalm 32:7a

Preparation

Write Psalm 32:7a on a piece of poster board.

Write the words of Psalm 32:7a on separate pieces of paper. Make two sets using different colors of paper. If you don't have two colors of paper, cut your paper into two shapes, circles and squares. Write one set of words on square pieces of paper and one set on circle pieces of paper. Hide the words around the room.

Before children arrive, hide a small toy somewhere in the room. Make the toy hard to find.

Explanation

Say: **I have hidden _____ (describe the toy) somewhere in this room. Let's see if you can find it.** Give children several minutes to find the hidden toy. If they cannot locate it, give them clues until it is found. (Remind the children not to pick up any pieces of paper with words written on them. They will be used later.)

Say: **You had to work very hard to find the toy because it was in a great hiding place. Sometimes the Bible compares God to something we can see to help us understand Him. Today's Bible verse compares God to a hiding place. Let's read Psalm 32:7a together.** Read the Bible verse with the children.

How is God like a hiding place? Allow children to answer. **Yes, he protects us from trouble. My toy was safe as long as it was in its hiding place. You can trust God to protect you.**

Memorization Activity

Divide the children into two teams. Assign each team a color or shape of paper. Explain that you have hidden the words of Psalm 32:7a around the room. Each team should find all of the words in their color or shape. Once they have found all of their words, they should put the verse in the correct order.

INSTRUCT

Bible Lesson: "David Trusted God," 1 Samuel 17

Preparation

Read and study 1 Samuel 17.

Draw pictures to use as visual aids as you tell the story.

Materials
small toy
2 colors of paper
marker
scissors (optional)

Materials
Bible
paper
markers or crayons

Presentation

Show the pictures you drew as you tell the story.

Say: **One day, David, a young boy, was watching over his father's sheep when he received a message to go to his house. "David," said his father, "your brothers, who are with the king of the Israelites, King Saul, are getting ready to fight against the Philistines. I want you to take them food. See how they are doing, and come back to tell me."**

When he arrived at the Israelite camp, David quickly went looking for his brothers. While talking to them he heard a loud voice yelling and insulting the God of Israel. David looked across the valley and saw a Philistine giant challenging the people of God.

"Instead of all of us fighting a battle with each other, choose one man and have him come fight me. If he kills me, the Philistines will be your servants; but if I kill him, you Israelites will become our servants," this giant declared.

"Who is this man that dares insult our God?" asked David.

"He is Goliath, a Philistine giant. Everyone is afraid to fight him." answered a soldier.

"I will fight him," answered David courageously.

King Saul quickly heard about this young man in the Israelite camp willing to fight the giant. The king called David to his tent. When Saul saw David, he said, "David, you are just a boy. You can't fight that giant."

"With God's help, I have killed lions and bears to protect my sheep. God protected me from being harmed by those wild animals. In the same way, I know God will protect me from this giant and help me defeat him."

"Go," said King Saul. "I know the Lord will be with you."

David walked across the valley toward the Philistines' camp. On the way, he stopped by a stream and picked up five smooth stones. He placed them in his satchel and took out his sling. He continued toward the giant, Goliath, and the Philistine army.

The giant was surprised to see David approaching him. In a loud voice, he said, "You are just a boy. Does Israel think that I am dog and they sent you, a little stick, to fight me?"

David was not scared to hear the words of the giant. He yelled back to the giant, "You come against me with sword, and spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty. He will help me win this battle."

Slowly the giant moved toward David. David quickly took a stone out of his bag and ran towards Goliath. He put the stone in the sling and shot it at Goliath. The stone hit the giant on the forehead, and he fell to the ground.

Say: **Goliath chose to trust in his weapons to protect him, but David chose to trust God for protection.**

APPLICATION

Learning Activity: Art, "God is My Protection"

Preparation

Draw a picture of an umbrella in the middle of a piece of paper or make copies of the picture at the end of this lesson.

Presentation

Say: **We can trust God to protect us just like David trusted God.**

David needed protection from a giant. From what types of things do children need protection? Allow children to answer. They should

mention things such as storms, fear of the dark, dangerous people, sickness, etc. **Let's make a picture to remind us that we can trust God to protect us from all of those things.** Give each child a prepared sheet of paper. Instruct them to write "God" on the umbrella, reminding them that the umbrella is a symbol of protection. Then they can draw a picture of themselves under the umbrella.

Say: **Just like an umbrella can protect you from sun and rain, you can trust God to protect you!**

Materials
paper
crayons
copy of the umbrella
picture at the end of the
lesson

MINISTRY TIME

Preparation

Gather children under some type of covering. This could be umbrellas, several paper shields, or a large piece of cloth.

Presentation

Say: **As we stand under this _____, we are reminded that God can protect us. Let's say a prayer asking God to help us trust in Him for protection.** Say a prayer for the children, praying for anything specific that they mentioned during the lesson.

Materials
umbrellas or a large piece of
cloth for children to stand under

I can trust God to protect me.

