Trusting God When I Am Afraid

Lesson Scripture: 2 Chronicles 32:1-23, 2 Kings 18:17-19:36

Bible Truth: I will trust God when I am afraid.

Bible Story: 2 Chronicles 32:1-23

Bible Verse: "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." (Psalm 56:3, NIV)

FOCUS

Learning Activity: "What Can I Do with My Fears?"

Preparation

None

Materials

paper markers small box with a lid Bible

Presentation

Say: Can you think of something that makes children afraid? Let's write those things on these pieces of paper. Write down any fears listed by your child. The fears mentioned should include things such as fear of the dark, fear of death, fear of monsters, fear of talking in front of people, fear of not having any friends, etc. When finished, place the fears in a small box.

I want to make these fears disappear. Spend several minutes doing different things with the box in an effort to make the fears disappear. Throw the box in the air. Hide it under a chair. Ask your child to eat the fears. (Be sure they refuse!). Shake the box really hard. After each action, open the box and see if the fears have disappeared.

No matter what I do, I can't seem to get these fears to go away. Can you think of a way to make these fears to away? Allow your child to answer. The only way to get rid of these fears is to give them to God. Take fears out of the box and put them inside a Bible. When we give our fears to God and trust Him, we don't have to be afraid anymore.

WORSHIP

Invite your child into a time of worship, you might sing familiar songs of praise or use your own CD, album, or media player. A number of worship songs are available through online sources like Youtube and can be played through your computer, tablet, or mobile device. The following songs might be familiar and correspond with this weeks lesson:

- I Will Not Be Afraid LifeTree Kids, Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNZ22TTEQzo
- I'm Trusting You LifeTree Kids, Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VDpHibftHs
- Fear Not Ellie Holcomb, Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDNIFzcqing
- Fear Get Out of Here, CRKids, Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ba0NNDCXhM
- Trust in You, North Point Kids, Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOwoXMhWnNE

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Psalm 56:3

Preparation

Write Psalm 56:3 on a poster board.

A week before this lesson, give a copy of the following skit to one of the older children. Ask him or her to memorize the lines for the sleepy kid and be ready to present it during this week's lesson.

Materials poster board markers or crayons

Memorization Activity

Have your child face you, if if there are multiple children form two lines, facing each other. Give your child a ball. Ask him to say the first word of the Bible verse as he throws it to you, or the child standing across from him. You, or that child, says the second word of the Bible verse and throws the ball back. Continue tossing the ball back and forth until

Materials paper string Bible

children have said the entire verse. When children are familiar with the verse, hide the poster board and let them play the game from memory.

INSTRUCT

Bible Story: "Hezekiah Trusts God," 2 Chronicles 32:1-23, 2 Kings 18:17-19:36

Preparation

Read and study 2 Chronicles 32:1-23 and 2 Kings 18:17-19:36.

Make two messages by rolling two pieces of paper into scroll shapes and tying each with a string.

Choose two children to be the messengers. The first messenger will bring the letter from the king of Assyria. The second messenger will bring Isaiah's message.

Presentation

Say: How would you feel if a bully told you he was going to beat you up tomorrow? Allow children to answer. Most of us would be terrified.

Even though Hezekiah was king of the Israelites, God's chosen people, he felt terrified. The king of Assyria, a bully, had promised to destroy Hezekiah and his kingdom.

This man was Sennacherib, and he was the king of Assyria. Sennacherib wanted to fight against Judah, King Hezekiah's kingdom. Hezekiah knew he had to do something to protect his people from the king of Assyria. He worked hard fortifying the city walls, organizing an army, and storing water in case the enemy attacked the city. Hezekiah did everything possible to protect his kingdom.

On one day, King Hezekiah looked out his window in the palace and saw some men running towards the palace. Ask your first messenger to bring you the prepared scroll. "Who are those men?" he asked himself. "What do they want?"

The men were messengers sent by Sennacherib, the king of Assyria. They carried a letter for King Hezekiah. Open the prepared message as if you are reading it.

King Hezekiah,

Don't trust that your God will save you. I have come to capture you. Remember how I destroyed the countries around you. Your God won't be able to save you.

Sincerely, Sennacherib, king of Assyria

Hezekiah knew that the king of Assyria had a great army. His army had conquered many other countries surrounding Judah. King Hezekiah was afraid, but he knew what he needed to do. He took the letter and ran to the temple. He got on his knees and placed the letter before the Lord.

Then Hezekiah prayed, "Oh Lord, You are God of all the earth. Please, hear me, oh God. The king of Assyria wrote saying that You are too weak to save us from his army. He's coming to capture us. Please help us. Then the whole world will know that you are the one true God."

After Hezekiah prayed, he did one more thing. He sent a message to Isaiah, God's prophet. "Pray. Pray long," the message said. "The king of Assyria is mocking our God. There's no doubt that God will punish him for this."

Isaiah sent the king a message. Ask the second messenger to bring you the second prepared scroll. Open the message and begin to read:

King Hezekiah,

Don't worry. God won't allow the king of Assyria to harm you or the people. God has heard your prayer. He will take care of you.

Isaiah

God did as He said. That night, an angel visited Sennacherib's army and destroyed thousands of soldiers. When Sennacherib woke up the next morning and saw what God had done, he felt terrified. He fled Judah and returned to his own country.

When the story is finished, have a discussion time with the children. Say: Hezekiah didn't send the king of Assyria a message picking a fight with him. He avoided trouble. What are some ways we can avoid frightening situations?

What did Hezekiah do to protect the city? Allow children to answer. Yes, he improved the city's defenses. How can you protect yourself from fear? Allow the children to answer. Then suggest that they can protect themselves from fear by memorizing the Word of God, being careful about what they watch on television or read in books, trying not to think of frightening things, etc. What was the most important thing Hezekiah did? Allow children to answer. Hezekiah immediately prayed to God for help and asked Isaiah to pray for him. When you are afraid, it is important for you to pray for help and to ask others to pray for you.

APPLICATION

Learning Activity: Art, "Sometimes I'm Afraid"

Preparation

None

Presentation

Give your child a piece of paper and markers or crayons. Ask him to draw or write something that makes him afraid. When he finishes drawing, ask him to fold their paper in half and write today's Bible memory verse, Psalm 56:3, on the outside of the paper.

Materials

paper pencils markers or crayons

MINISTRY TIME

Preparation

None

Presentation

Say: We learned from our Bible lesson today that when we are afraid, we need to pray for ourselves, and we need ask others to pray for us. Invite your child to kneel on the floor and place her papers from the application activity in front of her. Give her time to pray silently about her fears. When finished with this individual time of prayer, invite her to share their fears and pray with her.

Materials

papers from the application activity