

Fellowship Kids

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, May 4

UNIT 7 | SESSION 5

JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

JOSHUA 23-24

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Serve and obey the Lord alone! Joshua reminded the people that God saved them from Egypt and gave them the Promised Land. He told them to worship God alone. Jesus is worthy of all worship because He saves those who trust in Him from sin and gives them eternal life.

CATECHISM QUESTION #18: Q) What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies? A) He gave them souls that could never die (*1 Cor 15:45; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1*).

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: 2 CHRONICLES 7:14 - "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: Moses commissioned Joshua to be the Israelites' new leader. Joshua courageously brought the Israelites into the Promised Land, trusting that God would be with them. God aided the Israelites in their conquest by demonstrating His power and holiness amid sin. God confirmed that He alone is worthy of their trust and devotion.

Volunteer Huddle | **8:45 a.m.**

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | 8:50 a.m.

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.
- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you'd like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *Do you ever need reminding about things? Maybe you forget to put away your shoes or brush your teeth. Who helps remind you to do things?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them an Activity Page and markers (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we will see how Joshua reminded the Israelites to worship and obey God.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the Rules Poster (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

1. **Be kind and respectful:** to your friends and teachers. Raise your hand and wait to be called; speak kindly to one another; use words and actions that build up and do not tear down; etc.
2. **Have a heart of obedience:** Listen to your teachers' instructions and obey fully, quickly, and joyfully!
3. **Have self control:** Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself; keep all chair legs on the ground; no running or rough housing. Do not touch one another; let's not poke each other, hit, kick, etc.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Take out the poster collage of 10–20 pictures of various items (in classroom). Form kids into groups of three or four and provide each group with three pieces of paper and a pencil. Explain that you will hold up the poster for 5 seconds while they study the pictures. After you hide the poster, challenge groups to write down as many items as they can remember from the poster. Invite groups to share how many items they remembered. Then repeat twice more, adding five more seconds each time. Direct kids to throw their first paper away and begin fresh with a new paper. After each round, see how many items each group remembered. The goal is to remember more items each time.

SAY Today, we will learn how Joshua challenged the Israelites to remember all God had done for them. Joshua reminded the Israelites to worship and obey God. **We often need to be reminded of all God has done for us; we can forget so quickly!** The more time we spend in God's Word, the more we will remember God's actions, character, and promises.

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out Bibles (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and I am so glad you are here. Today, we will hear about Joshua's final message to God's people. We'll see that Joshua was growing old and would soon die. But before his death, Joshua reminded the Israelites to worship and obey God.

If you have your Bibles with you, please take them out. [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Let's prepare our hearts to hear God's Word. Pray with me.

2. Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: *Today, we will learn a new catechism question, question #18:*

#18: Q) What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A) He gave them souls that could never die.

God intended for Adam and Eve and humanity to live forever with him in the beautiful garden. Having eternal souls made man and woman different from all of the animals.

Let's review the questions again:

13. Q) Can God do all things?

A) Yes. God can do all in His holy will.

14. Q) Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A) In the Bible.

15: Q) Who wrote the Bible?

A) Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

16: Q) Who were our first parents?

A) Adam and Eve.

17: Q) Of what were our first parents made?

A) God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam.

18: Q) What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A) He gave them souls that could never die.

3. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will read again from the book of **Joshua**. This is the last week we will be in the book of Joshua and then we will move to the next book - Judges. Today, you can turn to the very end of Joshua, chapter 23.*

1. *Turn to the Table of Contents at the front of your Bibles and look under the Old Testament category to find the book of Joshua. Turn to that page number.*

2. Once you've found Joshua, I would like you to find chapter 23.

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your Bible to JOSHUA 23 and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

Many years had passed since the Lord gave His people **rest** from war. Joshua was now an old man. He made a speech to the leaders of the people.

Joshua said, "You have seen for yourselves everything the Lord did for you. He fought for you and gave you the land He promised. **Be very strong and continue obeying all of God's laws.** Do not worship the gods of the other nations. Instead, be loyal to the Lord your God.

"If you turn away from the Lord and begin serving the gods of the other nations, know for certain that God will not fight for you. The good promises God has made to you have all come true. So, do not worship other gods or you will not remain in the land God has given you."

Then, Joshua called all the people of Israel together. He reported God's words, saying, "Long ago, I called Abraham to leave his home and the gods he worshiped and to follow Me. Abraham had Isaac, and Isaac had Jacob and Esau. Jacob and his sons went to Egypt, where your ancestors were put into slavery.

"Then I sent Moses and Aaron and defeated Egypt by sending the plagues, and My people were free. When it looked like the army of Egypt was about to capture my people again, I brought the Red Sea down on them to destroy them. After that, I led the people in the wilderness for a long time.

"Then I took you across the Jordan River. I fought for you and gave you victory in every battle. **I gave you land you did not work for, cities you did not build, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant.**

Joshua then said, **“Therefore, fear the Lord and worship Him alone. You must choose for yourselves who will you worship: The Lord your God or false gods. As for me and my family, we will worship the Lord.”**

The people replied, “We will not abandon the Lord to worship other gods! He brought us up out of slavery in Egypt and performed great miracles to save us. He protected us and defeated armies for us. We will worship the Lord, because He is our God.”

Joshua died at the age of 110 and was buried in the land God had promised to His people.

4. Christ Connection

SAY: Serve and obey the Lord alone! Joshua reminded the people that God saved them from Egypt and gave them the Promised Land. He told them to worship God alone. Jesus is worthy of all worship because He saves those who trust in Him from sin and gives them eternal life.

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to JOSHUA 23:14-16 and JOSHUA 24:14-15.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **JOSHUA 23:14-16**. Select a volunteer to read the passage. Next, have another volunteer read **JOSHUA 24:14-15**.

1. What is something you learn about God in these verses?

- a. *God has not failed to keep one of his promises to his people. He is faithful and trustworthy! But God is faithfully just too - if the people serve idols instead of God and disobey him, then God will be faithful to punish them.*

2. What is something you learn about yourself (or other people) in this passage?

- a. *When we obey God, we are blessed and receive God's good promises. When we disobey, there are always consequences for our sin. We have a choice! Will we obey God or will we follow after "not-gods" (ourselves, idols, the world)? **Who will you serve?***

3. Is there a command to obey? Are there good examples of people to follow in these verses?

- a. *The command is to obey God, trust him, and serve him alone. If we do that, then God promises blessing. The good example to follow in these verses is Joshua who says that he and his family will serve the Lord alone.*

4. Is there a sin to avoid? Are there bad examples to not follow in these verses?

- a. *The sin to avoid is disobeying God's word and serving other gods. There are consequences and punishments for idolatry and choosing to serve and worship anything besides the one true God.*

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Memory Verse | 9:35 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **2 CHRONICLES 7:14** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

- **2 CHRONICLES 7:14**

MEMORY VERSE SCRAMBLE

Write the memory verse on the whiteboard. When you get to keywords, scramble the letters. Invite the class to guess the scrambled words to reveal the full verse. Have the class repeat the verse along with you several times.

SAY: *God promised that if his people humbly obeyed him, then he would bless them, protect them and give them all that they needed in their new land.*

Extra Time Activity

DRAW YOUR FAMILY TREE

Pass out paper and markers to kids and invite them to draw a family tree that includes their parents, siblings and grandparents. Discuss how Joshua said that he had decided that he and his family, his house, would serve the Lord.

SAY *In his farewell speech, Joshua encouraged the people to make a choice in the new land: Would they serve God or not? Joshua said that for him and his family, they would serve the Lord!*



Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.