

K/Fours Lesson Plan - Sunday School

Sunday, September 7

UNIT 9 | SESSION 3

THE ARK WAS CAPTURED

1 SAMUEL 4-6

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: God is above every other god. The ark of God reminded the Israelites that God was with them. Many years later God gave His people something even better to remind them that He was with them. God sent His Son, Jesus. One of Jesus' names is Immanuel, which means "God with us."

CATECHISM QUESTION: Q) What is sin? A) Sin is going our own way instead of going God's way. (Isaiah 53:6).

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: PHILIPPIANS 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours..." (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit (4 weeks): Regardless of sin patterns and disobedience, God continued to see His people and hear their requests and desires. God's provision is seen through His gifts of a kinsman redeemer for Ruth's family, a son with a prophetic calling for Hannah, and freedom and protection for the Israelites from the Philistines. God's plan remained steadfast, despite humanity's brokenness.

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.

- Pull out paper and crayons on tables (in Teacher Box)
- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- Prep room for any activities you will do during the lesson.

Fellowship & Play Time | 9:00-9:15 am

One volunteer should greet children and families at the door.

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Allow children time to engage with one another and play. 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?

FREE PLAY & COLORING

For free time before the lesson, ask children to come to the tables and give them the option to play or color (paper and crayons in Activity Box). Use this time to ask them questions about their week and get to know them.

TRANSITION: Give children a **warning** before you ask them to come to a circle

SAY “Everyone, in 5 minutes we are going to pick up our toys and gather in a circle!”

Sing the clean up song and ask children to come find a seat in the circle.

Activity | 9:15 am

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

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

INTRODUCE THE LESSON - PASS THE ARK

Lead preschoolers to sit in a circle. Instruct them to quickly pass a bean bag (in Activity Box) around the circle as the music plays. Explain that whoever is holding the beanbag when the music stops must make a “Moo” sound, like a cow. Consider playing the memory verse song “My God Will Supply (Philippians 4:19)” (on the YouTube app) as children pass the beanbag.

SAY Today we are going to learn that the Philistines captured the ark of the covenant. But the ark became like our beanbag; they passed the ark around, trying to get rid of it as fast as they could. The ark was taken, but God still showed His power. God showed His power by punishing the Philistines and making people sick in each city where they took the ark. Eventually, the Philistines sent the ark back to Israel on a cart pulled by cows. Let's learn more about it!

Lesson | 9:20 am

As the children gather in a circle on the floor, let them know your expectations - that you would like them to sit quietly, keep their hands to themselves, listen to the story, etc.

1. Open the Bible & Pray

Open to **1 SAMUEL 4** in your Bible. **Reverently display the open Bible.**

SAY Today we are going to be in the book of **1 Samuel!** Do you remember if the book of 1 Samuel is in the Old Testament or the New Testament?. Let's listen to this true story from the Bible.

Pray quickly for your time in the Word of God.

2. Tell the Bible Story

Use the **visuals** (in Activity Box) if you'd like to help children follow along with the story.

THE ARK WAS CAPTURED

Long ago, God's people—the Israelites—had a battle with some other people called the Philistines. The Philistines won! The Israelites were sad and confused. They wondered, “Why didn't God help us win?”

Then the Israelites had an idea. They thought if they took a special box called the ark of God to the battle, they would win. The ark was like a treasure box that reminded the people that God was with them.

Eli's sons took the ark to the battle. When the Israelites saw the ark, they cheered! Now they would win! Right? But, again, the Philistines won. They even took the ark away with them!

The Philistines put the ark next to their statue of their pretend god, Dagon. But every morning, they found the statue had fallen face down in front of the ark and was broken. God was showing them that He is the real God.

Then God made the Philistines very sick. They moved the ark from city to city, but in every city where the ark was, the people got sick. They were scared and wanted to give the ark back to the Israelites.

They put the ark on a cart pulled by two cows and sent it back to the Israelites, where it belonged.

The ark was special, but later God gave us something even better: His Son Jesus. Jesus is like God's super special present to us. He reminds us that God is always with us, like the ark reminded the Israelites.

CHRIST CONNECTION: *God is above every other god. The ark of God reminded the Israelites that God was with them. Many years later God gave His people something even better to remind them that He was with them. God sent His Son, Jesus. One of Jesus' names is Immanuel, which means “God with us.”*

3. Review the Bible Story

- Did the Israelites win their battle against the Philistines? (*no*)
- What did the Philistines capture? (*the ark of the covenant*)
- What happened every night when the ark was next to the stature of their pretend god, Dagon? (*Dagon fell down to the floor in front of the ark!*)
- What happened when the Philistines moved the ark from city to city? (*The people would get sick wherever the ark was*)

4. Catechism Question

SAY *Let's learn a new catechism question today:*

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

Righteousness is the opposite of sin. In the Bible God's righteousness is described as all of his goodness. Let's review our question and answer:

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

5. Pray

Memory Verse | 9:30 am

Open your Bible to **PHILIPPIANS 4:19** and lead the kids to repeat the abridged verse several times, using hand motions if you'd like:

"And my God will supply every need of yours..."

- PHILIPPIANS 4:19

SAY: *The ark was special, but Jesus is even better. The key passage phrase tells us God will supply all our needs in Christ Jesus. Jesus reminds us that God is always with us.*

MEMORY VERSE THEATER

Invite the class to say the memory verse in lots of fun ways. Some suggestions: loud, soft, high-pitched, low/deep, eyes closed, slow, fast, holding your nose, singing, holding your tongue, etc. Get creative and come up with your own fun ways to learn the memory verse.

PLAY THE MUSIC VIDEO

Have the children repeat the verse with you several times. Then play the memory verse music video from the YouTube app on the Roku 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).

After the activity, invite children to sit at the tables to complete their activity pages.

Extra Activity | 9:40 am

TRAVEL A TAPE ROAD

Create roads on the floor using **painter's tape** (in Teacher Box). Place toy cars or trains on the tape.. Invite children to travel on a tape road. Show them how to drive the cars on the road. As children play, remind them how the cows carried the ark of the covenant on a cart back to the Israelites.

SAY *The Philistines captured the ark and put it next to their made-up god. The ark was taken, but God still showed His power. Every morning they found the statue lying down in front of the ark. Then God made the Philistines very sick. They were scared and wanted to give the ark back to the Israelites. They put the ark on a cart pulled by two cows and sent it back to the Israelites where it belonged. The ark was special, but later God gave people something even better: His Son, Jesus. Jesus reminds us that God is always with us.*

Dismissal | 9:45 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.

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- **Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.**