

A Biblical Journey of Self Discovery: Hebrew Scriptures, Vol 1

Passport To Adventure

Age Group: Children, 1st to 3rd Grade Ages 6 to 8

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Welcome

"There is meaning in every journey that is unknown to the traveler." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Introduction

- This curriculum is based on the Hebrew Scriptures, beginning with *The Creation Story* and ending with *Moses Parts the Red Sea.*
- It is divided into 12 units of study.
- There are 4 lessons within each of the 12 units, one for each of the groups listed below:
 - ♦ Preschool/Kindergarten, 3 to 5 years
 - ♦ Elementary, 1st to 3rd grade
 - ♦ Tweens, 4th & 5th grade & Uniteens, 6th to 8th grade
 - ♦ Y.O.U., 9th to 12th grade
- The lessons are designed to stand alone or to be offered in a series.
- All lessons are offered as a download only.
- The lessons are available for individual purchase so you can buy only those age groups you are currently serving in your ministry.

Program Overview

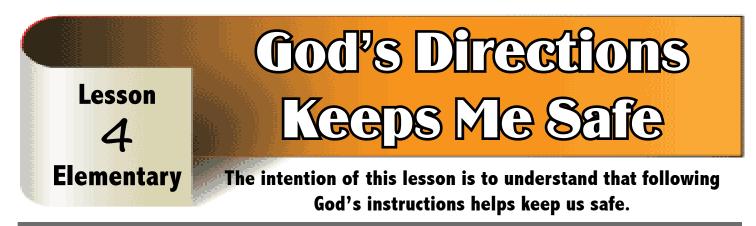
Focus of this material:

This material invites our children and teens to step out in faith and to consciously undertake a Spiritual journey. As with an journey, we first have to get, "The Big Divine Idea." But we cannot stop there. We must know and understand the steps needed to bring an idea into manifestation. We must be willing to leave home or what we are familiar with in order to bring about Spiritual growth. Along the way we meet some interesting characters that invite us to look within and heal what needs to be healed. As with any new undertaking, our faith is sure to be tested. But, if we are willing to move forward with faith, strength and courage, our efforts will be rewarded with renewed Spiritual understanding. And, we just may discover something magnificent about ourselves!

Each week's lesson include:

- Lesson Objectives
 - ♦ Issue to Explore
 - ♦ Spiritual Principles to Explore
 - ♦ What Students Will Gain From the Lesson
- Complete Supply Lists
- Sacred Circle Connecting Activities
- Story
 - ♦ Bible Story or Storybook That Reflects the Bible Story
 - ♦ Story Focus & Interpretation
 - ♦ Discussion Questions
- 2 Age Appropriate Creative Activities
- Parent Letter: The parent letter is the same for each lesson in the unit.

Lesson 4 - Elementary - Welcome



Lesson Objectives

Issue to Explore

Following directions in life works to create our experiences; just as Noah followed the directions to build the boat he created the experience of being safe in the boat with his family and the animals.

Spiritual Principles to Explore

- When things seem hard and we follow the inner directions we have been given we create the experiences for our highest good.
- Using the skills of following directions every day whether it be directions from others or from within ourselves.
- The Unity Principle #3 I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.

The children will:

- □ Explore the story of Noah.
- □ The importance of inner listening.
- □ The importance of following the guidance we are given.
- □ That they are safe with God.

What You Will Need...

Book

□ The Lion Story Teller Bible

Supplies

- Long roll of banner paper
- □ Construction paper, 1 sheet in each of the following colors, *red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet*
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Transition

Use a song and/or musical instruments to transition the children from the opening activities into the circle time

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Sacred Circle Set-Up

Invite the students to set up the sacred circle items. Items to possibly include:

- Cloth
- **Electric Candle**

Copies of the Prayers Sacred Items

Love Offering Box

Stuffed Animal Mascot

Welcome

| Invite one | of the children to create | an affirmation that affirms how they are feeling, for example: My |
|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| name is | I am | The rest of the circle then affirms the first |
| child by sa | ying, "(Name), you are _ | ." Continue until all have been affirmed. |

Centering Breath

Choose one of the following:

- Breathe through your heart: imagine that your breath is going in and out through your heart. •
- Be a Balloon: pump up like a balloon and then release.
- Be a Drain: tighten all muscles, hold and then release.

Prayer

- Share a prayer you would like the children to learn.
- Invite them to share prayer requests and then lead them in a short prayer.

Offering & Blessing:

Provide an opportunity for the children to give a love offering. It can be money or anything they would like to see multiplied in the world. Use the blessing that is appropriate for your age group.

Unity Principle #3

I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.

Celebrations

Invite the children to share something they would like to celebrate. Use noise makers or pom-poms to cheer after each celebration.



"Noah's Ark" The Lion Storytellers Bible pgs. 12-13

This is a story about how Noah built the ark.

Story Focus/Interpretation

As we learn to follow directions from others we learn to follow directions from within. We create our experiences by what we think, feel, believe, and do. Just as Noah followed directions to build the boat, and what to put into the boat he was safe from the flood. When we follow directions we learn to accomplish our goals. Noah created the experience of being safe in the boat from the rising waters. Noah also created the experience of keeping his family and the animals safe in the boat to be able to enjoy the world after the flood.

As we navigate though life following the direction from others and from within we are creators of our experiences

Discussion Questions

- Who was on the boat?
- What did Noah's family think when he told them what he was going to do?
- What did other people think about the building of the boat?
- How many of each animal did Noah take on the boat?
- How long did it rain?
- What did Noah and, his family see in the sky when they finally were able to leave the boat?
- How did his family feel when Noah told them what he was going to do?
- How did others feel about the building of the boat?
- What do you think it was like for Noah to catch and clean up after the animals?
- Did Noah follow his directions even when it got hard? Explain.
- Where do people get directions to follow?
- What kind of directions are you given in school or at home?
- · How easy or difficult is it to follow directions sometimes?
- Tell me about a time you followed directions. What happened?
- What might have been different if you had followed directions?
- What are the reasons we are given directions?
- What would the world be like if they were no directions. What would your life be like?
- How do directions or instructions help to keep us safe?



The Crazy Mixed-Up Role Play

Action

Supplies

Story of Noah

- Invite the children to select the role they want to play:
 - \diamond God
 - Noah
 - ♦ Noah's Wife
 - ♦ Noah's 3 Sons
 - ♦ The Neighbors
 - ♦ Animals
- Retell the part of the story where Noah is asked to build the ark, stopping when it talks about the rain beginning.
- As you read, invite the children to act it out just as you read it.
- Then start the story again, but this time invite the children to create their own story action using one or more of the following scenarios. For example:
 - \diamond Noah says no to God.
 - ♦ The neighbors decide to all pitch in.
 - Noah doesn't listen well and gives mixed up instructions he tells them to gather the animals before the ark is built.

Discussion

- What was the first retelling like? What was it like to follow God's instructions?
- What was were the next scenarios like? What happened?
- Why do we need instructions or directions to keep us safe?
- How do we know what directions to follow?
- Why do wHow do w



God Says

Action

- Roll out a long sheet of the banner paper. This will form the basis of the rainbow.
- Invite one child to play the role of God.
- Invite the rest of the children to each select a sheet of construction paper. (If there are more than 7 children in the class, they duplicate the colors. If there are less than 7 children, invite each child to select more than one color.)
- Invite God to stand on one side of the banner paper and the rest of the children to stand on the other side.
- God will now give instructions on how to build a rainbow. Let the children know that they are only to follow the instructions that begin with, "God said."
 - Invite God to give the correct order of colors for the rainbow only after he/she say, for example: "God said, start with red."
 - God can include unrelated actions to try to confuse the children. Just make sure in those directions he/she DOES NOT say, "God said."

Discussion

- What was this experience like for you in the beginning?
- What did you have to listen for in order to know what to do?
- What helped you hear the correction instructions?
- How do you know when God is giving you directions?
- How do you know what directions to follow?

<u>Supplies</u>

- Long roll of banner paper.
- Construction paper, 1 sheet in each of the following colors, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet
- Tape



Share

Any creations from today.

Share one thing they learned today.

Commit

Say what they might do differently this week as a result of what they learned today.

Affirm

Share the Unity Principle of the day.

Pray

Say the Prayer for Protection or the Prayer of Faith.

Close with prayer of gratitude for something in the day or something in their lives: "I am grateful, God, for _____."

Further Teacher Empowerment Reading and Exploration:

If this subject matter is interesting to you and you would like to explore more, check out the following links and publications:

Genesis Chapters 6:8 through 9:17

Read the story of Noah and the ark. What thoughts does this story bring up for you? How do you feel about the action in the story? What in the deeper meaning to you? How is story showing up in your life?

Mysteries of Genesis by Charles Fillmore

Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.newthoughtlibrary.com/fillmoreCharles/MysteryOfGenesis/

Metaphysical Bible Dictionary.

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/mbd

Revealing Word.

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/rw

Lesson 4 - Elementary - Activity & Closing

Lesson #4

Parent Letter

God's Directions Keep Me Safe

The intention of this lesson is to understand that following God's instructions helps keep us safe.

Lesson Objectives

issue to Explore

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Spiritual Principles to Explore

- When things seem hard and we follow the inner directions we have been given we create the experiences for our highest good.
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- The Unity Principle #3 I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.

"Noah's Ark" Genesis 6:8-9:17

In the story of Noah and the boat Noah listens to the direction given to him by God. God is within us. Listening to the direction within him Noah was able to keep himself, his family, and the animals safe on the boat. By following directions in life whether it be home, school, work or the direction or guidance that we receive within us; as Noah listened to his inner direction and built the boat, stocked it with supplies and food for a long period of time to keep himself, his family, and the animals safe we are guided by direction from within and from others as we navigate through the journey of life even when following that guidance is hard. As the in the story of Noah and the boat the rains fell harder than Noah and ever seen and the flood waters covered everything; in life listening and following the directions and guidance from within and from others helps us navigate the flood waters of life. As we navigate though life following the direction from others and from within we are creators of our experiences

Continue the exploration at home:

For Preschoolers:

- Remind them that by following directions we create positive experience.
- Use examples such as when learning to pick up their toys it will be easier to find them when they want to play with them again.

For Elementary Students:

Ask them:

- Tell me about a time you did not understand the directions that were given. What was that like for you?
- How do directions help us?

For Teens:

Ask them:

- What do the flood and ark represent in the story?
- What do the animals and those not saved represent?
- God wanted to cleanse the earth of evil. Evil represent thoughts that are not in alignment with Spirit; thoughts that are not in our best interest. What thoughts are you holding that you would like to release?
- What benefit do you receive when you are willing to align yourself with God-Mind?
- · How is this story showing up in your life?

Definition of Terms

Evil/Wicked--Thoughts/feelings/actions that are harmful or negative. Thoughts that are out of sync with our True nature of oneness with God.

Noah--The part of us that allows us to remain centered and focused on the indwelling Christ presence no matter what is happening in our lives.

The Ark--A place of refuge within us that we can turn to when emotions and events are "flooding" us and leaving us feeling unsettled. We create this place within by filling ourselves with thoughts and ideas that align with God-Mind.

Animals/Birds--Qualities and ideas and/or thoughts.

Water--Can represent cleansing and/or negativity. Our thoughts flow like water, we can become submerged in repetitive thinking - are we having positive thoughts or negative thoughts.

Flood--Cleansing; sweeping away.

Rainbow--God's promise to always be a part of us.

Man [humankind]--An idea in Divine Mind; the epitome of being. The apex of God's creation, created in His image and likeness.

Dove--Peace, resting in Spirit.

40 Days/Nights--As long as it takes. The length of time needed to complete something.