

Old Testament

The sun stands still Joshua 10:1-15

Younger Verse

I am the resurrection and the life. John 11:25

Older Verse

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies. John 11:25

Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament. Each lesson will have both Old Testament and New Testament passages.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have you ever seen something unusual like the sun shining while it is raining or snow falling in a hot month like July or August? Sounds impossible. Today's lesson has a miracle that God did. Listen and see.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

We have been learning about Joshua. Last week we learned how His men marched around Jericho and God caused the walls to fall down.

Joshua listened to God and did things God's way. One time, though, he did not ask God about a decision. A group of people from a town called Gibeon came to Joshua and asked to make a peace treaty with him. They lied and told Joshua that they were from a far away town.

Joshua did not talk to God to see what God wanted. Instead, he made a peace treaty with the people.

Later, they discovered that the people lived near them! They had deceived Joshua. Joshua realized that he had made a big mistake by trying to do things on his own. Now he had to honor the peace treaty with the people of Gibeon.

Sure enough, neighboring towns decided to fight the people of the town of Gibeon because they made peace with Joshua. The people came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace treaty. They shared that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had a treaty.

Joshua kept his agreement and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. As they were marching, God

Lesson Goals: Listen and follow God's way instead of our own
See how God can make miracles happen!
See how prayer can do amazing things

told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win.

When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused and Joshua was able to defeat them.

Many ran along the road to escape Joshua's men. As they ran, Joshua's men pursued them. As they ran, God rained down huge hailstones from the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies along the road.

Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory.

Believe it or not, God made the sun stop in the middle of the day and delayed it going down about a full day.

God listened to Joshua and granted his prayer request. Now remember that Joshua had recently done wrong. However, God has heard Joshua ask for forgiveness and God erased the sin. Joshua learned his lesson from his mistake. He talked and listened to God and did what He wanted.

We make mistakes just like Joshua. These sins separate us from God. God loves us and does not want us to be separated from Him. So, He made a way to get rid of the sin. He sent His Son, Jesus, to take our punishment for all our sins. Jesus died on a cross to pay the punishment for all our wrongs. If we believe in Jesus in our hearts, we must tell God we are sorry for our wrongs and promise to do things God's way. God will forgive our sins and wipe away all our sin. If you want to know how to believe in Jesus and ask Him to stay with you forever, talk to us about it. When Jesus comes to stay with you, He changes your life and helps you do things God's way.

Learning Activities

Try helping the kids learn a lesson from the story today.

Memory Verse Activities

Resurrection is a BIG word. Talk about what it meant (Jesus came back to life after He had died). Share how we can live forever in Heaven, if we believe in Jesus in our hearts.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us talk and listen to Him this week. Ask Him for help with decisions we make each day.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring snacks and enjoy time together.

Planning for Lesson 36
Deborah the Judge
Judges 4-5

Preschool Lesson
For
The sun stands still

Make a sun puppet to tell the story.

Hi! I'm Mr. Sun. I want to tell you an amazing story that happened to me a very long time ago.

Joshua, made a peace agreement with the town of Gibeon. That means that they would not fight them and they would help if someone else tried to hurt them.

One day, several kings decided to fight the people of the town of Gibeon. The people came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace agreement. They shared that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had a treaty.

Joshua kept his promise and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. (Make marching stomps on the floor) As they were marching, God told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win. (Raise your arms in victory!)

When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused and Joshua was able to win.

Many ran along the road to escape Joshua's men. (Run in place) As they ran, Joshua's men pursued them. As they ran, God rained down huge hailstones from the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies along the road.

Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory.

Believe it or not, it stopped in the middle of the day and didn't go down until almost a full day.

God listened to Joshua and answered his prayer. He hears us too and listens to our prayers. Let's take time to pray to God and tell Him thank you for loving us and taking care of us.

Sing a song to the "Itsy Bitsy Spider."

The enemies of the land came to Gideon, (Move your finger like you are walking)

Joshua's people marched to help them out. (March)

Out came the sun when Joshua prayed (Make a circle with your hands for a sun)

And Joshua's people won the victory! (Raise your hands in victory)

Hands-On Activities
For
The Sun stands still

Make a Sun Mobile.

Make crazy sunglasses. Use colored cellophane as the lens.

Create a Sun Puppet.

Talk about how Joshua's prayer was answered. Make a list of requests for prayer. Share how God hears every request and will answer in the best way. It may be different from what you wanted, but God knows best.

Joshua learned a lesson the hard way about listening to God and doing things His way. Do you do things God's way or your way? Talk about the differences and which way is right.

Play the "Stand still game." Have someone stand still like the sun in today's story. Now time them to see how long they can stand still. The winner is the one who can stand still the longest while others are trying to make him laugh etc.

Oranges remind us of the big orange sun. Bring oranges to eat or squeeze them into orange juice to drink.

Make hailstones out of wadded up paper or bring Styrofoam balls. When that part of the story happens, let them throw the balls! Set boundaries with the kids before you begin so that they do not get out of control!
