

Old Testament

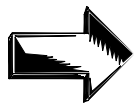
Gehazi is greedy 2 Kings 5:15b-27

Younger Verse

Share with God's people who need help. Romans 12:13

Older Verse

Share with God's people who need help. Romans 12:13



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

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

Welcome Time

Have you ever got caught lying about something? I'm sure everyone has. Today, someone gets caught lying in our lesson. Let's see what happens.

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.*

Last week, we learned how a famous army officer was cured of an awful skin disease by swimming in the Jordan River 7 times. God helped Elisha know what to do to help the man named Naaman.

Elisha's helper was the person who came to the door and told Naaman to dip 7 times in the Jordan River. Elisha's helper was named Gehazi. Gehazi noticed all the silver and supplies that Naaman had brought as a gift to Elisha.

When Naaman was cured, he returned to Elisha to thank him and give him the extravagant gifts. Elisha told Naaman that he did not want the gifts because it was God who had cured him. So, Naaman and his helpers began to travel back to his home in another country.

Gehazi began to think about all the beautiful clothes that Naaman had and the many pieces of silver tinkling in Naaman's pouch. He began to get greedy and want part of the treasures. He thought of a lie to tell Naaman and he ran to catch up to him.

When Gehazi found Naaman, Naaman was pleased to see him. Gehazi told Naaman a lie. He said that two people had come to visit Elisha and he needed silver and two sets of clothes.

Naaman was so excited to help that he gave Gehazi double the silver and two sets of clothes.

Lesson Goals

**Share how Gehazi sinned (he was greedy and he lied)
Explain how God wants us to share with others and tell the truth**

Gehazi and his helpers traveled back to Gehazi's home. He hid the treasures and then went back to Elisha's house. When he arrived, Elisha asked him where he had gone.

Gehazi lied again. He told Elisha that he did not go anywhere.

Elisha then told Gehazi that God showed him that he went to Naaman and greedily asked for things. Gehazi was caught. He knew that Elisha knew the truth. Because of his greediness and deception, Elisha told him that HE would now have leprosy.

Immediately, Gehazi was covered with sores that were white as snow.

Gehazi had to pay a high price for doing wrong. He forgot that God sees everything and knows all the things we do both good and bad. He also forgot to be honest. His lies kept growing and growing. Once a person tells a lie, he usually has to tell more to cover up the other lies. It is best to tell the truth. God wants us to tell the truth too. It is easy to lie when we have done something wrong or want to cover up a mistake. It is easy to lie when we want to brag to others so that we look like we've done something good. God wants us to always tell the truth and stand up for what is right. Let's promise this week to watch our words and always speak truth (no lies) to others.

In the Bible, we learn that God sees everything. We cannot hide from God. He sees our mistakes (sin) and He knows what causes us to have dirty, impure hearts. God knew that He had to do something to help us become clean again. God sent us His one and only Son, Jesus, to make a way for us to go to Heaven. Jesus died on a cross for all the wrong sins that we have done. He took the punishment for us. If we believe in Him and pray to ask Jesus to come into our lives, Jesus will come into our heart and stay with us forever. He will clean out all the dirty sin and make us clean. He will help us do things God's way instead of our way. Would you like a clean heart? Talk to us about how Jesus can clean your heart.

Learning Activities

Try ideas to help the kids apply this lesson to their lives.

Memory Verse Activities

Try to sign the verse today. It's a fun way to remember the verse.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us do right this week. Ask Him to help us always tell the truth.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Share snacks together and talk to the kids about the lesson.

Preschool Lesson
For
Gehazi is Greedy

Bring foil covered circles (for coins) and clothes on hangers for the lesson.

Do you remember last week's lesson? We talked about a man named Naaman who was sick. Elisha told him to dip 7 times in a river and he would be well. He followed the directions and sure enough, he got well.

Naaman had brought lots of silver and clothes to give as a gift to Elisha. The coins sparkled and jingled in his pocket. Elisha told Naaman that he did not want any money because it was God who healed him.

Well, Elisha had a helper named Gehazi. He saw the coins and clothes. He decided that he wanted some of the money. He was greedy.

Gehazi traveled on the road and found Naaman. Naaman was pleased to see him. Gehazi told Naaman a lie. He said that two people had come to visit Elisha and he needed silver and two sets of clothes.

Naaman was so excited to help that he gave Gehazi double the silver and two sets of clothes. (Bring out the coins and clothes)

Gehazi and his helpers traveled back to Gehazi's home. He hid the treasures and then went back to Elisha's house. When he arrived, Elisha asked him where he had gone.

Gehazi lied again. He told Elisha that he did not go anywhere.

Elisha then told Gehazi that God showed him that he went to Naaman and greedily asked for things. Gehazi was caught. He knew that Elisha knew the truth. Because of his greediness, Elisha told him that HE would now have leprosy.

Immediately, Gehazi was covered with sores that were white as snow.

Gehazi forgot that God sees everything and knows all the things we do both good and bad. He also was not honest. His lies kept growing and growing. God wants us to always tell the truth and stand up for what is right. Let's promise this week to watch our words and always speak truth (no lies) to others.

Ask God to help us tell the truth this week.

Hands-On Activities
For
Gehazi is Greedy

Talk about the difference between wanting things and being greedy.

There are several object lessons to help the children see the effects of greediness (sin) on our lives:

Bring a spool of thread. Wrap it around your finger once and ask the kids to break the thread. It should be fairly easy. Now, wrap the thread many times around your finger and ask them to break it. It is very hard if not impossible for them. Share that just like the thread, if we keep telling lies or becoming greedy, it is hard to “break” the problem. God wants us to do right and not continue to do wrong things.

Bring a flashlight but have dead batteries in it (or none at all). Try to turn on the flashlight. Ask for help. Ask them for reasons why it does not work. Share how lying and greed are like the dead batteries. It prevents us from shining God’s light to others. We must ask God to forgive our sin and then He will help us shine again.

(This will take a few days prep work) Bring a moldy piece of bread or sandwich. Talk about good the sandwich could have been, but now how yucky it is. Now share that lying and greed are like the moldy sandwich. It spoils the good things that can happen.

Bring a balloon to blow up and a pin to pop it. Start blowing the balloon and share how one little lie begins to grow larger and larger (blow the balloon as you tell this). Explain that sometime or another, all lies will be discovered and certainly God knows ALL of them. Quickly POP the balloon. Share how honesty is something God wants us to practice.
