

Old Testament

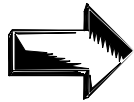
Nahum: Hope for God's people Nahum 1:7-15

Younger Verse

Jesus said, "I am the ... life." John 11:25

Older Verse

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



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

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

What happens when you are punished? Do you deserve it? How do you respond to the punishment? (Wait for responses) Today's lesson is about this. Let's listen.

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.

Have you ever seen a person who kept acting up and acting up? Finally his/her mom, dad, or teacher disciplined him in some way. What did you think of that? (wait for responses) When someone disciplines you, why do you think they are doing it? (wait for answers—they can be very insightful as to their backgrounds and attitudes)

People should discipline others so that they can learn and follow God's ways. It's not because they don't like you or because they want to embarrass you. They want the BEST for you.

Do you remember the story of Jonah? Remember the city where he went. It was called Nineveh. Remember that God was about to destroy the city. Jonah told the people how God felt and they changed their ways. They told God they were sorry and they started following God.

Nahum is written 150 years later. Guess what? The people of Nineveh went back to their old ways. They stopped loving God and started loving themselves and idols instead. This made God very sad.

Finally after telling them again and again to change their ways, God decided to destroy them! They no longer listened to God and didn't care about Him.

Lesson Goals

See that God will one day judge everyone
Make a decision to follow Jesus—because He loves us
Do right and follow Jesus

Nahum told God's people that they would be safe but the people of Nineveh would die. This gave the people hope. They knew that God would do His best and they knew that He loved them.

In Nahum 1:7, God tells the people that He cares for those who trust in Him. Do you trust in God? Have you asked Jesus to come into your life? The Bible tells us that we will be judged by God. He wants us to come to Him and let Him be in charge of our lives. He wants us to be in Heaven with Him. There is only one way to do this. We must ask Jesus to come into our life and believe that He died and rose again to pay the punishment for our wrongs. Yes, God sent in a substitute to pay for our wrongs. Jesus died on a cross for our wrongs. He rose again 3 days later so that we have a hope and a future if we trust Him and believe in Him. Would you like to do this? Talk to me during activity time.

Learning Activities

Find the activities that will help your children understand and apply the lesson. Be sure to clearly share the Good News of Jesus. When talking to a child about Christ, be sure to ask him/her open ended questions like "What do you do to get to heaven?" instead of yes or no questions. Be sure the child understands what he/she is doing and isn't just doing this to get attention or please you.

Memory Verse Activities

There is a fun balloon pop game to help the children remember the verse. Write the words of the verse on balloons and pop as they say the verse. You may put several words on a balloon if the supply is low.

Prayer Time

Are you a model of prayer for your kids? Do they know that you pray for them (if you do)? Take time before class to pray for each of your students by name. Try to visit them and find out how they are doing. During prayer time today, let each person share a need. Write them down and pray for them this week. Challenge them to do the same.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring some good snacks and take time to enjoy them with the kids. This is a great time to really spend time with them and become better friends.

Planning for Lesson 100
Habakkuk talks to God
Habakkuk 1-3

Preschool Lesson
For
Nahum

Have you ever had to have a “time out?” It is no fun being punished. Why do we have “time outs?” (Wait for answers or stories about how a person has gotten into trouble or disobeyed)

A long time ago, there was a group of people that promised to love God. They stopped doing wrong and started obeying God.

Time went by and they slowly started doing wrong things again. God was very sad that they stopped obeying Him and started doing wrong.

God sent Nahum to tell the people that they were going to be punished for their disobedience. God wanted them to know that He loved them and wanted them to follow Him with all their hearts.

God loves us too and wants us to do good to others and obey.

Sing, “Jesus loves Me” and talk about how much He really does love us.

Hands-On Activities
For
Nahum

Assemble the “Lamb Puzzle” that will spell out the verse in Nahum 1:7. Talk about what it means to have God as our refuge.

Talk about what it means for God to forgive you for the things that you have done wrong (your sin). Share how God promises to forgive and forget the past. He wants to help us start new and do things right.

Bring a loaf of good bread and a loaf of moldy bread. Ask the kids which one they would like to make a sandwich with. Obviously, the good bread will be requested. Share how a small bit of mold grows and grows until the whole loaf is moldy. Share how our wrongs are the same way. If we keep sinning and sinning, our wrongs are going to grow and grow. God wants to help us remove our sin (mold) and make us clean to do things God’s way.

Find a piece of candy that can be easily opened without the kids realizing it. Before class, unwrap the candy and replace the candy with a rock or other small object of the correct size. Now ask the kids who would like a piece of candy. Everyone will raise their hands! As the person opens the candy, they will see that it is a trick. Share how sometimes we look good on the outside but inside we are sad. Explain that God looks at our heart and knows when we have done wrong. No one else may be able to see, but God does. God does not like it when we do wrong. He wants us to be sorry and ask Him for forgiveness. He will clean us and make us pure again.
