

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 55: JOSHUA BECOMES ISRAEL'S NEW LEADER
JOSHUA 1

Moses, the LORD's servant, was dead. So the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, who had been the assistant of Moses. The LORD said: My servant Moses is dead. Now you must lead Israel across the Jordan River into the land I'm giving to all of you. Wherever you go, I'll give you that land, as I promised Moses. It will reach from the Southern Desert to the Lebanon Mountains in the north, and to the northeast as far as the great Euphrates River. It will include the land of the Hittites, and the land from here at the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea on the west. Joshua, I will always be with you and help you as I helped Moses, and no one will ever be able to defeat you. Long ago I promised the ancestors of Israel that I would give this land to their descendants. So be strong and brave! Be careful to do everything my servant Moses taught you. Never stop reading The Book of the Law he gave you. Day and night you must think about what it says. If you obey it completely, you and Israel will be able to take this land. I've commanded you to be strong and brave. Don't ever be afraid or discouraged! I am the LORD your God, and I will be there to help you wherever you go. Joshua ordered the tribal leaders to go through the camp and tell everyone: In a few days we will cross the Jordan River to take the land that the LORD our God is giving us. So fix as much food as you'll need for the march into the land. Joshua told the men of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and East Manasseh: The LORD's servant Moses said that the LORD our God has given you land here on the east side of the Jordan River, where you could live in peace. Your wives and children and your animals can stay here in the land Moses gave you. But all of you that can serve in our army must pick up your weapons and lead the men of the other tribes across the Jordan River. They are your relatives, so you must help them conquer the land that the LORD is giving them. The LORD will give peace to them as he has given peace to you, and then you can come back and settle here in the land that Moses promised you. The men answered: We'll cross the Jordan River and help our relatives. We'll fight anywhere you send us. If the LORD our God will help you as he helped Moses, and if you are strong and brave, we will obey you as we obeyed Moses. We'll even put to death anyone who rebels against you or refuses to obey you.

55. JOSHUA BECOMES ISRAEL'S NEW LEADER

(JOSHUA 1)

MEMORY VERSE:

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

JOSHUA 1:8

TRUE OR FALSE

1. After Moses died, the LORD spoke to Joshua, who was Moses' assistant. TRUE or FALSE
2. The LORD told Joshua to take the Israelites into the land that He had promised to give them. TRUE or FALSE
3. The LORD said that only a few people would be able to defeat the Israelites. TRUE or FALSE
4. The LORD told Joshua that he didn't need to read the Book of the Law any more since he already learned it all from Moses. TRUE or FALSE
5. The LORD told Joshua to be brave and strong because He wasn't going to be able to be with them forever to help them. TRUE or FALSE
6. Joshua told the tribes of Reuben, Gad and East Manasseh that they could stay in the land before crossing the river Jordan, but anyone who could fight should go with the other tribes across the Jordan so they could get their land too. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Why did the LORD tell Joshua to be brave and strong? Was it because He would always be there with them to help them?
2. What did the LORD say would happen if they read and did everything the Book of the Law said to do? Would they be able to take the land?
3. Why did the LORD tell the tribes of Reuben, Gad and East Manasseh to help the other tribes get their land before they could go back and settle into their own land? Was it because they were their relatives and they needed help getting their land too?
4. Did the men agree to go with Joshua and the other tribes and obey what he would tell them to do?

THE
LORD
IS
WITH
YOU

LESSON 55 ACTIVITY/CRAFT

Not Seeing Is Believing

You will need a magnet and some paper clips. Using a sheet of paper, put some paper clips on top of the sheet of paper and the magnet underneath. Move the paper clips around using the magnet. You can also allow some of the children to experiment with this, as time allows.

As you are moving the paper clips explain that even though we do not “see” the magnet it is still there moving the paper clips. It is like that with God. We may not actually “see” Him, but we know that He has always promised to be with us because He has promised to never leave nor forsake us in His word.

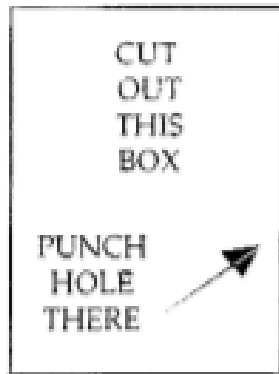
OPTIONAL CRAFT:

Memory Verse Reminder

Refer to the enclosed artwork. Have the children cut out the memory verse rectangle with the memory verse on it. Then, color and cut out the sun, moon, and stars disk. Attach with a brad to the back of the sheet with the window. Pictures should show through the cut out window to represent day and night. Option: Gluing the rectangle to construction paper will make it sturdier.

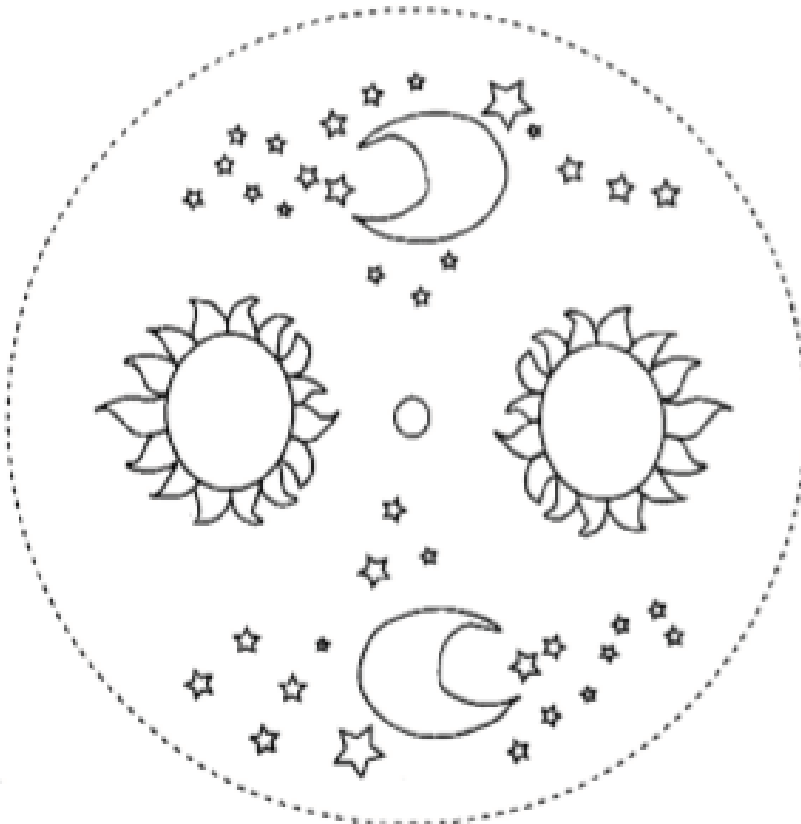
As the children are constructing, remind them, “God will always be there for us, day or night, all of the time!”

PRAYER Lead the children in a prayer to ask the Lord to help them remember that He will never leave them nor forsake them; they have nothing to fear. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them the opportunity.



This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Joshua 1:9



1. Cut along outer dotted line of rectangle containing memory verse and cut out inner window.
2. Color sun, moon, and stars. Cut along outer dotted line of circle.
3. Punch a holes where indicated on the rectangle and the circle.
4. Using a brad, attach the circle to the back of the rectangle aligning holes.
5. The pictures on the circle should show through the window representing day and night when turned.