



MARCH 30, 2025

JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

JOSHUA 23-24

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus is worthy of all worship because He saves those who trust in Him from sin and gives them eternal life.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 24:8

PREPARE



Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The book of Joshua ends with a farewell address to God's people about 20 years after they first found rest in the Promised Land. Joshua took one last opportunity to challenge the people to continue following the Lord and remind them how they were called to live in view of what God had already accomplished on their behalf.

What did Joshua commission the Israelites to do in his farewell address? How does this parallel with how Christ followers should live today?

Joshua spent his last moments on earth reminding the Israelites of the grace God had shown them by giving them the land He promised to Abraham long ago. Joshua led them through the history of their people, through the patriarchs and battles that brought them to the land. He also impressed upon them the truth that God's promise to bless them had been fulfilled, but the rest they were experiencing in the land was contingent upon their covenant loyalty to worship God alone.

The Israelites were commissioned to get rid of the foreign gods that were among them and turn their hearts to the Lord (Joshua 24:23). We, like the Israelites, are called to lead lives of obedient worship, turning away from idols in our midst. By the grace of God, we can have hearts that desire to follow His commands through faith-filled obedience as we live through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lead kids to see the awe-inspiring deliverance God extends to the people He has sworn to provide for — those who place their faith in His Son. Help kids see that God's greatest act of love is found in Jesus, whose sacrifice atoned for the sins of His people long ago and for us today. Ask the Lord to instill upon the kids in your class a deep desire to know and worship Him in light of the promise of eternal life in Christ's presence.

LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

Many years had passed since the Lord gave His people rest from war. Joshua was now an old man. He made a speech to the leaders of the people.

Joshua said, "You have seen for yourselves everything the Lord did for you. He fought for you and gave you the land He promised. Be very strong and continue obeying all of God's laws. Do not worship the gods of the other nations. Instead, be loyal to the Lord your God.

"If you turn away from the Lord and begin serving the gods of the other nations, know for certain that God will not fight for you. The good promises God has made to you have all come true. So, do not worship other gods or you will not remain in the land God has given you."

Then, Joshua called all the people of Israel together. He reported God's words, saying, "Long ago, I called Abraham to leave his home and the gods he worshiped and to follow Me. Abraham had Isaac, and Isaac had Jacob and Esau. Jacob and his sons went to Egypt, where your ancestors were put into slavery.

"Then I sent Moses and Aaron and defeated Egypt by sending the plagues, and My people were free. When it looked like the army of Egypt was about to capture my people again, I brought the Red Sea down on them to destroy them. After that, I led the people in the wilderness for a long time.

"Then I took you across the Jordan River. I fought for you and gave you victory in every battle. I gave you land you did not work for, cities you did not build, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant."

Joshua then said, "Therefore, fear the Lord and worship Him alone. You must choose for yourselves who you will worship: The Lord your God or false gods. As for me and my family, we will worship the Lord."

The people replied, "We will not abandon the Lord to worship other gods! He brought us up out of slavery in Egypt and performed great miracles to save us. He protected us and defeated armies for us. We will worship the Lord, because He is our God."

Joshua died at the age of 110 and was buried in the land God had promised to His people.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Joshua reminded the people that God saved them from Egypt and gave them the Promised Land. He told them to worship God alone. **Jesus is worthy of all worship because He saves those who trust in Him from sin and gives them eternal life.**

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a class!

MEMORY VERSE

Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

Psalm 24:8, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

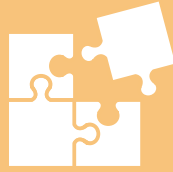
Have kids continue to review the memory verse from this month, or introduce April's memory verse to them:

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. — 1 Peter 2:24, ESV

Encourage kids to continue writing God's Word on their heart by memorizing scripture!



K12 ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with younger kids after Large Group.

ACTIVITY #1

Using painter's tape, create various lines on the floor in your room or the hallway, such as zigzag lines, straight lines, curvy lines, etc.

Have kids line up at one end and take turns walking on each line, challenging them to keep their feet on the tape at all times. If they fall off the line, have them start over.

To make it more of a challenge, give kids a pom-pom and a straw. Challenge them to blow their pom-poms along the tape lines with the straws, keeping the pom-pom on the tape at all times.

CONNECT THE DOTS



It was challenging to always stay on the line! In our lesson today, Joshua challenged God's people to remain true to God. Similar to always staying on the line, Joshua told the people not to turn away from God, but to worship only Him.

CONNECT THE DOTS



Sometimes, we need help remembering things. Today, we learned how Joshua challenged the Israelites to remember all God had done for them. Joshua reminded the Israelites to worship and obey God. We also need to be reminded of all the things God has done for us. The more time we spend in God's Word, the more we will remember God's actions, character, and promises.

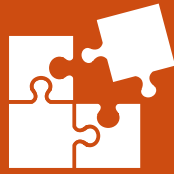
ACTIVITY #2

Take the pieces of the Big Picture Answer and place them around the room. Tell kids that, working as a class, they must get all the pieces of the Big Picture Answer on the board.

To do this, they need to help each other remember things God has done. For each thing they correctly remember, they get to put a piece of the Big Picture Answer on the board. For example, if one kid says God created the world and everything in it, you would put one piece up on the board.

Encourage every kid to say one thing, even if it's something small. If they struggle, help them by asking questions to lead them to some answers. (e.g., "Why did God speak to Moses from the burning bush?", "How was our world created?" "Who came to save us from our sins?" etc.)

345 ACTIVITIES



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CONNECT THE DOTS



Today we learned how Joshua challenged the Israelites to remember all God had done for them. Joshua reminded them to worship and obey God. We need to be reminded of all that God has done for us. Just like how we remembered more items the longer we spent looking at the image, the more time we spend in God's Word, the more we will remember of God's actions, character, and promises.

ACTIVITY #2

On the TV in your room, open the "Can You Remember" folder. Have kids divide into 2-4 groups depending on the size of your class.

Give each group three pieces of blank paper and have them choose one person from their group to be the writer. Explain that you will show a group of images on the screen for 5 seconds. After the slide is turned off, each group must try to remember as many of the objects as they can and write them down on a sheet of paper in one minute.

After the minute is up, have them put the paper aside. Show the image again, this time for 10 seconds. Give them another minute to write down the objects in the image, with the goal of writing more than the last round. Then, play a third round, showing the image for 15 seconds.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your class to discuss.

1. What does it mean to worship only God?
2. Why do you think Joshua reminded the Israelites about all God had done?
3. Do you think God's people would keep their promise to worship only Him? Why not?
4. Why should we worship God alone?
5. How can we remember God's faithfulness and obey His commands?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

Go to the Leader Folder on one of the TVs in your classroom. (*Hit the back button until you see it.*) There, you'll find games and activities to do with your class!



BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!