



MARCH 30, 2025

JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

JOSHUA 23-24

CHRIST CONNECTION

Joshua reminded God's people to love God and obey Him. After Jesus died on the cross and rose again, Jesus reminded His followers to love and obey Him too.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

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

MEMORY VERSE

Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty. 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.

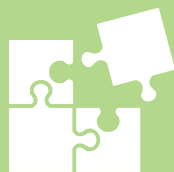
What did Joshua commission the Israelites to do in his farewell address? How does this parallel with how Christ followers should live today?

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 children 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 children in your class a deep desire to know and worship Him in light of the promise of eternal life in Christ's presence.

OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities

WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

ACTIVITY: SING A SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”:

Who is the King of Glory?
Who is the King of Glory?
Who is the King of Glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty.

(Repeat)

CONNECT THE DOTS



Our memory verse phrase says, “Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty.” When we obey God and love Him with all our hearts, we are strong too!

CONNECT THE DOTS



We carried a stone and placed it under the tree. Joshua put a big stone under a tree to help the people remember a promise they made. The people promised to always worship the one true God. They promised to love and obey Him. Joshua reminded the people to worship and obey God.

CRAFT: STONE AND TREE

Supplies: paper, rocks, decorating materials, glue sticks

Using the paper, allow children to color their tree and stick a rock to the paper under the tree using a glue stick.

As part of the activity, using the provided rocks, let children place a rock under the big tree in your class and talk about the story.



JOSHUA'S FAREWELL

Joshua was getting older. He was the leader of God's people, so he called them all together. He had something very important to say. Joshua told the people, "Remember all the amazing things God did for us. When we were in trouble, God helped us! Let's always do what God says and love Him with all our hearts."

Joshua reminded everyone how God never, ever breaks His promises. He told them about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and how God saved them from their enemies. "God did so many wonderful things for us!" Joshua said.

Then Joshua asked the people, "Who will you worship? Will you follow the one true God or pretend gods?" Joshua and his family promised to always worship the one true God.

The people shouted, "We love God! We won't ever worship pretend gods!"

But Joshua warned them, "If you worship pretend gods, God will be sad." Again, the people promised to love God and obey Him.

So Joshua put a big stone under a tree. "Whenever you see this stone," he said, "remember your promise to God. God always keeps His promises." Then Joshua sent the people back to their homes.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Joshua reminded God's people to love God and obey Him. After Jesus died on the cross and rose again, Jesus reminded His followers to love and obey Him too.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
3. Who did the Israelites promise to worship?
4. Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return storage cubes to Rm 108.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!