



GOD'S PROPHETS & KINGS

Pre-Primary Curriculum

Based on 1 Samuel – 2 Kings from the Beginner's Bible

Term 2

GOD'S RESCUE PLAN

Pre-Primary Curriculum

Based on 1 Samuel – 2 Kings from the Beginner's Bible

The Pre-Primary Curriculum is a 2 year curriculum for 3-5 year olds. The overall aim of this curriculum is to give the children an understanding of the big rescue story of the Bible. The hope is this will give them a foundation to build on as they study books of the Bible in future years at Kids Church and that it will help them fit these books into the context of the whole story.

'God's Big Story' is based on the Big Picture Story Bible which tells the overarching story of how God made the world and people to live as God's people in God's place under God's rule. It tells the sad story of how people rejected God's rule time and time again. But God still loved his people and promised right back at the beginning to send a 'Forever King'. He sent Jesus to rescue us so we can look forward to living in God's 'Forever Place', Heaven. The aim is to give children an understanding of God's Big Story of salvation over the course of a year.

'God's Rescue Plan' goes into more detail on the book of Exodus (term 1), Kings and Prophets (term 2) and the Gospels (term 3 and 4).

This term 'God's Rescue Plan' is based on Kings and Prophets using The Beginner's Bible (note: there are some weeks that also use stories from the Big Picture Story Bible and the Lion First Bible). The aim is to give children an understanding of God's Rescue Plan, how God's people in the Old Testament were waiting for God's perfect forever King.

Each lesson includes song suggestions, a Bible story, discussion questions and activity ideas. Kids will also learn 1 or 2 memory verses over the course of each term.

God's Rescue Plan Curriculum Overview

Term 2 God's Prophets and Kings - The Beginner's Bible

Week	Story	SMS (Simple Message Statement)	Memory Verse	Just for Leaders (Bible Passage of Story)
1	Preparing the Way for the King - Hannah's Prayer and A voice in the night.	God's plan was to use Samuel to get God's people ready for God's King.	"LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." 2 Samuel 7:22	1 Samuel 1:1-20 & ch3
2	God Chooses a King – Israel's First King and a Good Heart	God's people wanted a King like everyone else, Saul, but God's plan was to choose King David.		1 Samuel 8-10 & 15:1-16:13
3	God Rescues his people - David and Goliath	God used David to rescue his people from God's enemies.		1 Samuel 17:1-51
4	David Becomes King – Best Friends and King David	King Saul disobeyed God but God's plan was for David to become King.		1 Samuel 16:14-23 & 18-20 & 2 Sam 1:1-2:4; 1 Kings 2:1-3
5	The Wise King and Big picture story Bible – Another Sad Day	King Solomon's wisdom helped people praise God. But after time Solomon and God's people turned away from God.		1 Kings 3:5-10:13
6	God watches over Elijah	God sent the prophet Elijah to warn King Ahab and the people to stop disobeying God.		1 Kings 16:29-17:7
7	Fire from Heaven	God sent Elijah to show the people that God is the one true God.		1 Kings 18
8	Boy King Josiah	King Josiah loved God and taught the people to obey God.		2 Kings 22:1-23:3
9	Exile (Big picture Bible, p203-end) and A New King (Lion First bible)	God punished King Zedekiah and the people for disobeying him. God's plan was to send the perfect King to rescue his people.		2 Kings 24:18-20 & ch25

Term 2 Songs

Hello Song (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

God's in charge of the weather (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

King David (Very, very, very Big God, Emu Music)

Remember the Lord - Chorus only (Colin Buchanan)

Be Strong and Courageous (Colin Buchanan)

My God is so Big (Colin Buchanan)

Jesus is the mighty, mighty King (Colin Buchanan)

God is Great (Mighty Shout, Quizworx)



1. PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE KING

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God's plan was to use Samuel to get God's people ready for God's King.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

God Knows (J is for Jesus)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Chinese Whispers

Children sit in a circle. Start with a simple sentence and have them whisper it to the person beside them passing the message around the circle. The last person to hear the message says the message out aloud to see if it is the same message from when it started.

Post – Game Discussion:

Did the message stay the same or did it change? Was it tricky to remember what to say when it was your turn? You were helping to send or tell a message to each other.

STORY

Prophet word card

Word of the day – Prophet

In today's story we will be learning about a 'Prophet' who tells God's messages to the people. This is our "Word of the day". (Teacher to hold up 'Prophet' word with definition)

Let's read about it together. "Someone who tells/gives God messages to his people."

The Beginner's Bible

Read 'Hannah's Prayer' & 'A Voice in the Night' p156 – 163.

Things to think and discuss while reading:

P. 157 – What does it mean to 'serve God'?

P. 158 – Eli was a priest, what's a priest?

Does God always answer everyone's prayers? Yes he always answers everyone's prayers but the answer isn't always yes. God answered Hannah's prayer because he had a special job for Samuel.

P. 161 – After hearing a voice, who could it be? Was it Eli? No, then who was it?

P. 163 – Who is the Lord? – Another name for God.

When reading prophet – the word of the day! Here it is - reread – "Samuel gave messages to God's people".

DISCUSSION

Let's see how well you were listening to today's story...

- What was Hannah's prayer?
- What was the Baby's name?
- Where did Samuel go to live?
- What was the priest's name that taught Samuel about God?
- What did Samuel hear while he was sleeping?
- What is our "Word of the Day"?
- What does prophet mean?

God started using Samuel when he was young to tell God's people messages that they needed to hear. God was using Samuel to tell God's people about God and how they should live. Samuel's job was to prepare the way for God's King which ultimately was Jesus but he wasn't telling the people about Jesus. He was getting them ready for God's King, a king like Jesus. Who is God's King? Samuel was telling God's people about a King that was going to come. There will be lots of kings, but none of them will be the perfect king. All these kings will point to how much we need Jesus, the perfect King.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you for Samuel. Thank you for choosing him to be a part of your plan. Thank you for sending Prophets in the Bible to teach and tell others about you and what plans you have for your people. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm ways we can listen to God. (Reading our Bible, coming to church etc) Help them think of what they can pray for from today's story.

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)

Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

TV/Computer/CD player Dear God, help us to listen to you by...Amen

SONG

Coloured pens/pencils Remember the Lord - Chorus only (Colin Buchanan)

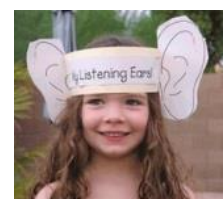
ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Make "Listening Ears" Headbands (http://www.calvary-kids-pages.com/1Samuel_Samuel_hears_God.html)

Large ears cut out and attached to a paper head band around head, or to plastic headbands overhead.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY:





2. GOD CHOOSES A KING

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God's people wanted a King like everyone else, Saul, but God's plan was to choose King David.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

Remember the Lord – chorus only (Colin Buchanan)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Crowning a King Game (The Encyclopaedia of Bible Games for Children's Ministry, p.44-45)

Equipment: bag of props – toilet paper, streamers, coloured paper, crowns, wands, fabric etc

How to play: Decorate/dress up a 2 children to be the king or queen.

Split children into 2 teams (if numbers allow). Allow children to have a go at choosing a king or queen for the team.

King definition poster

Post – Game Discussion: Was it easy or hard to choose the person to become king or queen? Do they look like important people? What does a king or queen do?

Introduce the definition of a King on the poster. "A ruler or leader of a country and people in it."

STORY

Word of the day – Anointed

Anointed word card

Today in our story, we will be reading about choosing Kings and looking for our "word of the day" – Anointed – remember that, let's read what it means together again.

Part 1

Read 'Israel's First King' p164-168

The Beginner's Bible

Revisit Samuel from previous story, looking at the pictures, where he lived and that he was a "Prophet" – read definition.

Things to think and discuss while reading:

P. 164 – "We want a king to rule over us" – Let's remember what a king is...read definition to kids again.

P.166 – Samuel poured oil on Saul's head – that reminds us of our "word of the day"...What is the word?

DISCUSSION Part 1

- Did God try to warn the people?
- What was God's warning? P. 164-165
- Who wanted a King?

- What was the name of the first King of God's people?
- Was King Saul a good king for a long time?
- What did King Saul start to do?
- How did God and Samuel feel about King Saul's choices as king?

Let's keep reading to see if they needed to find a new king.

Part 2

Read 'A Good Heart' p169-172

Things to think and discuss while reading:

- P. 169 – Could one of Jesse's sons be the next King?
- P.171 – Out in the field with the sheep...What was David's job?

DISCUSSION Part 2

P.172 – Did you hear the 'word of the day'? What was it? What does it mean? – refer back to the definition poster.

- What was the name of the man God told Samuel to meet?
- What did Samuel ask Jesse?
- Which son did Samuel find? What was his name?
- Was he strong-looking like his brothers?
- What did Samuel do when he saw David?
- Word of the day – Anointed – revise this definition

Did David become King straight away?

No, God told Samuel that David will be the next king. This is the one that God wants to be the next king. God chose David as part of God's plan. Re-read today's SMS - God's people wanted a King like everyone else, Saul, but God's plan was to choose King David.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, we are sorry for disobeying you like King Saul. Sorry that your people didn't listen to your warnings about choosing a king. Help us to listen and obey you in our life. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm ways we disobey God. (fighting, not sharing, not listening to mum and dad etc)

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray) Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, sorry for all the times we disobey you. Help us to make good choices. Amen.

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player

God Knows (J is for Jesus)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Make a Crown including the Big Idea glued on it. Decorate using sparkles/glitter/special pens etc.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: play kings and queens



3. GOD RESCUES HIS PEOPLE

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God used David to rescue his people from God's enemies.

RESOURCES

TV/Computer/CD player

LESSON

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

God Knows (J is for Jesus)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Introduction Prop (<http://www.preschool-plan-it.com/david-and-goliath.html>)

Bring a collection of small stones to Circle. Discuss what they are. Let the children each choose one and discuss their rock.

Discussion: What does your stone or rock look like? How does it feel? What can you do with rocks or stones?

STORY

Story Intro:

Remember the boy from last week? David? What did he do? He was a Shepherd boy. He looked after sheep. Something that shepherd used was a sling with stones to help chase other animals away that may want to eat his sheep. In today's story, we will see how God uses David rescue his people.

The Beginner's Bible

Read 'David and Goliath' p173 -180

Things to think and discuss while reading:

P. 173 – Saul was still king, even though last week we saw that David was going to be the next king (refer to previous page in the bible)

P.176 – Was David scared?

P.177 – Does David look a little silly? Can he wear this to fight Goliath? What does David use as a shepherd to protect his sheep? A sling

P.178 – Was David scared now? No.

- Why wasn't he scared?
- Who did he know was in control?

DISCUSSION

- Who was the Philistines? God's enemy
- Who was still King?
- Who needed rescuing? God's people
- What was the name of the big giant from the Philistine army?
- Why do you think the other soldiers were afraid?

- Who was with David when he fought Goliath?
- David knew God was in control. SMS review - God used David to rescue his people from God's enemies.
- Do we need rescuing? Was do we need rescuing from? Sin. Who rescues us?

David knew God was in control. SMS review - God used David to rescue his people from God's enemies.

Do we need rescuing? Was do we need rescuing from? Sin. Who rescues us?

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that David was able to trust you. Thank you for rescuing your people from their enemies. Thank you for rescuing us from our sins. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm ideas when we need to remember God is in control. (eg. When we are scared, worried, afraid, don't know what will happen, something in life goes wrong)

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray) Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, Thank you for being in control when...Amen.

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player Remember the Lord (Colin Buchanan)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils CRAFT Idea: David and Goliath Roll People
<http://www.sundayschoolkids.com/activities-ot/david-goliath-role-people-instructions.htm>

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Playdough – make stones and a sling





4. DAVID BECOMES KING

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: King Saul disobeyed God but God's plan was for David to become King.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

God Knows (J is for Jesus)

Musical instruments,
player and music

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Musical Instruments (<http://ministry-to-children.com/god-knows-me-preschool-lesson/>)

Find some instruments for the children to play during this part of the lesson. Pick a song to sing before you start. It could be one familiar to most kids, (i.e. Jesus Loves Me, If You're Happy and You Know It, ...), Have the children play the instruments and sing the song at the same time.

Discussion:

- Did you like playing the instruments? Why? Loud, fun etc
- Where do we sing songs in our life? Answer to get to - Church
- Who do we sing about and to at church?

STORY

Story Intro:

Over the last few weeks, we have learned about David.

- What are some things you know already about David? Shepherd boy, defeated Goliath, was brave, obeyed God

He was a shepherd boy. He spent a lot of time in the fields by his home taking care of his father's sheep. While he took care of the sheep he would play his harp (a musical instrument) and make up songs. In the Bible, David's songs are called Psalms. (Show the children this word)

Just like we sang and played, David sang songs to God while he was all alone in the fields. David sang songs thanking God for who God is. David sang songs telling God how much he loved God. David sang songs to ask God to help him when he needed it. In our story today, we will read about David playing his harp for King Saul

The Beginner's Bible

Intro to story: Re-read pg. 168 about King Saul – Saul had started to disobey God.

Read 'Best Friends & King David p181 -189

Things to think and discuss while reading:

- P. 181 – King Saul had started to disobey God.

David went to live in the palace – David played for Saul, but also became one of King Saul’s fighters in his army.

P. 183 – Have you ever been angry or jealous?

P. 187 – Do you remember a few weeks ago, God’s promise to David when Samuel poured oil on his head? What was the special word? David was going to be the next King.

P. 188 – Psalms – let’s look at where we can find Psalms in the Bible.

Even King David didn’t always obey God.

P.189 - What did David tell Solomon to do?

DISCUSSION - Use Emotion Balls/Images

Emotion Balls/pictures

Talk through the different balls/emotion pictures and what they can mean. Use these to help the kids answer the questions choosing which emotion fits with the appropriate question.

- Who was King at the beginning of the story?
- What happened when he was King? – he disobeyed God
- What was King Saul feeling? He felt grumpy
- When David played his harp for King Saul, how did he feel?
- Who did David meet at the palace?
- David was a better fighter than King Saul – how did this make King Saul feel?
- When King Saul became very angry and David had to leave the palace, how would David have felt? Scared
- What happened to King Saul and Jonathan?
- How did David feel with this news of his friend?
- Then what happened to David?

This was God’s plan. David was to become King because Saul disobeyed God.

- What is the word used to name the songs David wrote?
- Who was David’s son?
- Was Solomon going to be the next king?

During King David’s life, he disobeyed God, but he still loved God and wanted Solomon to love God too. He still wasn’t the perfect King. Next week we will read about King Solomon.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you for King David. Thank you that he was able to continue to love you and try to be a good King and live for you. Thank you for the songs he wrote about you and for you. Help us to love and live for you too. Amen

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm ways we can show God that we love him.

Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence). Dear God, Help us to remember to show we love you by... Amen.

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

King David (Very, very, very Big God)



Coloured pens/pencils

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Make a Harp <http://www.lambsongs.co.nz/Activities%20Bible/David%20Harp%20B+W.jpg>

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Children make up their own songs.



5. THE WISE KING

NOTE: This lesson uses both the **Beginner's Bible** and the **Big Picture Story Bible**

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: King Solomon's wisdom helped people praise God. But after time Solomon and God's people turned away from God.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)
God Knows (J is for Jesus)

Props for game to match

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Matching Game: Match different people with something they might need. Choose 3 people (eg. A fireman, a doctor and a horse rider) and put some relevant objects in front of them such as a hose, a stethoscope and a horse. Have a king as the fourth person. Ask the kids to link the objects with the different people. At the end point out the King doesn't have anything. What do you think the king might ask for? In today's story God's King asks for wisdom. (Idea from Beginning with God, A Mitchell)

Wisdom word card

STORY Part 1

Story Intro: Word of the Day, Wisdom - Wisdom is knowing what is right and wrong. Read 'The Wise King' from The Beginner's Bible (p194-200).

The Beginner's Bible

P194 – sometimes God gives people special dreams. God gave King Solomon a special dream – God spoke to him and Solomon answered.
P195 – what did Solomon ask for? Remember our Word of the Day - Wisdom is knowing what is right and wrong
Did God give him what he asked for? What else did God give Solomon?
P196-198 – God did give him what he asked for and Solomon used his wisdom to help other people.
What did Queen Sheba say about God? She wanted to praise God because of Solomon.
P199 – Remember God said King Solomon would build a temple, a house for God.
P200 – What did the people say when they came to worship/praise God in the temple?

DISCUSSION Part 1

What did Solomon ask God for in the dream?
What does wisdom mean? (link to word of the day)
Did God give him what he asked for? God did give him what he asked for and Solomon used his wisdom to help other people.
Because of Solomon's wisdom Queen Sheba wanted to praise who?
What did King Solomon build for God?
When the temple was finished God's people _____ . (praised God)
God gave King Solomon wisdom, this helped people praise God.

STORY Part 1

Show a picture of an idol or a statue

What is it? A statue. Did you know some people think special statues are gods. They worship them. They ask them for things. They offer them food. Can a statue eat? Can a statue do anything for you? Is it alive? Let's have a look at the next part of our story.

Do you think King Solomon and the people kept praising God? Do you remember God's warning about the kings?

The Big Picture
Storybook Bible

Read the beginning of 'Another Very Sad Day' from Big Picture Story Bible (p188-190)

Read p188-189 – what are the people in the picture doing?

Does God want them to worship idols/statues? No King Solomon and God's people are turning away from God.

Prophet word card

Read p190 - Was God happy with King Solomon and his people?

Who did God send to warn his people? – prophets – do you remember what a prophet does?

DISCUSSION Part 2

- Did King Solomon and God's people keep praising God?
- What did they do instead? – rejected/turned away from God, worshipped/praised statues! Can statues love people? Can they look after people like God does?
- Is this good news? No
- Who does God send to warn his people? Elijah – we'll learn more about Elijah next week.

King Solomon's wisdom helped people praise God. But after time Solomon and God's people turned away from God. This is very sad. But you know what else is sad is that we do the same thing. We forget how good God is and instead of praising God we reject him as our King too. Let's pray and ask God to help us trust him and praise him.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that King Solomon's wisdom helped people praise you. Sorry that like King Solomon and his people we often sin and reject you too. Please help us not to reject you as our King but to trust you and praise you every day. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm things we can praise God for. What is God like? Loving, caring, keeps his promises etc – things we can praise God for. Take turns praising God (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence). Dear God, we praise you for ... OR we thank you for ...

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player

God is Great (Quizworx)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Make Solomon's temple, stick the Big Idea on the bottom or inside

<http://craftingthewordofgod.com/2014/05/07/solomons-temple/>

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Playdough – what would God look like?





6. GOD WATCHES OVER ELIJAH

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God sent the prophet Elijah to warn King Ahab and the people to stop disobeying God.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

God is Great (Quizworx)

music

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Play musical statues

Children dance till the music stops and then freeze. If a child moves after the music stops then they sit down until there's only 1 child left dancing.

Post - game discussion

picture of a statue or idol

Show a picture of an idol or a statue. What is it? A statue

Some people think special statues are gods. They worship them. They ask them for things.

They offer them food. Can a statue eat? Can a statue do anything for you? Is it alive?

Do you remember the 10 commandments from last term? The 2nd commandment is

"Do not make for yourself statues of gods that look like anything in the sky. They may not look like anything on the earth or in the waters either. 5 Do not bow down to them or worship them. I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God." (NirV)

Sin word card

When people decide to break commandments they are disobeying God. This is called sin.

Word of the Day, Sin – 'Sin means saying we know what is best instead of God knows best.'

God made us so he knows what's best for us and when we decide what's best for ourselves we're saying no to God.

STORY

The Beginner's Bible

Story Intro: There were lots more Kings after King Solomon. Some of them listened to God but most of them didn't. Today we're going to read about King Ahab. He didn't worship God.

Read 'God Watches Over Elijah' p201-205

p.201 – point to the idol - this one is called Baal. It's a statue, can statue's love us and care for us?

p. 202-203 – Can you see Elijah warning King Ahab. Does King Ahab look happy?

p. 204 – What happened to all the plants? They're going to die because there will be no rain

If King Ahab and the people don't turn back to God this is what will happen (no rain = no food). And they didn't turn back to God so this is what happened. There was no rain so the plants died (point to picture) and there was no food. So God told Elijah to escape.

DISCUSSION Part 1

- Who was King Ahab worshipping instead of God?
- Who did God send to warn King Ahab and the people to turn back to Him?
- What was the message?
- Did King Ahab like this message? Did he listen to Elijah?

No King Ahab was angry with Elijah and the message from God he gave him. He didn't turn back to God. And there was no rain for a very long time.

- But did God look after Elijah?

God sent the prophet Elijah to warn King Ahab and the people to stop disobeying God. But they didn't listen to Elijah and so God punished them. There was no rain or water for a long time. King Ahab thought he knew best but he God knew best. Elijah listened to God and God took care of him.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thanks for the Bible so we can learn what happened when people didn't listen to you. We're sorry that we don't always listen to you. Thank you that you looked after Elijah. Thank you that you love us and you sent Jesus to rescue us.

In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm times when we decide we know what's best instead of listening to God.

Take turns saying sorry to God for the times we think we know best (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, I am sorry for Leader finishes with 'Thank you that you forgive us because Jesus has taken the punishment we deserve. Please help us to remember you know what's best for us.'

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player God's in charge of the weather (J is for Jesus)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Make bird hand puppet

Coloured pens/pencils

<http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/rrsampleelijahraven.html#handpuppet>

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: water play





7. FIRE FROM HEAVEN

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God sent Elijah to show the people that God is the one true God.

RESOURCES

TV/Computer/CD player

Sin word card

The Beginner's Bible

LESSON

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

God's in charge of the Weather (J is for Jesus)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Listening Game:

Stop what you are doing and listen. Go outside and listen. What do you hear? Discuss what you hear.

Do you remember what happened in last week's story? Who was the King we read about?

Ahab

Was he obeying God? Who was the prophet God sent to warn them to turn back to God? Did they listen to Elijah? Do you remember last week's word of the day? Sin – 'Sin means saying we know what is best instead of God knows best.'

God made us so he knows what's best for us and when we decide what's best for ourselves we're saying no to God. King Ahab and the people thought they knew what was best so they didn't listen to Elijah and his message from God. There were consequences when they didn't listen to God. What happened? There was no food or water.

STORY

Show the kids an altar (you could make one out of paddle pop sticks or use the picture for the craft). In today's story there will be 2 altars. 1 for Baal, the statue god and one for the one true God. On it the people put a sacrifice. Sacrifice is a very special gift people give to God. In the Old Testament there are lots of sacrifices because that was the way people said sorry and thank you to God.

Read 'Fire from Heaven' p209-215

p.209 Can an idol/statue make it rain? Can God make it rain?

p.210 Why is Ahab angry with Elijah?

p. 212 An altar is 'a raised place where a very special gift/sacrifice is offered to an idol/statue (god) or God'. Can you see the 2 altars? 1 for Baal and 1 for the one true God.

p. 213 The people worshipping Baal the statue are calling out asking him to send fire to make the very special sacrifice/gift and wood burn. Is there any fire?

p. 214 Elijah poured water all over his sacrifice/gift and wood to make it wet. Wet wood doesn't normally burn but did God make it burn?

p. 215 Can you see the people thanking God?

DISCUSSION

Let's see how well you were listening to today's story...

- Who did King Ahab pray to, to ask for rain?
- Was there food for the people?

Elijah told King Ahab that there was no rain because they were worshipping Baal, a statue, instead of God.

- Did that make King Ahab happy?

Elijah wanted to show the people that God is the one true God. He took them up a mountain. He told King Ahab and his people to ask Baal to bring fire on their sacrifice/gift to Baal.

- Did Baal send fire? Can a statue send fire?
- What did Elijah pour all over his wood? Can fire burn wet wood?
- Did God send fire?

God sent fire to show the people he is the one true God. God sent Elijah to show the people that God is the one true God.

- Did the people worship God at the end of the story?
- Did God send them rain again?

Yes, he did because the people listened to him. God sent Elijah to show the people that God is the one true God.

Sacrifice is a very special gift people give to God. In the Old Testament there are lots of sacrifices because that was the way people said sorry and thank you to God. We don't have to give the same kind of sacrifices anymore because God sent Jesus as the perfect sacrifice. Jesus is the sacrifice which means we can talk to God anytime and anywhere. Let's pray and thank God for that.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that you are the one true God. Thank you that you sent Jesus to be our sacrifice. Please help us to remember to always worship and obey you. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Take turns praising God that he is the one true God who is in control of everything. Thank him for sending Jesus. (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, we praise you for ... OR we thank you for ...

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player My God is so Big (Colin Buchanan)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea:

<http://craftingthewordofgod.com/2013/10/05/jeremiah-and-the-prophets-of-baal/> (this is actually Elijah and the prophets of Baal despite the mistake in the naming of the webpage). There is a link to the template you can print.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: build an altar out of blocks.





8. BOY KING JOSIAH

The Beginner's Bible

MEMORY VERSE: "LORD and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears." **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: King Josiah loved God and taught the people to obey God.

RESOURCES

TV/Computer/CD player

LESSON

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

My God is so Big (Colin Buchanan)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Treasure Hunt: Hide the Law for the kids to find – On 5 pieces of paper (you could make these look like scrolls) have the names of each of the first 5 books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy), hide them round the room and ask the kids find them.

Or you could have one scroll with all 5 books on it and make a treasure map for the kids to follow as a group.

Post – Game Discussion:

- Do you remember who the King was in last week's story?
- Did he obey God?

Lots of Kings came after King Ahab and they didn't obey God either. But in today's story we're going to read about a King who did love God. He found something very important, he found God's Law. God's Law is the first 5 books of the Bible – show them a Bible and the first 5 books.

STORY

The Beginner's Bible

Read 'Boy King Josiah' p.235-239

p.235 – Can you imagine a King being only 8 years old! Josiah had grown-ups (advisors) who helped him. Did King Josiah obey God?

P236-237 God's people hadn't been worshipping/obeying him for a long time. Can you see the Temple falling apart?

What did the people find when they were fixing the temple? (a scroll) Let's see what it is

p. 238 - The Book of the Law is the first part of our Bible and God's Kings were supposed to read it and copy it so they remembered it but it'd been lost for a long time.

p.239 - Can you see the King and God's people promising to obey God's laws?

DISCUSSION

Let's see how well you were listening to today's story...

- What was the King's name in today's story?
- Did he love and obey God?
- What building did he want to fix?

- What did the workers find when they were fixing the temple?

The Book of the Law is the first five books of our Bible (Gen-Deut) and God's Kings were supposed to read it and copy it so they remembered it but it'd been lost for a long time.

- What did they do when they found God's laws?
- What did King Josiah and the people promise after they read God's laws?

King Josiah loved God and taught the people to obey God. Everything is looking good, people promised to obey God. Do you think they'll keep their promise? Well they did for a little while but we'll see what happens next week with the next King.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that King Josiah and the people loved and obeyed you. Please help us to love and obey you too.

In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Talk about things from today that we have learnt and take turns thanking God for them (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence). Eg. Thanks for giving us the bible

Dear God, we praise you for ... OR we thank you for ...

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player Jesus is the Mighty, Mighty King (Colin Buchanan) (add King Josiah was not the boss)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Make a scroll like in the treasure hunt. Put the Big Idea in it.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: let the kids play a treasure hunt, by hiding something for their friends to find.



9. EXILE

NOTE: This lesson uses both the **Big Picture Story Bible & The Lion First Bible**

MEMORY VERSE: “LORD and King, how great you are! There isn’t anyone like you. There isn’t any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears.” **2 Samuel 7:22**

BIG IDEA: God punished King Zedekiah and the people for disobeying him. God’s plan was to send the perfect King to rescue his people.

RESOURCES

LESSON

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Hello Song (J is for Jesus)

Jesus is the Mighty, Mighty King (Colin Buchanan) (add some of the Kings we heard about were not the boss)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Play Simon Says

When the kids get out they are sent into ‘exile’ – send them to a corner of the room and have a leader ask them to do something that is hard work – eg. Hopping for 30 seconds (or longer)

Post-game Discussion:

Link to story: In today’s story God’s people are punished because they stop listening to God again. They are sent out of their land and they were made to work hard in other countries)

STORY Part 1 – Big Picture Story Bible

Big Picture story Bible
p203-end

Story Intro: Who was the King in our story last week? Did King Josiah love and obey God? Did the people love and obey God?

Last week everything was looking good, King Josiah and the people promised to obey God. Do you think they kept their promise? Well they did for a little while but the next King didn’t listen to God and the people didn’t keep their promises. And the next King didn’t listen to God either or the next King. Today we’re going to read about King Zedekiah and he didn’t obey God either.

Read from the Big Picture Story Bible p202-209.

p. 202-203 Do the people look like they’re obeying God?

p. 205 Who did God send to warn King Zed? Did the King listen?

p. 206-207 What did God do? Can you see God’s people being taken away?

p. 209 Do the people look happy?

DISCUSSION Part 1

Let’s see how well you were listening to today’s story...

- What was the King’s name in today’s story?
- Did King Zedekiah obey God?

God sent Jeremiah the prophet to warn King Zedekiah.

- Did King Zedekiah listen to God’s warning from Jeremiah?
- What did God do to the people?
- Why did God punish his people?

God punished King Zedekiah and the people for disobeying him. It was because of their sin that God punished them. This is a very sad story but is it the end of God's story?

A New King (Lion First bible)

STORY Part 2 – The Lion First Bible

Isaiah was another prophet God sent to warn his people. Isaiah told the people about what God was going to do.

Read 'A New King' from the Lion First Bible p.281-282

p. 281 – Pause after the first paragraph – what did the people think might have happened? God's forgotten about them

Read on - Had God forgotten his people? No, Isaiah had a special message from God.

p. 282 - What will the people wait for? A new King God promised.

Who do you think that King might be? (point to the picture on pg 283 for a clue)

DISCUSSION Part 2

Remember God's people weren't in their land anymore and life was hard.

- What did they think might have happened? God had forgotten them but the prophet Isaiah said God hasn't forgotten you.
- What is a prophet? A messenger from God – Isaiah gave messages to God's people from God.
- What was the special message Isaiah told them?

There would be a new King, he would be just and fair. He would be the King forever. One day all the hurting will stop.

- Who is the new King God promised to send? Who is God's forever King?

God's plan was to send the perfect King to rescue his people. Jesus is God's forever King and he came and he rescued us and one day we can live forever with him. When we live with Jesus all the hurting will stop.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you for the good news Isaiah gave to the people. Thank you that you sent King Jesus to rescue us. Thank you that one day we can live forever with him if we trust him. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm things the kids find hard. Things that can hurt us or make us sad.

Take turns thanking God that all these things will be fixed in heaven (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, thank you that in heaven ...

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player Fully God Fully Man (Emu Music)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Timeline or family tree of the Kings we've met this term with Jesus, the perfect King at the end. You could use smaller versions of the pictures from the term.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY:



GOD'S PROPHETS & KINGS

Pre-Primary Curriculum

Based on 1 Samuel - 2 Kings from The Beginner's Bible