

The Sun Stands Still

Joshua
Lesson 4

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of the Israelites' victory over the Amorites.
- The children will state that God has power over all things.
- The children will state that God uses his power to help them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-15

Scripture Memory Verse

Praise him for his powerful acts.

Praise him because he is greater than anything else.

Psalm 150:2

(New International Reader's Version)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Out of This World

Welcome and Singing

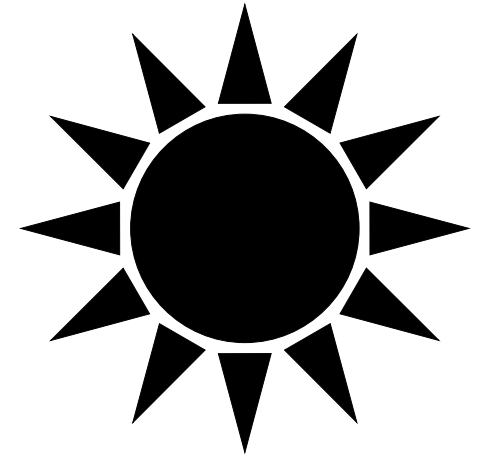
Centers:

Bible Story: A Day to Remember

Craft: Here Comes the Sun

Scripture Memory: Pick-a-Praise

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



The Sun Stands Still

Out of This World

The children will preview important ideas from today's lesson as they think about God's power.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- scissors
- glue stick
- stickers of stars, moon, sun, planets, etc.

For the teacher:

- magazines with pictures of the sky, planets, outdoors
- banner paper, 5' for each group of 5 children
- construction paper
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Prepare each banner as shown.
2. Cut out magazine pictures of the sun, moon, sky, mountains, etc. for the children to use.
3. On the banner paper, glue one magazine picture and label it, using your copy of Reproducible Page A as a guide. Display this for the children as an example.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that today they will hear an amazing story about a day when God made the sun stand still! Show them the banner(s) that you prepared. Explain that they will glue pictures and write words of things in the universe. Tell them that those things are very big, but God is even bigger—and his power is greater than all of them. Encourage the children by saying that God is bigger than the universe and he uses his power to help each of them!

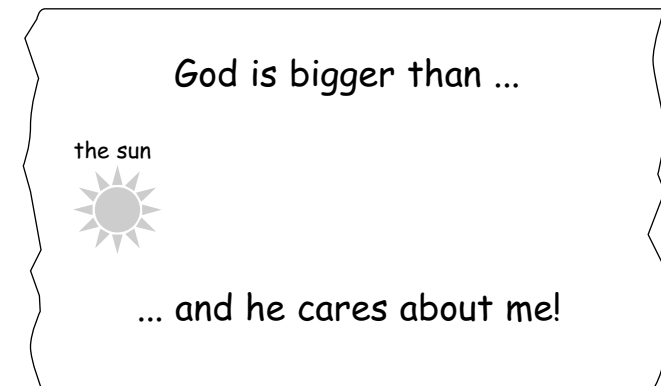
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A, glue sticks, crayons, scissors and magazine pictures. Tell the children to glue pictures of things in the universe on the paper. Tell them to write the words from their pages on the banner as well. Encourage them to draw their own pictures or make pictures from the construction paper and glue it on the banner paper as well.
3. Circulate among the children to offer help and encouragement.
4. When the children are finished, hang the banner in a place where the children can see it.

Activity Variation

Have each child make their own collage of words and pictures on construction paper. Provide glow-in-the-dark stickers for them to put on their collage. Write the words "God is bigger than...and he cares about _____" on each child's page. Have them write their names in the space.

Teacher Tips

- Call a local school, library or museum to see if they will donate old science magazines or pictures of the universe.
- Think of additional ways to decorate the banners.



B

The Sun Stands Still

Joshua
Lesson 4**S**

A Day to Remember

The children will participate in today's Bible Story as they learn how God helped his people with a great miracle.

I

Materials

For each child:

- 1 self-sticking name tag

For the teacher:

- yellow balloon (inflated)
- several handfuls of Styrofoam packing "popcorn"
- marker

B

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

O

Preparation

1. Cut out the names of the characters from your copy of Reproducible Page B and glue them to the name tags so that each child will have a part to play. Another option is to write the characters directly onto the name tags, using your copy of Reproducible Page B for the list.
2. Practice presenting this story with great enthusiasm.

L

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Joshua 10:1-15. *Today we are going to hear another amazing story about Joshua. We have learned that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win the battle of Jericho. God made the walls of Jericho fall down. When Joshua and the army fought against the people of Ai, God also gave them victory.*

Today's Bible Story is from Joshua 10:1-15. The king of Jerusalem was worried about Joshua and the Israelite army because they were winning so many battles. There was a very important city named Gibeon. The people of Gibeon had become friends with Joshua and the Israelites. This made the king of Jerusalem angry and scared. He asked four other kings—all of them called Amorites—from nearby lands to help him attack the city of Gibeon because they were friends with Joshua.

The people who lived in Gibeon begged Joshua and his army to come and help them fight the Amorites. Joshua and his army came to help. God told Joshua that he and his army would win the battle.

E**Y**

Joshua and his army surprised the Amorite kings and their armies. Joshua's army chased after them. As the Amorite armies ran away, God threw large hailstones down on them from the sky. The hailstones killed more of the Amorites than were killed by Joshua's army. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still so that it would not get dark until they were done fighting the battle. Joshua knew that God had power over everything—even the sun. He didn't have to be afraid of all the Amorite kings and their armies. The Bible says that God made the sun stand still until Joshua's army had won the battle completely. It was as if God gave Joshua two days of sunshine in a row—without a night between them! God had never done anything like this before and has never done anything like it since. God's power helped the Israelites and their friends win the battle in an amazing way.

Act It Out

Distribute the name tags to the children. Make sure that each child has at least one of the following roles. If you have more children, then assign a group to play the Israelites, Amorite kings or Gibeonites.

Joshua
king of Jerusalem
Gibeonites
hailstones
Israelites
Amorite kings
sun

Give the balloon to the "sun." Tell the child to walk very slowly, using tiny steps, from one side of the story area to the other until God stops the sun.

Tell the Bible Story again. At the appropriate time, signal "Joshua" and the "Israelites" to walk over and hug the "Gibeonites" and then walk to another part of the story area. Continue telling the story and have the "king of Jerusalem" and the "Amorite kings" begin to pretend to attack the Gibeonites. Tell the Gibeonites to call out for help to Joshua and the Israelites. When Joshua and the Israelites come to help the Gibeonites, tell some of the Amorite kings to turn and pretend to run away.



The Sun Stands Still

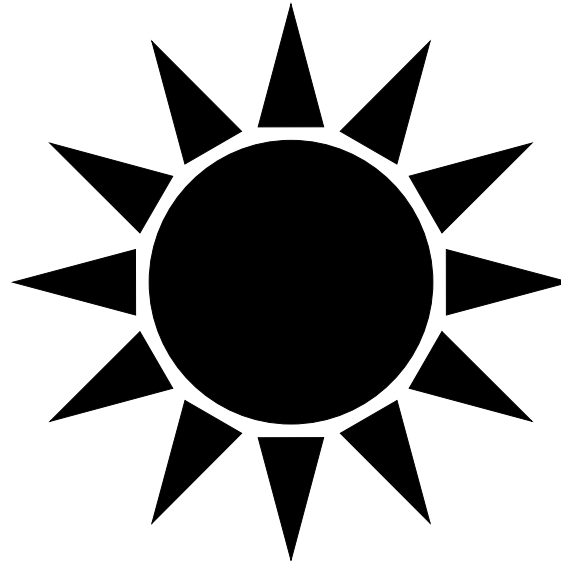
As they are running, tell the "hailstones" to gently toss the Styrofoam hailstones onto the Amorite kings, making them stop the fighting. Tell Joshua to ask God to make the sun stand still. Have the sun stop moving. Have the rest of the Amorite kings surrender. Encourage the children for their participation in this story.

Teacher Tips

- Practice telling this story so that you do not need to look at the Lesson Card to lead the children.

Share and Tell

Ask the children to say one way that God used his power to help Joshua. Ask the children if they know anyone who needs God's power in their life right now. Encourage them to tell this amazing story to that person. Close with a prayer that they would remember the special miracles that God did on that day.



C



R



A



F



T



The Sun Stands Still

Here Comes the Sun

The children will make a craft to remind them of God's great miracle for Joshua and the Israelites.

Materials

For each child:

- white paper plate, 9"
- yellow ribbon, 1/4" x 45"
- glue stick
- yellow crayon
- orange crayon

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. For each child, punch sixteen holes around the rim of the paper plates, as shown in Figure A.
2. For each child, cut out the scripture circles from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
3. Make a sample of this craft to show the children.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story you are learning that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win a battle in an amazing way. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still until he had won the battle and God did it! He made the sun stand still for about a day—until Joshua had won the battle!*
2. Show the children your sample craft and read the scripture. Tell the children that God's power is so great, he can make the sun stand still! Help the children to see that God stopped the sun just to help Joshua win a battle. Tell them that their craft will remind them of God's great power to help them.

3. Distribute the paper plates, scripture circles, crayons and glue sticks. Have the children glue the scripture circles onto the center of the backs of their plates, as shown in Figure B. Have them color the rays of the sun around the edge of their plates using the crayons.
4. Distribute the yellow ribbon and show the children how to sew, or weave, it in and out of the holes, as shown in Figure C. Help the children to tie off the ribbon at the end. Help them to tie a loop from the top so that they can hang it at home. See Figure C.
5. Circulate among the children to offer help with the sewing. Make sure the children write their names on their crafts.

Conclusion

Ask the children how it makes them feel to know that God will use his power to help people who love and obey him. Encourage them to remember that God will use his power to help them do what is right. Close with a prayer thanking God for his power and love.

Teacher Tips

- If your class time does not allow for Step 4, have the children spend more time coloring their plates. Send the ribbon home with the children and encourage the children to tell their families about today's story as they finish their crafts.



The Sun Stands Still

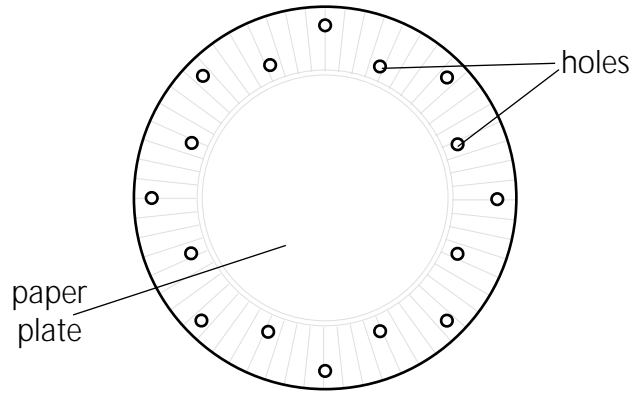


Figure A

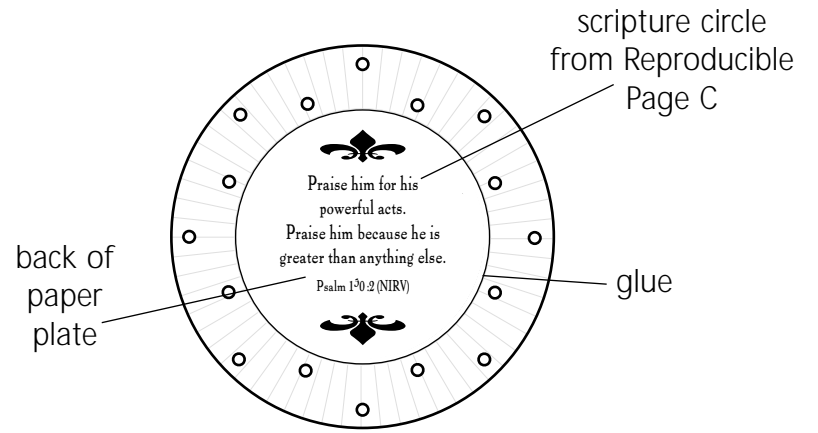


Figure B

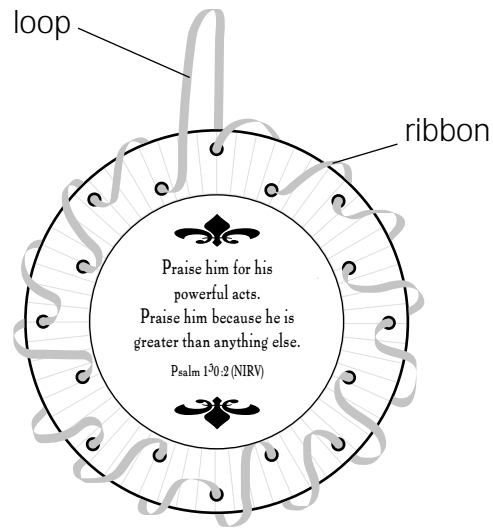


Figure C

The Sun Stands Still

Pick-a-Praise

The children will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse as they think of different ways to praise God.

Scripture Memory Verse

Praise him for his powerful acts.

Praise him because he is greater than anything else.

Psalm 150:2 (New International Reader's Version)

Materials

For the teacher:

- 10 index cards, 5" x 7"
- marker
- hat or bowl
- musical instruments (drum, horn, kazoo, cymbals, tambourine, maracas or bells)

Preparation

1. Write each of the following words or phrases on one of the index cards:

singing	singing and clapping
jumping for joy	dancing
clapping	playing an instrument
dancing and singing	raising your hands
playing an instrument	playing an instrument
2. Place the cards in the hat.
3. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story you are learning that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win a battle in an amazing way. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still until he had won the battle and God did it! He made the sun stand still for about a day—until Joshua had won the battle! Joshua praised God for his powerful help for the Israelites. We should praise God today for the powerful ways that he helps us, too.*
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times as they listen silently.

Point to the words as you say them. Ask the children to say it with you three more times. Point to the words as you say them. Ask each child to say the verse together with you to the rest of the children, pointing to the words as you say them.

3. Ask the children if they know what "praise" means. (Take responses.) *To praise someone is to tell them that they have done something really well. When you clap for a person who sings a song or plays an instrument beautifully, you are showing your praise. When you tell someone that they have done an awesome job, you are praising them. God has done so many awesome things that we can praise him all the time.*
4. Tell the children that there are many ways to praise God. Tell them that they will practice praising God as they say the Scripture Memory Verse. Read each of the cards you prepared. Shuffle them and place them in the hat. Explain that they will take turns choosing a card, and then leading the rest of the group saying the Scripture Memory Verse according to the card. Do the first one for them. For example: if you choose the card that says "singing" then you lead the children in singing the Scripture Memory Verse. (Choose a familiar tune or make one up.)
5. Give each child a chance to come up and take a card. Together with the child, lead the rest of the group to say the Scripture Memory Verse.
6. After all the cards have been chosen, put away the Scripture Memory Verse and invite the children to say the verse from memory, using a praise card or just saying it.

Conclusion

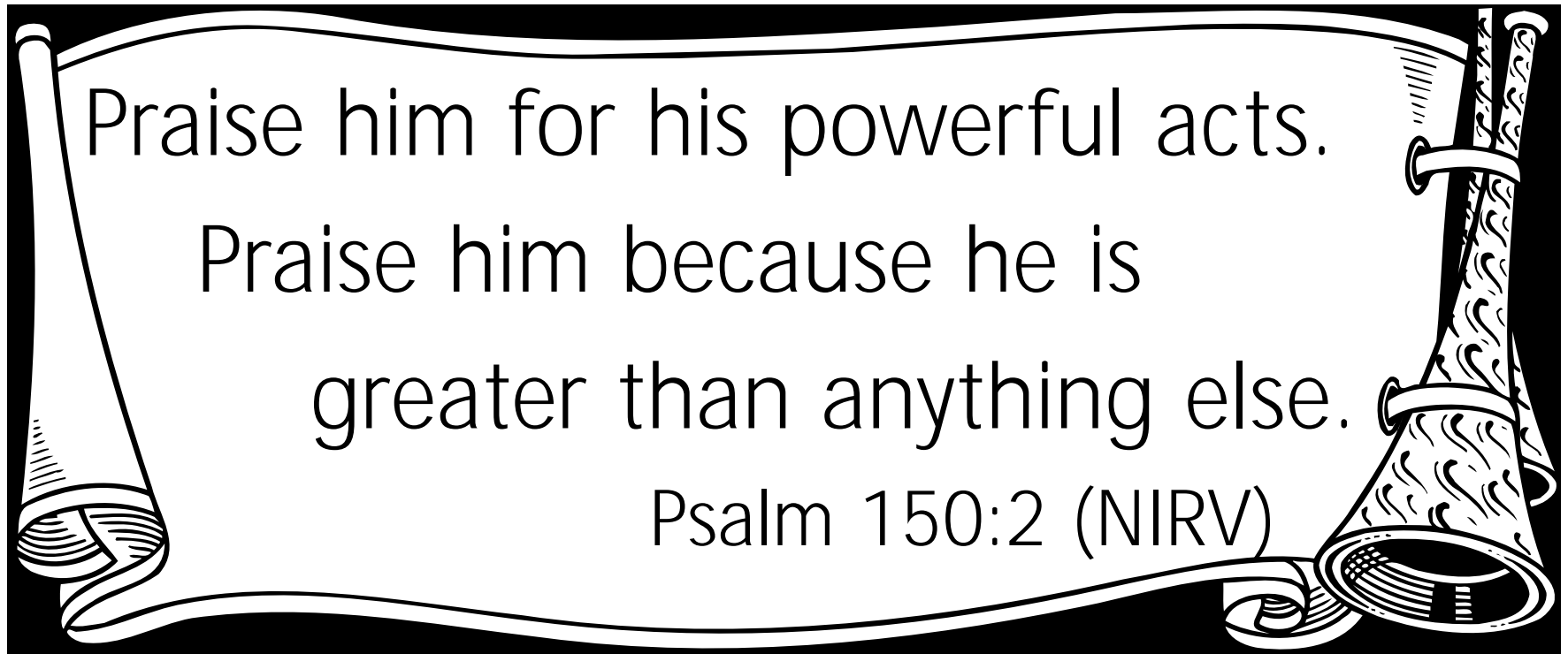
How does it makes you feel to know that God is so powerful he can make the sun stand still? (Take responses.) Encourage them that God wants to use his power to help them too. Close with a prayer of praise to God for his great and awesome power!

Teacher Tips

- If instruments are not available, try one or two of the following: pot lids for cymbals, large plastic storage containers for drums; spoons for chimes; small sealed container with dried beans or popcorn inside for maracas.



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Joshua
Lesson 4

Lesson Objectives

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- The children will state that God has power over all things.
- The children will state that God uses his power to help them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 10:1-15

Scripture Memory Verse

Praise him for his powerful acts.

Praise him because he is greater than anything else.

Psalms 150:2

(New International Reader's Version)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Power Clues

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: He Helps Me

Game: Downright Powerful

Bible Skills: My Book About Joshua

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

1st and 2nd Grades



pre
class

ACTIVITY

Power Clues

The children will review this week's lesson as they find words from the Bible Story.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- Reproducible Pages:
- Page D, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D.
2. Read Joshua 10:1-15 to review the events of this week's Bible Story.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that they will be reviewing this week's Bible Story in their Preclass Activity. Have the children each find a partner to work with. Make sure that the children who did not hear the Bible Story work with those who did.
2. Show the children the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D. Explain that the answers to the questions are given at the bottom of their pages. They must find the correct answer and write it in the spaces provided.

3. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D and pencils. Have the children write their names on their pages. Circulate among the children to offer help and encouragement. Ask the children what they remember from the Bible Story and be prepared to tell the story to those who did not hear it.

Teacher Tips

- Be available to assist struggling readers with this activity.

The Sun Stands Still

Joshua
Lesson 4

LIFE APPLICATION

He Helps Me

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they think of ways that God's power can help them.

Materials

For the teacher:

- brown paper bag
- doll
- children's book
- Bible
- small mirror
- toy
- map

Preparation

Place all the above items in the paper bag and close it up.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Joshua 10. *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win a battle in an amazing way. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still until he had won the battle and God did it! He made the sun stand still for about a day—until Joshua had won the battle! The Bible says that God's power is greater than anything else! God's power is the same today as it was in Joshua's day. God still wants to use his power to help us. We may not have to fight battles like Joshua did, but we will have problems that need help. In today's activity, we are going to think of different ways that God's power can help us every day.*

Life Application

Have the children sit in a circle. Show the children your brown paper bag. Tell them that inside the bag are some things to help them think of ways that God's power can help them. Pass the bag to the child on your right. Tell him to close his eyes and reach into the bag and take out one item. Take the bag away as soon as he has chosen. For each of the items, ask the children the following questions:

Item:	Question:	God's power can help me:
baby doll	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help with your younger brothers and sisters?</i>	be patient and helpful; share my things; let them play with my friends.
Bible	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help you obey the Bible?</i>	remember what it says; want to do what it says.
toy	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help you with your toys?</i>	share them; let others borrow them; give one to someone who doesn't have any.
map	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help you if you get lost?</i>	be calm and not afraid; think of a way to get home; send someone who can help.
children's book	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help you in school?</i>	do my best in school; remember things I have learned; help others who have trouble.
small mirror	<i>What are some ways that God's power can help you to change?</i>	remember how God feels about me; do the right thing even if others don't.

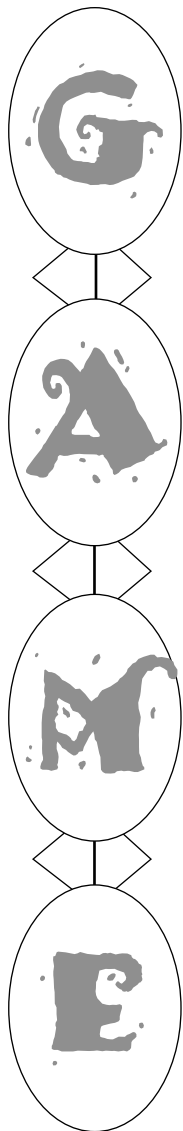
Conclusion

Remind the children that God's power can help them with any problem they have. Close with a prayer and give the children a chance to thank God for his power to help them.

Teacher Tips

- Think of additional items to place in the bag and questions to ask.





Downright Powerful

The children will review this week's lesson as they consider how God's power is greater than everything.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 10 small cardboard tubes (the size of toilet paper rolls)
- a small foam or sponge ball
- scissors
- invisible tape
- paper and pen
- glue stick

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the ten labels on your copy of Reproducible Page E and glue one to each of the cardboard tubes. Reinforce with tape if necessary.
2. Practice playing this game.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win a battle in an amazing way. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still until he had won the battle and God did it! He made the sun stand still for about a day—until Joshua had won the battle! The Bible says that God's power is greater than anything else! In our game today, you will think of some things that God is greater than.*
2. Show the children the ten cardboard tubes that you prepared. Read the words on each one to the children. Explain that each tube describes something that God is more powerful than. For each tube, say together with the children: *God is more powerful than _____.*

3. Divide the children into two teams. Line them up in two lines. Set up the cardboard tubes in a triangle, as shown on the back of this Lesson Card, about three feet away from the children. Show them the foam ball. Tell the children that they will take turns bowling. For each tube they knock down, they will earn one point. After each turn, the child must pick up the tubes he knocked down and say "God is more powerful than _____," naming all of the items on the tubes. When he has finished, help him reset the tubes for the next child on the next team. Continue until all the children on both teams have had a turn.
4. Use the paper and pen to keep score for the teams. The team with the most points wins.
5. If time permits, reform the teams and play another round.

Conclusion

Ask the children if they can think of something else that God is more powerful than. Encourage them to remember God's power the next time they need help or have a problem. Close with a prayer for the children to see God's power working in their lives.

Teacher Tips

- If cardboard tubes are not available, use paper cups.
- For easy labeling, copy Reproducible Page E onto an 8½" x 11" label and cut into smaller labels to place on the tubes.



The Sun Stands Still

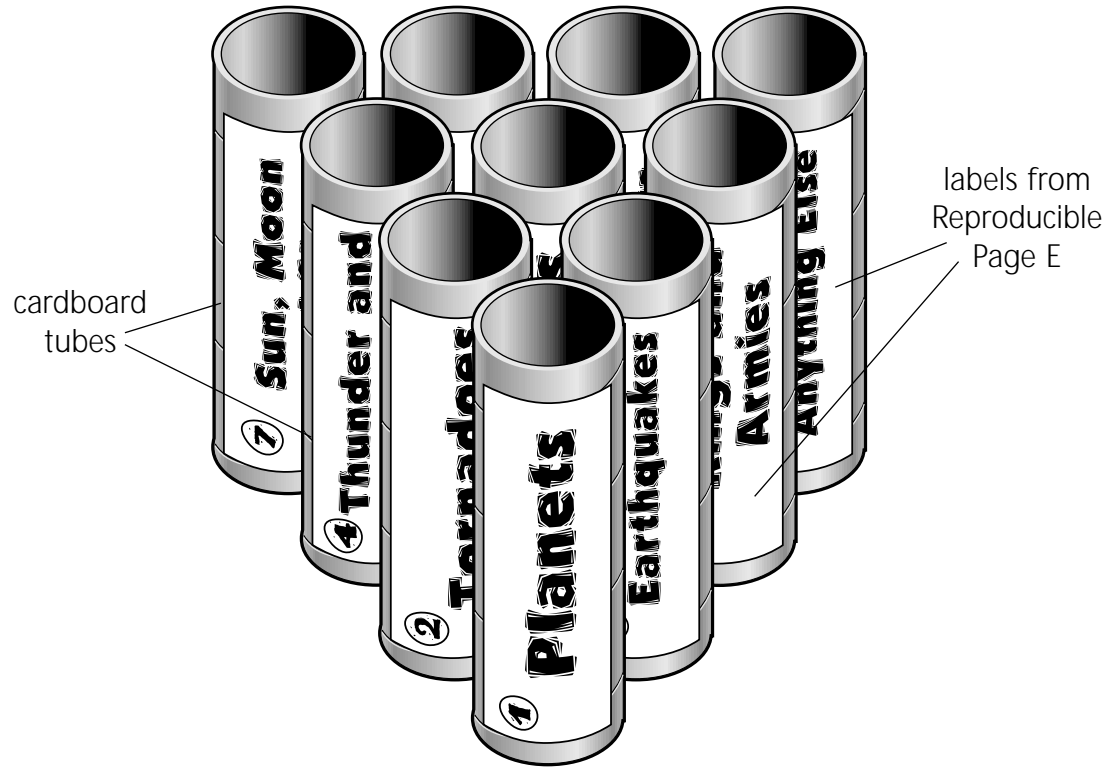
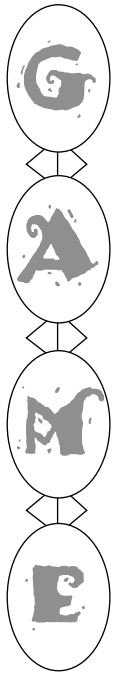
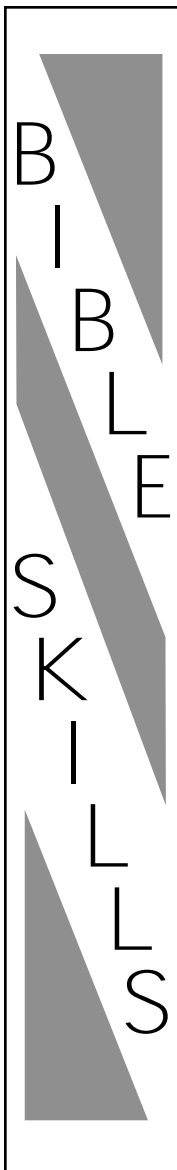


Figure A





My Book About Joshua

The children will review important ideas from this week's lesson as they order events from the book of Joshua.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper, 5" x 8"
- crayons and markers

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- scissors
- stapler

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the four pages for each child from the copies of Reproducible Page F.
2. Fold the construction paper in half to make book covers.
3. On the large writing surface, write the four page titles that appear on the back of this Lesson Card.
4. Make a sample of this activity from your copy of Reproducible Page F.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that God helped Joshua and the Israelites win the battle against the Amorites in an amazing way. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still until he had won the battle and God did it! He made the sun stand still for about a day—until Joshua had won the battle! The book of Joshua is full of amazing ways that God used his power to help his people. Today, you are going to make your own book of Joshua to remind you of the stories from our unit.*

2. Show the children the book of Joshua that you made. Read what is written on each page. Tell the children that first they will put the events in order and then they will make a book. Tell the children to use the list that you have written on the large writing surface to find the pages in this activity.
3. Distribute the pages that you prepared, the crayons and markers. Tell the children to find the first page of their book and hold it up. This is the page marked Joshua 1-4.
 - Tell the children to find the second page of their book and hold it up. This is the page marked Joshua 5-6.
 - Tell the children to find the third page of their book and hold it up. This is the page marked Joshua 7-8.
 - Tell the children to find the last page of their book and hold it up. This is the page marked Joshua 9-10.
4. Circulate among the children to check that their pages are in the correct order.
5. Distribute the construction paper book covers and have the children place their pages inside. Staple their books together. Have the children color and write their names on their books.

Conclusion

Encourage the children to take their books home and tell their parents about God's power in the book of Joshua. Close with a prayer thanking God for the Bible and for the book of Joshua.

Teacher Tips

- For variety, copy Reproducible Page F onto colored paper.





The Sun Stands Still

Joshua 1-4: Going to the
New Land

Joshua 5-6: Jericho's Walls
Fall Down!

Joshua 7-8: God Hates Sin and
Loves Obedience

Joshua 9-10: God Makes the
Sun Stand Still!



Name _____

Core/Preclass
1 copy for each child

R
E
P
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PAGE
A



the universe



Core/Bible Story
1 copy for the teacher

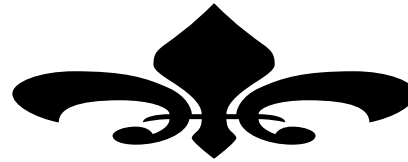
Joshua	Amorite king	Gibeonite
Israelite	Amorite king	Gibeonite
Israelite	Amorite king	Gibeonite
Israelite	Amorite king	sun
king of Jerusalem	Gibeonite	hailstones

R
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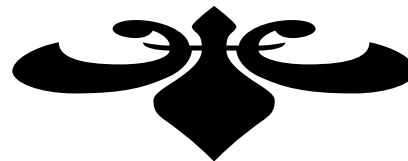


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C



Praise him for his
powerful acts.
Praise him because he is
greater than anything else.

Psalms 10:2 (NIRV)



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Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child

Power Clues

Name _____

- * Joshua went to battle against the A _____.
- * Joshua asked God to make the _ u _ stand still.
- * God made the sun stand still for about one full _ _ y.
- * God helped Joshua's army to w _ _ the battle against the Amorites.
- * God was _ _ _ _ _ ing for the Israelites!
- * God's p _ _ _ r is greater than anything else!

day
power
sun
Amorites
win
fighting

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R
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PAGE

D



Supplement/Game
1 copy for the teacher

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PAGE
E

① **Planets**

② **Tornadoes**

③ **Earthquakes**

④ **Thunder and
Lightning**

⑤ **Volcanoes**

⑥ **Kings and
Armies**

⑦ **Sun, Moon
and Stars**

⑧ **Oceans**

⑨ **Mountains**

⑩ **Anything Else**

Supplement/Bible Skills

1 copy for each child (Optional – colored paper)

R
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L
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P
A
G
E
F

