

Lesson 62

God Judges Rebellion

God punished the people for rebelling and complaining.

Studying God's Word

Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Lesson Flip Chart, and any items you brought or prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of confession and tell God we're sorry.

I'll start. Dear God, I'm sorry for . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration
I'm sorry prayers—Confession
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving
Please prayers—Supplication

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

What word means God will always keep his promises? Faithful.
What special laws did God give to Moses and the Israelites? The Ten Commandments.
What people (or nation) did God promise to give the land of Canaan to? The Israelites.
Who were the Israelites? The descendants of Israel (Jacob).

Bible Treasure Hunt

Before Bible Treasure Hunt, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Each week before class, hide your Bible somewhere in the room. You can use different methods each week to keep the students excited about finding the Bible. For example, you might set a timer, play music while the students search, tell students when they are getting warmer and colder, or choose a student to hide the Bible and let you or classmates find it.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. God's Word is true, and we can always trust what it says. It's like a great treasure that tells us about who God is and what he has done for us. But where is this treasure? You will have to help me with that. We're going to go on a Bible Treasure Hunt. Somewhere in this room, I've hidden the Bible. When I say "Go," you will need to look for it. Whoever finds the Bible must bring it back to their seat and hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Explain the method you chose for today. Ready? Set! Go!

K-1st Lesson continues next. Pre-K Lesson follows.

Pre-K Lesson

K-1st Lesson

Pre-K Lesson

Refer to Lesson 61 Flip Chart. God told Moses to send 12 spies into the land of Canaan. These men spied for 40 days. They brought back fruit and told the Israelites that the land was very good!

But there were some problems that scared 10 of the spies. What were the problems? There were strong, tall people in the land (giants). The cities had walls around them.

Which two spies trusted God to help them win the land? Joshua and Caleb.

Yes. They reminded the people to trust God and not to be afraid. But the people didn't listen to Joshua and Caleb. They would not go into the good land God promised to give them.

The Israelites disobeyed the Lord, so he punished them by making them wander in the wilderness for 40 years until all the older people who didn't believe and obey him died. Only Joshua, Caleb, and the young people under age 20 would enter the land later.

We might think the Israelites were so bad all the time. But wait. How many of you have ever disobeyed? Show of hands.

When we decide to disobey and try to do things our own way, we are doing something called "rebellious." It's kind of like we're doing the opposite of what we're told to do. I have some pictures to show you. See

Have Opposites Pictures printed, cut out, and ready to show. if you can tell me what the opposites are. Show Opposites Pictures saying, "If I told you to (picture text) and you did the opposite, what would you do?"

Sometimes we feel like we want to do the opposite of what we're told to do. But God doesn't want us to rebel. You see, God has given us people to watch over us and lead us. They are our authorities, like parents or teachers or even babysitters. So, when we don't obey or respect them, we're actually disobeying God and rebelling against him, too.

The Israelites acted the same way when they chose not to go into the land God had given to them. In our lesson today, we'll see how they disobeyed and rebelled again.

Korah Rebels

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Soon after God said the older people could not go into the promised land, three men named Korah, Dathan, and Abiram decided they didn't like the way God was doing things, so they began to cause trouble.

First, they gathered 250 men together, and went to see Moses and Aaron. They said mean things about them that were not true because they were jealous and wanted to be leaders and priests like Moses and Aaron.

Numbers 16:11

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's read what Moses said to them in the book of Numbers. Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read the first sentence of Numbers 16:11.

Who were these men really coming against? The Lord.
Is it a good thing to come against the Lord? No!

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

Since God chose Moses to lead the people and Aaron to be the high priest, these men were really rebelling against God when they came against the leaders God chose. It was like they were saying, "God, we don't like the men you've put in charge over us!" They didn't want to do their own jobs; they wanted the special jobs God had given to Moses and Aaron.

So Moses told them to come back the next day and offer sweet-smelling spices to God the way Aaron and the priests did. Then God would show them all if he wanted them to be his priests and leaders or not.

God Punishes Sin

The next day, a big crowd gathered; they wanted to see what would happen to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. The 250 men who wanted to be priests also came to burn sweet spices to God. But God knew what was going on and spoke to

Moses saying, "Tell the people to move away from these men so I may destroy them!"

Moses warned the people, "Hurry! Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram so that you won't be punished along with them!" The Israelites moved back from the three men.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Suddenly, the ground began to shake and split apart! The earth opened up and swallowed Korah, Dathan, and Abiram! All three men, their tents, and their families fell into the huge crack in the earth, and the ground closed back up over them.

The other Israelites were terrified and ran away. They didn't want the earth to swallow them up, too! But that's not all. God also sent fire and burned up the 250 men who were offering the sweet spices! They were punished because they were trying to be priests, but God had given that job only to Aaron and his sons.

Wow! God didn't like it when these men rebelled against him, did he? No!

Moses Disobeys

As the Israelites wandered around in the wilderness, they reached a place where there was no water.

Now who do you think could help them with this problem? God.

Yes, God provided water for them before, didn't he? We talked about one time when God made water come out of a rock when Moses hit the rock with his staff.

So the people knew God could give them water. But instead of asking God for help, they complained and grumbled to Moses about being thirsty. Moses prayed about the problem, and God said he would provide water again. Only this time, he told Moses and Aaron to speak to a rock. Moses wasn't supposed to hit it with his staff like before.

Numbers 20:11

Let's read what happened in Numbers 20:11. Read the verse.

What did Moses do to the rock? Struck it twice with his staff.

Oh no! This time, Moses and Aaron did NOT obey God's instructions. Moses struck the rock with his staff instead of speaking to it like God said to do. Moses disobeyed God—he did it his own way. And he and Aaron even said they would bring water from the rock instead of God.

Remember how we've learned that God is holy and hates sin? God must punish sin. So God punished Moses and Aaron and said they would never get to go into the promised land.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. We might think God sounds really mean when we read about these things in the Bible. But God isn't mean; he's holy and takes sin seriously. God is also full of mercy and love. He showed how much he loves us when he sent his only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for us so we could be forgiven of our sins. God loves us, but he also wants us to trust him and obey him.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

K-1st Lesson

Refer to Lesson 61 Flip Chart. God told Moses to send 12 spies into the land of Canaan. These men spied for 40 days. They brought back fruit and told the Israelites that the land was very good!

But there were some problems that scared 10 of the spies. What were the problems? There were strong, tall people in the land (giants). The cities had walls around them.

Which two spies trusted God to help them win the land? Joshua and Caleb.

Yes. They reminded the people to trust God and not to be afraid. But the people didn't listen to Joshua and Caleb. They would not go into the good land God promised to give them.

The Israelites disobeyed the Lord, so he punished them by making them wander in the wilderness for 40 years until all the older people who didn't believe and obey him died. Only Joshua, Caleb, and the young people under age 20 would enter the land later.

Have Opposites Pictures printed, cut out, and ready to show. We might think the Israelites were so bad all the time. But wait. How many of you have ever disobeyed? Show of hands.

When we decide that we don't want to obey and choose instead to disobey because we want to do things our own way, we are doing something called "rebellious." It's kind of like we're doing the opposite of what we're told to do. I have some pictures to show you. See if you can tell me what the opposites are. Show Opposites Pictures saying, "If I told you to (picture text) and you did the opposite, what would you do?"

Sometimes we feel like we want to do the opposite of what we're told, but that would be rebellious. God doesn't want us to disobey and rebel. You see, God has given us people to watch over us and lead us. They are our authorities, like parents or teachers or even babysitters. So we need to obey and respect them. When we don't, we're actually disobeying God and rebellious against him, too.

The Israelites acted the same way when they chose not to go into the land God had given to them. But this wasn't the first time they rebelled against God, and it wouldn't be the last time either. In our lesson today, we'll see how they rebelled against Moses, Aaron, and God again.

Korah Rebels

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. After God said the older people could not go into the promised land, this made some of them very upset. It wasn't long before three men, who didn't like the way God was doing things, decided to stir up trouble. Their names were Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

They gathered 250 men together and went to see Moses and Aaron. They said mean things about Moses and Aaron that were not true. These men were jealous. They wanted to be leaders like Moses and priests like Aaron.

Numbers 16:11

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's read what Moses said to them in the book of Numbers. Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read the first sentence of Numbers 16:11.

Who were these men really coming against? The Lord.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

Is it a good thing to come against the Lord? No!

Since God chose Moses to lead the people and Aaron to be the high priest, these men were really rebelling against God when they came against the leaders God chose. It was like they were saying, "God, we don't like the men you've put in charge over us!"

Is that a good thing to say to God? No!

These people were jealous, too. They didn't want to do the jobs God had already given them to do. They wanted the special jobs God had given to Moses and Aaron.

So Moses told them to come back the next day and offer sweet-smelling spices to God the way Aaron and the priests did. Then God would show them all who he wanted to be his priests and leaders.

God Punishes Sin

The next day, a big crowd gathered; they wanted to see what would happen to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. The 250 men who wanted to be priests also came to burn sweet spices to God. But God knew what was going on, and he was not pleased. He knew these people were rebelling. God spoke to Moses saying, "Move away from the people so I may destroy them!"

But Moses prayed, "O God, please don't punish all the people for the sin of these few men!"

So God said, "Tell the people to get away from Korah, Dathan, and Abiram."

Moses went to the people and warned them, "Hurry! Move away from the tents of these wicked men so that you won't be punished along with them!" The Israelites moved back from the three men.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Suddenly, the ground under the three men began to tremble and split apart! The earth opened up and swallowed Korah, Dathan, and Abiram! All three men, their tents, and their families fell into a huge crack in the earth, and the ground closed back up over them.

The other Israelites were terrified and ran away. They didn't want the earth to swallow them up, too! But that's not all. God also sent fire from heaven and burned up the 250 men who were offering the sweet spices! They were punished because they were trying to be priests, but God had given that job only to Aaron and his sons.

Wow! God didn't like it when these men rebelled against him, did he? No!

Moses Disobeys

As the Israelites continued to wander around in the wilderness, they reached a place where there was no water.

Now who do you think could help them with this problem? God. Yes, God provided water for them before, didn't he? We talked about one time when God made water come out of a rock. Do you remember what God told Moses to do? Strike the rock with his staff.

So the people knew God could give them water. But instead of asking God for help, once again, they complained and grumbled to Moses about being thirsty. Moses knew he needed God's help and prayed about the problem. God said he would provide water again. Only this time, he told Moses and Aaron to gather the people around a rock and speak to it. Moses wasn't supposed to hit it with his staff like before.

Numbers 20:10–11

Let's read what happened in Numbers chapter 20. Read verses 10–11.

Who did Moses say would bring water out of the rock? We. Moses and Aaron.

Is that true? Would Moses and Aaron bring the water? Or God? God would. Then what did Moses do to the rock? Struck it twice.

Oh no! This time, Moses and Aaron did NOT obey God's instructions. Moses struck the rock with his staff twice instead of speaking to it like God said to do. Moses disobeyed God. And he and Aaron even said they would give water instead of God.

Do you think God was pleased with Moses and Aaron? No!

God was angry with Moses and Aaron for rebelling and doing it their way instead of following his directions. Remember how we've learned that God is holy and hates sin? God must punish sin. So God punished Moses and Aaron and said they would never get to go into the promised land. This was terrible news! They had been faithful and tried to please God, but their disobedience had to be punished just like the disobedience of the Israelites whenever they rebelled.

Refer to the [Lesson Flip Chart](#). We might think God sounds really mean when we read about these things in the Bible. But God isn't mean; he's holy and takes sin seriously. He must punish sin because of who he is. But God is also full of mercy and love. He showed how much he loves us when he sent his only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for us so we could be forgiven of our sins. God loves us, but he also wants us to trust him and obey him and not rebel by doing things our own way.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

Basket Toss

Students give the correct answer and toss the beanbags to see how many points they can collect for their team. Each basket has greater points.

Materials

Review Questions
Two beanbags
Three laundry baskets or boxes
Masking tape

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a tossing line. Bring in three laundry baskets or boxes. Set the baskets in a line, making each one a little farther away from the tossing line. Label the baskets with 5, 10, and 25 points so the farther away it is the higher the score.

Divide the class into two or more teams depending on size. Have the teams line up at the tossing line. Take turns asking the first students in line from each team a review question. When a student answers correctly, he will have a chance to toss a beanbag into a basket then go to the end of the line. If the beanbag misses, there are no points scored. If someone does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Keep track of the scores for each team on the board. Continue until all the questions have been answered. Repeat questions if necessary.

Board Game

Teams will answer questions and make their way to the finish on the Game Board.

Materials

Review Questions
Game Board (provided in the Teacher Kit)
Dice, numbered cards, or spinner
Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams.

Team members will take turns answering the review questions. If they answer correctly, they will roll the dice, spin, or draw a numbered card and move that number of spaces on the Game Board. Follow the directions on the spaces to move ahead, fall back, or switch places with another team. If someone does not know or does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Alternate between teams as long as time permits, repeating questions if necessary. The first team to make it all the way to the Finish wins.

Bible Baseball

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

Materials

Review Questions
Three chairs set out for bases
Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

Bowling

What do you do with extra water bottles and softballs? Go bowling, of course. Students will answer questions then bowl for points.

Materials

Review Questions
Six to ten empty water bottles
Softball or other small playground ball
Masking tape
Optional: dried corn or beans

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. If available, pour a small amount of dried corn or beans into the bottom of each water bottle (to add weight) and tighten the lid. Set out the bottles on one end of the room. Use masking tape to form a "lane" from the bottles to where the students will line up across the room.

Divide students into teams. Have students line up. Ask the first student a review question. If he answers correctly, let him roll the ball down the lane toward the bottles. Each bottle that is knocked down is worth 1 point. A strike (knocking down all the bottles) is worth 20 points. Take turns asking questions of each team. If a student gives an incorrect answer or does not know the answer, he can ask his teammates for help. Keep track of scores.

Goofy Golf

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

Materials

Review Questions
Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers
Rolled up socks
Masking tape
Ten sheets of paper
Markers

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

Racetrack

Who will reach the checkered flag first? Teams will race to the finish by answering review questions.

Materials

Review Questions
White board or chalkboard
Markers/chalk
Optional: paper cutouts for each team (cars, animals, circles, etc.),
tape/poster putty

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Draw a racetrack on the board. It may be as simple as a straight horizontal path or a curvy circle. Label "Start" and "Finish" (with a checkered flag) at either end of the track. Add numbers along the track (e.g., 1–10) at equal intervals between Start and Finish. The numbers will be used as placement points for the racers as they progress along the track.

Divide the class into teams. You may draw a different symbol (e.g., stick figure, circle, X or O) to represent each team at the Start, or use paper cutouts as team markers and stick them to the board with tape/poster putty.

Ask the first team a review question. If they answer correctly, move their marker or redraw their symbol along the track at #1. If they answer incorrectly, give the next team a chance to answer and move to the first number. If they do not know, give the answer and ask that question again later. Continue to alternate asking review questions and moving teams' markers along the racetrack according to the numbers along the track. The first team to reach the Finish wins!

Toss for It

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

Materials

Review Questions
A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and "wild" written on index cards
One beanbag
Masking tape
Two baskets or containers for cards

Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team's basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team's turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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Bible Version

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