

Lesson 20

-Mary and Martha-

Mary & Martha

2-5 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together today to learn about your love. Help us to learn more about you. Help us to follow in your footsteps. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha (Luke 10: 38-42). You can tell the story using a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that this age group can understand it.



Discussion:

Ask the children which sister listened to Jesus’ stories. Ask them why Martha did not listen to Him. Explain to the children that sometimes we get so busy that we forget to take time to talk to God and that is what Martha did when Jesus came to visit her.

Art:

Give the children each a piece of paper. Put out glue, glitter, markers, crayons, yarn, buttons, etc. Let the children make a picture for God. Then display the pictures in the room or send them home for them to hang up for God at home.

Song:

Sing the song *If You're Listening to Jesus* to the tune of *If You're Happy and You Know It*



If you're listening to Jesus clap your hands,
 If you're listening to Jesus clap your hands,
 If you're listening to Jesus, then your life will really show it,
 If you're listening to Jesus clap your hands.

2nd time through: stomp your feet

3rd time through: shout Amen

Closing Prayer to ask for help in listening to God and Jesus. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for giving us your words. Please help us to listen to what you and Jesus are telling us. Please keep us safe in your care. Amen."

12-14 Years:

Opening prayer: Start the class by praying together. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for giving us this day together to learn more about you and what you have done for us. Amen”

Bible Reading:

In this lesson, God uses Balaam, who is pulled between pagan beliefs and truly listening to the voice of God. The Moabite people are afraid of the Israelites taking over their land and ask Balaam to put a curse on the Israelites so they will be driven out of their country. Have the students read the following selections.

Numbers 22: 21-27

Numbers 22:28-31

Numbers 22:32-38

Numbers

22: 21-27

22: 28-31

22: 32-38

Discussion:

God used the angel three times to get Balaam’s attention. It didn’t work. Are we like that sometimes? Why did Balaam ignore God, but listen to the donkey? How does God speak to us?

Activity:

Make up index cards with different scenarios on them of a situation in which God would tell them something, but they would have to choose to listen. Color-code the scenarios so that the student with the same colors respond to each others situation. Make as many different scenarios as there are students. Example: You are invited to a movie that you really want to see, but you know that it’s not appropriate. Your parents wouldn’t find out, because your friend is old enough to drive. What do you do?

Closing Prayer: thanking God for the talking to us. Example:

“Thank you God for bringing us together today to learn about how you spoke to Balaam. Please help us to listen when you tell us something. Thank you for making us. Help us to follow your ways this week. Amen”