DJ

DIXIE JACKSON
ARKANSAS
MISSIONS
OFFERING
2022

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

We must do the works of Him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. (John 9:4)

PREPARE

Every September, Arkansas Baptists join together to help ministries in our own state. We do that through the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering and Week of Prayer.

This week we will be learning about several of these ministries. Each one focuses on different needs in our state. They include:

- Community outreach
- Ministry on college campuses
- Help to women in very difficult situations
- Help and hope when disasters strike
- Church planting
- Impacting unreached people groups
- Much more

Through these ministries, Arkansas Baptists can do the works of Jesus. But time is short. Night is coming.

In this lesson, you will help your preschooler or Sunday school class understand that Jesus can do things that only God can do. The children will hear the story of Jesus healing a man who had been blind since birth (John 9:1-7).

PRAY

- That God will give you creativity and wisdom as you share Biblical truth.
- For your child/class to realize that Jesus still helps people through His church, and that He wants us to help people, too. One way we do that is through Arkansas Baptist ministries right here in our own state.
- That God will help you live each day knowing that the time on earth is short.
- That one day your child/children will have genuine faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

TEACH

Open your Bible and turn to John 9:1–7.

Explain to the children that you are going to tell them a true story about what happened to a blind man. Open your Bible to John 9:1–7. Say something like:

One day Jesus was walking with his disciples. (Move your feet as though they were walking.)

They all saw a blind man. (Cover your eyes for a moment.) He had been blind since he was born and had never been able to see anything at all.

The disciples asked Jesus what sin caused this man to be blind. Jesus said that no one had done anything wrong. (Shake your head back and forth for "no one.") That this man was blind so that one day God would do something wonderful for him. (Point up.)

If you were blind, what would you want Jesus to do?

Let's see what happened.

(Turn the lights off) Jesus said that He was the Light of the World.

(Turn the lights back on) Then He spit on the ground and made some mud. He put the mud on the blind man's eyes and told him to wash in a pool called Siloam.

The blind man trusted Jesus and did just what Jesus told him to do.

When the man who was blind came back to see Jesus, he could see! He was not in darkness anymore. He could see light! Jesus had given him sight!

Yea!!!! (CLAP)

Ask if someone in your class would like to tell you what happened in this story.

Memory Verse: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

POSSIBLE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Watch a Reenactment of the Story in John 9:1–7

You might want to ask an older children's Sunday school class to reenact this for your class. As you read the Bible passage, the older students would pretend to be different people in it. (If you are doing this with your child at home, you could ask older siblings or neighbor children to reenact the story.)

For John 9:1–7, you may want to choose children to act out these parts:

> As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him. We must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said these things he spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he left, washed, and came back seeing.

- Blind man (sitting)
- Jesus (walks near the blind man)
- Jesus' disciples (walking with Jesus)

One of the disciples asks: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus says: ""It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We do the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Jesus stops walking and looks at the blind man. He spits on the ground, makes mud., and puts "mud" on the blind man's eyes.

Jesus says: "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent").

The blind man stumbles out.

The "blind man" returns and says, "I can see!"

(If there happens to be a dimmer on the light switch, dim the lights as the story is being told. If you do not have a dimmer, you may want to turn the lights off for a few seconds at the end of the "skit" to remind the children that night is coming.)

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Guess the Object

First, ask each child to close their eyes. Say something like "No peeking!" And then describe an object in the room.

Ask the children to keep their eyes closed until someone guesses correctly. As soon as this happens, the children can open their eyes.

Now, tell the children that you will repeat this activity, but this time they can keep their eyes open as you describe an object. When someone guesses the correct object ask the child/children:

1. Was it easier to identify _____ when your eyes were open or closed?
2. Why do you think so?

Now ask the children if they remember what Jesus did in the Bible story that you just read (healed the blind man's eyes so he could see).

Say something like: God wants us to open our eyes and see how we can help others. What could you do to help someone today?

PRAY TOGETHER

Pray as God leads you. Your prayer can be very simple, for example:

"Lord, help us see how we can do nice things for other people today. You were so kind to give the blind man his sight. It made him happy and pointed him to God. We love you."

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