



Lesson
148

4s-K

THE STONING OF STEPHEN

June 15 & 16

GOD IS TRUTH



LESSON GOAL:

Stephen stayed strong and faithful to God's truth even when others didn't like what he had to say.

The goal of this lesson is to help the kids understand that even if it is difficult, we should share the truth about God with others.

Acts 7:51-60

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BOLT: Backyard Summer Camp

Father's Day Weekend



KEY VERSE

for the month of June:

Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved.

Romans 10:9, NIRV

MISSION FOCUS:

**Woodmen Students Guatemala
Mission Trip**

This month, we are praying for the high school students who are going on a mission trip to Guatemala from June 24-July 1. We are also raising money to purchase water filters and stoves that these students will install during their trip.

**Fundraising Goal: \$5,000
By: June 15**



For the month of June:

JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS

25
min

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.

SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! Do you have any offering to put in our offering bin? *(Direct child to offering station)*

You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

20
min

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



God is Truth!

Help kids connect relationally and to the daily lesson by participating in the Bag of Wonder activity together.

Bag of Wonder: stone

Connection: Stephen was stoned for sharing God's truth

SAY:

We are going to take turns passing around this Bag of Wonder! It has something inside that helps us think about our lesson today. You can hold it, smell it, shake it, touch it...but no peeking inside! What do you think it could be? You each get 1 guess!

DO:

Pass the Bag of Wonder around until each child has had a turn to hold it and guess what's in the bag. Offer hints to help the kids guess the item.

SAY:

I wonder why this item is in our Bag of Wonder today! Our lesson is about how **God is Truth!** This story comes from the Bible in **Acts 7:51-60!** I'm going to read the story and see how this item might connect to our lesson. *(Read the passage aloud.)*



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by thinking through the Big 3 questions and how the lesson relates to them, personally.

SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson!

1. Who is our story about today? **Stephen**
2. What is the problem? **Stephen was sharing the truth about Jesus and people did not like it.**
3. What will God do? **The Holy Spirit helped Stephen stay faithful to the truth about God.**

SAY:

Let's connect to the story! Think about these things during our lesson:

1. Why does this matter to me?
2. How can I apply this to my own life?



MAKE: God is Truth Rock

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

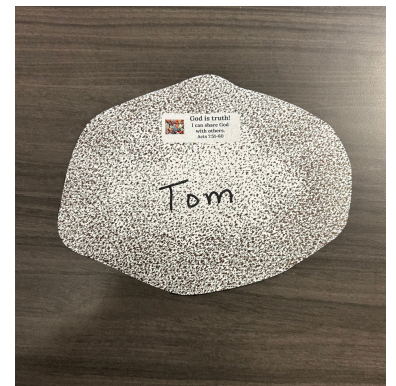
Supplies: paper rock, "God is Truth" sticker

DO:

Pass out one paper rock per child. Have them think about one person they can share Jesus with and write or draw that person on the back of the paper stone. Then have them put a "God is Truth" sticker on their craft.

SAY:

We get to learn about Stephen today! He shared the truth about God even when bad things happened to him. We should also share Jesus with others, even if things are hard or scary. We can always trust God and we should always share His truth with others. Let's make a special craft before we jump into our lesson today!



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.

25
min

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



EXPECTATIONS

As kids transition to Large Group time, play the expectations video.



HOST MOMENT

After the Large Group expectations video is finished, the Host should welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.



SAY:

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Let's take a few minutes to look at our Missions project for the day and our Key Verse.

MISSION FOCUS

Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.

KEY VERSE

Introduce the key verse then have the kids watch the Key Verse video.

PRAY FOR WORSHIP & BIBLE LESSON



WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

SONG 1: Tell the World

SONG 2: First Things First



LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.



BENEDICTION

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

BLESSING FROM JUDE

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.



TRANSITION

After the benediction, the Host should dismiss the kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.

15
min

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



REFLECT: God is Truth

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Worship Response Station

Supplies: God is Truth cards, markers



SAY:

It can be difficult to share God's truth with those who don't know Him yet. Not everyone will want to hear what we have to say and not everyone will have nice things to say back to us.

It can also be hard to do what we know is right when those around us, sometimes even our close friends, are doing and saying other things.

Stephen followed God and stayed committed to His truth even when it was hard. He knew the truth of the gospel was more important than anything. We can share God's truth through our words and actions, even when it's hard or it doesn't seem like the coolest or most popular thing to do.



DO:

- Ensure each child has a "God is Truth" card.
- Ask the kids to sit quietly in their own space & reflect on what the card says.
 - *How can you honor God's truth through your actions? Is there someone you know who needs to hear this truth? What could you say to them?*
- Tell the kids when they are done, they should sit down quietly and allow God and the Holy Spirit to speak to them while they wait for others to finish.



SAY:

As you think about the things that God is trying to teach you today, I want to close our Worship Response time with a blessing.

BLESSING: *May you know that God sent His Son Jesus to die for your sins. May the Holy Spirit give you strength to share Jesus with others.*



APPLY: Why Does it Matter?

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.



Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson!

1. Who was our story about today? **Stephen**
2. What was the problem? **Stephen was sharing the truth about Jesus and people didn't like that.**
3. What did God do? **The Holy Spirit helped Stephen stay faithful to the truth about God.**



Let's connect to the story!

1. Why does this matter to me? **We can share the truth of God with others even when it's hard.**
2. How can I apply this to my own life? **Model an example, then ask kids to share.**



PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together. Use the Prayer Tags from Check-In to write down prayer requests to take home and pray for during the week.



Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud.



Invite kids to pray for each other, then the leader closes in prayer.

5
min

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.