

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 35
King Hezekiah (2 Kings 18:1-7)

Theme: Heroes

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Worshiping idols represents making natural things more important than spiritual things.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story

1. Do you remember the 10 Commandments? The first two commandments are that we worship only the Lord.
2. The children of Israel were meant to follow these commandments. When they did follow the Lord only, then they were happy and things went well for them. But many times they did not follow the Lord.
3. Sometimes they worshiped idols. This made the Lord sad. It also meant that the Israelites weren't happy.
4. When the Israelites were not following the Lord, He would send good leaders to help them. This is a story about a good king that helped his people. His name was Hezekiah.

B. Tell/Read the Story

1. II Kings 18:1-7

C. Ideas to Discuss

1. What was the good king's name? (Hezekiah)
2. Why did the Lord want Hezekiah to be king of Israel? (To lead them back to the Lord)
3. How did he help Israel? (He broke down all the false idols they were worshiping)
4. Hezekiah helped the people worship the real God. Who is that? (The Lord Jehovah)
5. How did this make the Lord feel? (Happy)

D. Further Ideas

1. When the children of Israel worshiped pretend Gods, bad things happened and they were not happy. When Hezekiah helped them worship the real God, the Lord, good things happened to them.
2. The Lord wants good things to happen to us. He wants us to worship only Him, because He is the One that can bring us happiness.

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III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Rejoice in the Lord Always" from *Wee Sing Bible Songs*

B. Activities

1. Bring a collection of blocks and any figures that could be like idols. (Chess pieces work well; or images made with clay) Have the children build altars with blocks, and idols. They can pretend that they are the good king Hezekiah and knock down all the idols.

C. Project

1. Broken down idols
 - a. Supply many pre-cut paper "idols"
 - b. Give the children scissors and let them destroy the idols; then glue the remains on a piece of construction paper.
 - c. Provide a pre-cut figure of the Lord, which the children may decorate if they choose. This can be glued over the idols.
 - d. Text slip: "Hezekiah removed the high places and broke the pillars, cut down the wooden images. He trusted in the Lord God of Israel and the Lord was with him and he prospered wherever he went." (II Kings 18:4-6)

IV. Teaching Aids

A. Felt board and figures

B. Blocks and "idols"

V. Further Reading for the Teacher