Teacher_tips

Teacher Notes for Teaching Exodus 19 to Elementary Students

Objective:
- Help students understand the significance of God's covenant with the Israelites at Mount Sinai.
- Introduce the concept of God as a guide and protector.

Pacing Suggestions:
1. Introduction (5-7 minutes)
- Briefly recap the journey of the Israelites from Egypt to Mount Sinai.
- Set the scene: Explain that Exodus 19 describes what happens when God speaks to Moses on Mount Sinai.

2. Storytelling (10-12 minutes)
- Read selected verses or use a simplified version of the chapter.
- Use visual aids like pictures of Mount Sinai and the desert journey.

3. Discussion and Explanation (10-15 minutes)
- Discuss key points and characters: Moses, God, the Israelites.
- Highlight the idea of a covenant: Compare it to an agreement or promise between friends.

4. Activity (10-15 minutes)
- Have students draw or color a picture of Mount Sinai or create their own tablets with "agreements" they might make, like being kind.

5. Closing (5 minutes)
- Summarize what was learned.
- Ask students to share one thing they found interesting.

Explaining Difficult Concepts:
- Covenant:
- Explain it as a special promise.
- Use relatable examples, like promising to help each other in class.

- Holiness:
- Describe it as being set apart or special.
- Relate it to a special day or item students value.

Engagement Tips:
- Use expressive storytelling to capture students' imagination.
- Ask questions throughout to encourage participation, such as "What do you think Moses thought when…?"
- Incorporate hands-on activities where students can express the story creatively through art.

Managing Student Engagement:
- Provide clear instructions and purpose before each activity.
- Use a variety of teaching methods—stories, visual aids, art—to cater to different learning styles.
- Encourage students to ask questions and express their thoughts to build a connection with the material.