

Teacher_tips

Teacher Notes and Tips: Teaching "Matthew 21:28-32" to Elementary Students

Lesson Title:

The Parable of the Two Sons

Scripture:

Matthew 21:28-32

Objective:

To help students understand the importance of obedience and sincerity in doing what is right.

Materials Needed:

- Bible or printed copies of Matthew 21:28-32
- Whiteboard and markers
- Visual aids (illustrations of the parable)
- Simple props for role-playing (optional)

Lesson Outline:

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Begin with a brief prayer or moment of quiet reflection.
- Introduce the topic: "Today, we're going to learn a story that Jesus told about two sons and their choices."
- Briefly explain what a parable is: a simple story used by Jesus to teach important lessons.

Reading the Scripture (5 minutes)

- Read Matthew 21:28-32 aloud to the class, using an age-appropriate translation.
- If possible, show an illustrated version of the story to help visual learners.

Discussing the Story (10 minutes)

- Ask: What did the first son say? What did he do?
- Ask: What about the second son? What did he say, and what did he do?
- Discuss: Which son did what his father wanted in the end?

Explaining Difficult Concepts (10 minutes)

- Obedience: Explain that obedience means doing what you are asked to do, even if it's difficult.
- Sincerity: Talk about meaning what you say and saying what you mean.
- Use simple examples: Ask students if it's better to say you'll help clean up and not do it, or to say you won't but then decide to help.

Role-Playing Activity (10 minutes)

- Organize students into small groups. Give each group a chance to act out the parable using simple props.
- Ask each group how they felt being the different characters.

Discussion and Reflection (10 minutes)

- Discuss: Why is it important to not just say the right thing, but also do it?
- Reflect on times when students might have said no initially but then helped out, or said yes and didn't follow through.
- Encourage students to always try to do the right thing, even if they initially said the wrong thing.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

- Summarize the lesson by highlighting the importance of both our words and actions.
- Close with a discussion: How can we be more like the son who did the right thing in the end?

Pacing Suggestions:

- Keep segments short and interactive to maintain engagement.
- Use plenty of visual aids or role-playing to cater to different learning styles.

Engagement Tips:

- Encourage participation by asking questions and allowing students to share their thoughts.
- Use positive reinforcement like praise or stickers when students answer questions or participate in activities.
- Stay flexible and be ready to spend more time on the concepts students are most interested in or find difficult.

Follow-Up:

- Suggest students share the story at home or draw pictures of the parable.
- Offer to send a summary or handout to parents to encourage discussion at home.