Teacher_tips

Teacher Notes and Tips for Teaching ‘Joshua 17’ to Elementary Students

Pacing Suggestions:
- Introduction (10 minutes): Briefly introduce the Book of Joshua, explaining it is a story from the Bible about the Israelites entering and settling in the Promised Land.
- Reading the Passage (15 minutes): Read aloud or have the class read Joshua 17 together. Break it down into smaller sections and pause after each to check for understanding.
- Discussion (15 minutes): Discuss key points and themes, such as the distribution of land to the tribes of Israel, the importance of family inheritances, and the challenges faced by the tribe of Manasseh.
- Activities (20 minutes): Use engaging activities to deepen understanding, such as map exercises or role-playing.

Explaining Difficult Concepts:
- Distribution of Land: Explain how land was very important to families for living and farming. Compare it to how today families may have homes or certain areas where they live.
- Tribe of Manasseh: Explain a tribe as a big family group and how Manasseh was one of the groups that received land.
- Challenges and Complaints: Discuss why they might have concerns about their land and how they worked through them. Relate this to sharing with siblings or solving problems at school.
- Inheritance and Importance of Family Names: Use examples from students' lives, asking them to think about their family heritage or traditions.

Student Engagement:
- Visual Aids: Use maps of ancient Israel to help students visualize where the tribes were settled. Color in the areas belonging to the tribe of Manasseh.
- Interactive Story Retelling: Have students act out parts of the story as a way to engage them more actively. Encourage them to come up with solutions to the problems faced by the tribe.
- Questions and Answers: Encourage students to ask questions and express thoughts about fairness and sharing. This promotes critical thinking and personal connection to the text.
- Story Comparison: Compare the story to familiar tales about family and inheritance, like fairy tales where kingdoms are divided or family barns that are shared.

Guidance for Managing Engagement:
- Variety in Learning Modalities: Incorporate visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning activities to cater to diverse learning styles.
- Frequent Mini-breaks: Allow movement by taking short breaks between sections of reading or discussion to keep energy and focus levels high.
- Creating Connections: Relate the story to students’ everyday lives, focusing on themes of sharing, fairness, and overcoming challenges.
- Positive Reinforcement: Praise students for participation and thoughtful answers to keep morale and engagement high.