# Lesson

Bible Lesson Plan: 1 Kings 14

Engaging Introduction

Hello, kids! Today, we are going to dive into a story from the Bible that’s full of mystery, important lessons, and hidden messages from God. Have you ever played a game where you had to find hidden objects, or maybe solve a mystery? It’s exciting and fun, isn’t it? Well, today’s Bible story might feel a bit like that!

We will explore the story from 1 Kings 14. It’s all about a king, his family, and a secret message from God. Imagine a gigantic kingdom ruled by a king named Jeroboam. He was in charge, but things weren’t going very well for him. In fact, his son was very sick, and King Jeroboam didn’t know what to do. So, he decided to come up with a clever plan, and that’s where our adventure begins today.

As we go through this story, let’s pay attention to what God wants us to learn. We'll see how King Jeroboam tries to solve his problem and how God responds to it. We’ll also discover something called "consequences" and how important it is to make the right choices. Are you ready to unlock the mystery of 1 Kings 14? Let’s jump in!

Main Teaching Points

1. The Problem: A Sick Child

Let’s start with King Jeroboam’s problem. He had a son named Abijah, who was very sick. Imagine having a loved one who isn’t feeling well – you’d want to do everything you can to help them, right? Well, the king was worried too. He wanted answers and desperately needed to know if his son would get better. But instead of praying to God or asking for His help, King Jeroboam decided to solve the problem his way.

2. The Plan: Disguise and Deceive

Now here’s where things get interesting. Jeroboam’s plan wasn’t very honest. He asked his wife to disguise herself—like wearing a costume—to go and visit a prophet named Ahijah, who lived far away. Why a disguise, you may ask? Well, Jeroboam was trying to hide his true identity because he knew he hadn’t been obeying God. This is like trying to cover up a mistake instead of admitting it. You can imagine how tricky and sneaky this plan was.

3. The Prophet’s Message From God

Here’s where we find out just how amazing God is. Even though Ahijah was blind because he was so old, God had already told him that Jeroboam’s wife would come to visit. So, the moment she arrived, Ahijah knew exactly who she was and delivered a message from God. Isn’t it incredible that we can’t hide from God because He sees everything? Ahijah told her that God was unhappy with Jeroboam for not obeying His commands and worshipping other gods. Because of this, the kingdom Jeroboam ruled would one day be taken away from his family.

4. The Consequence: A Sad Outcome

Sometimes, when we make bad choices, there are consequences—results of what we do. God told Jeroboam's wife that because of her husband's choices, Abijah would die when she returned home, and bad things would continue for Jeroboam's family. This is a sad part of the story, but it teaches us something very important: our choices have consequences. Just like if you break your toy by throwing it against a wall, or you miss recess because you didn't follow directions, consequences happen based on what we do.

5. Learning From Jeroboam's Mistakes

Now, let's think about what Jeroboam could have done differently. Instead of hiding and planning a disguise, he could have turned back to God. Remember, God is always there for us, ready to help and forgive if we ask. Had Jeroboam sincerely prayed and changed his ways, things might have been different. This part teaches us that we need to rely on God, be honest, and turn to Him when we need help instead of trying to handle things all on our own.

Personal Application for Elementary Students

So, kids, what can we learn from this story? One big lesson is honesty and trust in God. If we ever find ourselves in trouble or make a mistake, the best thing to do is to be honest about it, rather than trying to cover it up, much like Jeroboam did. You might feel scared or worried sometimes, but admitting the truth is always the best path.

Imagine you accidentally broke your mom's favorite cup at home. You might think of hiding the pieces or making excuses, just like Jeroboam tried to do. But if you choose to be honest, show her the cup, and say, "Mom, I made a mistake," you will find that people appreciate honesty, and oftentimes, they'll be happier to help or forgive.

Additionally, this story reminds us of the importance of making good choices and obeying God. Just like keeping the rules during a game makes it fun and fair for everyone, following God's directions helps us live happy and fulfilling lives. God loves us, and like a good parent, He wants what's best for us. So, trust Him, and don't try to hide when you've done something wrong.

We always have the opportunity to pray and ask for forgiveness, and God will guide us, making sure we walk the right path.

Interactive Discussion Questions

Let's talk about what we've learned today! I have some questions, and I want to hear what you think.

1. Why do you think Jeroboam chose to disguise his wife instead of being honest?

Think about the feeling of being caught doing something you shouldn't have. Jeroboam must have felt nervous about being found out. Sometimes when we do wrong, fear or pride can make us hide, but honesty is the brave choice.

2. How do you think God felt about Jeroboam's actions?

Understanding how God thinks can be tricky, but remember, He loves us all and wants us to follow His ways. God was disappointed in Jeroboam because he didn't obey and follow His commands. It's important for us to obey God's rules, just like how we feel good when we follow the rules during recess, because it keeps things fun and safe.

3. What should you do if you make a mistake?

Reflect on times when you've made mistakes. The first step is to tell the truth. Talk to your parents or a teacher, pray to God about it, and think of a way to fix it, if you can. Remember, God is always ready to listen and help, just like your parents and teachers.

4. What are some ways we can show that we trust God?

Discuss praying, reading the Bible, and talking to grownups about our questions. Trusting God can also mean doing the right thing even if it's hard. We can rely on Him to give us the courage to make good choices every day.

Remember, everyone makes mistakes, and that's okay. What's important is that we learn from them, just as we learned from 1 Kings 14 today. God loves us, and He will give us strength and wisdom if we ask Him. Let's take these lessons from Jeroboam's story and use them to make positive choices in our own lives.