Lesson

Engaging Introduction

Hello, boys and girls! Today, we're going on an adventure that takes us back thousands of years ago to a time of kings, battles, and mighty miracles. We're going to explore a fascinating story from the Bible found in 2 Kings Chapter 3. It's a story where three kings find themselves in a sticky situation. But what's even more exciting is how God steps in to help them in a miraculous way.

Imagine you and your friends are on a camping trip, and suddenly, you run out of water. You have a long journey ahead, and you find yourselves in the middle of the desert. Oh no! What will you do? You can't go back, but you can't continue without water. How would you feel? That's where our story begins—with three kings and their armies stuck in a desert with no water.

As we dive into today's lesson, we'll see how these kings learn an important lesson about trusting God. We'll discover how God shows His power in surprising ways, and we'll talk about how these lessons apply to us today. So, grab a seat, open your ears, and let's find out what happens next in this exciting Bible story!

Main Teaching Points

1. The Predicament of the Three Kings

Our story starts with three kings: Jehoram, the king of Israel, Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, and the king of Edom. They came together to fight against the king of Moab. Now, the Moabites had stopped paying tribute, which was a big problem because Israel counted on those tributes! So, off they went to set things right. But they soon found themselves in a dangerous situation—traveling through the desert without any water for themselves or their animals. Imagine being so thirsty and tired. How helpless they must have felt!

2. Seeking God's Guidance

With everyone's energy running low and spirits even lower, they realized they needed help. Jehoshaphat, who loved and trusted God, suggested finding a prophet to hear God's word. When you're in trouble, it's always a good idea to ask someone wise for help! Elisha, a prophet of God, happened to be nearby. Isn't that interesting how God places people near us to help when we need it most? Sometimes it's a friend, a teacher, or even our parents. Elisha agreed to speak for God after Jehoshaphat asked for his help sincerely.

3. A Miracle and an Unexpected Solution

Elisha gave a message from God. He said they wouldn't see rain or wind, yet the valley will be full of water. Just like that! God's solutions can sometimes be unexpected, but they are always perfect. Picture yourself walking outside and suddenly there's water to drink, even though it's been hot and dry. Imagine the relief on the faces of the soldiers and kings at this promise. And that's exactly what happened! The next morning, water came but not from rain or a river—it was a miracle. God not only met their need but also did it in a way they couldn't have imagined.

4. Trusting God in Difficult Times

We learn from this story that when we find ourselves in difficult situations, God wants us to trust Him. The kings had to trust God’s words spoken through Elisha. At times, we might also feel like we are in the desert—like when we don’t know the answer to a problem in class or are worried about making new friends. We can talk to God and remember His promises. God is always there to help us in unexpected ways.

5. The Moabites’ Defeat

As if the miraculous appearance of water wasn't enough, God did even more! The Moabites saw the sun’s reflection on the water, mistaking it for blood. They thought the three kings had fought against each other and decided it was safe to attack. But, it was all part of God's plan. The Israelites won the victory. Their small army defeated a larger one, all because they trusted and followed God’s instructions. When we trust God, He can turn around situations in ways we can’t imagine.

Personal Application for Elementary Students

Now that we’ve explored this incredible story from the Bible, let's think about how this applies to us. You might not be leading armies across the desert, but you do face big challenges in your life. Let’s see how God’s Word can guide you!

Imagine you’re working hard on a math problem, and it's just not making sense. You’ve tried everything you know, and it’s still not working. What might happen if you stopped, prayed, and asked God for help? Just like the kings sought guidance from Elisha, you can seek help when you need it. Sometimes, the solution will come in a surprising way, just like the water in the desert.

Think about another example—when you’re trying to make new friends at school. Maybe you feel shy or alone. You can remember how the kings asked for God’s help and pray for courage and opportunities to make friends when it feels difficult.

God loves you very much and wants to help you with your "desert problems," whether they're big or small. We’re reminded that our God is a God who hears our prayers and can provide for our needs in ways we cannot imagine.

Remember, God’s Word is like a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. It means God guides us, shines light on our way, and shows us how to trust Him more.

Interactive Discussion Questions with Explanation and Teaching Guidance

Now we have some questions to think about together. They’re designed to help us understand how this story connects to our lives and give us a chance to share what we’ve learned.

Question 1: Why do you think God allowed the kings to run out of water instead of helping them avoid the problem altogether?

Teaching Guidance: Encourage the children to think about how facing difficulties can strengthen

trust and character. Discuss that sometimes, God lets us go through tough times so that our faith and trust in Him can grow.

Question 2: What can you learn about God from the way He helped the armies find water in the desert?

Teaching Guidance: Help the children reflect on God’s power, creativity, and faithfulness. Discuss that God can do anything, doesn’t have to follow our expectations, and always keeps His promises.

Question 3: Can you think of a time when you needed help and got it from an unexpected place or person? How did it make you feel?

Teaching Guidance: Allow them to share personal stories, emphasizing how God uses different people and ways to help us. Celebrate how God’s surprises can bring joy and relief, just like in the Bible story.

Question 4: If you were one of the soldiers in the story, how would you feel when you saw the water appear?

Teaching Guidance: Guide children to explore feelings of relief, awe, and thanksgiving. Discuss how recognizing God’s help in our lives leads to gratitude and faith in His plans for us.

Thank you for participating, everyone! Remember, God is always there, ready to help us in ways we might not expect, just like He did for the kings and their soldiers.