Teacher_tips

Teacher Notes and Tips for Teaching '2 Kings 6' to Elementary Students

Overview:
'2 Kings 6' features several stories: Elisha and the floating axe head, the Aramean army being struck with blindness by God at Elisha’s request, and Elisha’s guidance for showing kindness to enemies. Focus on key themes of God's provision, power, and the importance of kindness.

Pacing Suggestions:
- Introduction (5-10 mins): Briefly introduce the Book of Kings and who Elisha was—highlighting his role as a prophet and messenger of God.
- Story Breakdown (20-25 mins): Share the stories in two main sections: 1) The Floating Axe Head, 2) The Blind Arameans.
- Discussion and Activities (15-20 mins): Facilitate understanding through questions and a simple activity.
- Conclusion (5 mins): Recap the key lessons and provide takeaways.

Explaining Difficult Concepts:
1. Prophet: Explain that prophets were special messengers chosen by God to guide the people.

2. Floating Axe Head: Describe this as a miracle where God showed His care even in small matters.

3. Miracle: Offer a simple definition—that it is something amazing that happens that only God can do.

4. Blindness and Kindness to Enemies: Simplify the concepts by using modern examples of showing kindness and unexpected help.

Guidance for Managing Student Engagement:
- Visual Aids: Use simple drawings or images to illustrate the stories—like the axe head floating or the army's blindness.

- Interactive Storytelling: Act out the story, or use props like a paper axe to demonstrate the miracle.

- Questions: Prompt with open-ended questions like “How would you feel if you lost something important?” to connect personally with the story.

- Hands-On Activity: Craft a small boat using paper and float it on a bowl of water to symbolize the floating axe head, discussing how God can make unexpected things happen.

- Role Playing: Have students act out the different roles to understand perspectives—Elisha, the prophets, the soldiers.

- Pair Work: Let students work in pairs to retell the story in their own words, aiding retention through cooperative learning.

- Reflection Time: Encourage students to think of ways they can show kindness to others, linking

back to the lesson.

Takeaways:
- God’s Provision: Highlight that God cares about their needs, big or small.
- God's Power: Stress that God can do wonders beyond our understanding.
- Kindness: Emphasize the importance of being kind, even to those who may not be our friends.

Concluding with a summary helps reinforce the lessons, ensuring the students leave with a clear understanding of the stories and their meanings.