

Lesson 9

Taking the Land as Their Own



Theme: Obedience – Carrying out God’s commands completely

Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Operation Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Make or purchase heavy card stock footprints, both right and left. Print each word of the memory verse on a footprint, alternating right and left. Arrange the footprints in order to make a trail, so that a student can step on the words and say them. Have students walk the trail and say the Memory Verse. Since you are introducing a new Memory Verse, have them walk the trail and say the verse a few times. Place sentence strips in the pocket chart to show the verse. Talk about Who? What? When? and Where? in connection with the verse.

Prayer

Teaching Today’s Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read Judges 2:7, 10-16. Have reading students find and mark Judges 2:7 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible Story Bunker.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today’s events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to show the land of Canaan on a map.
5. Introduce *Lesson Graphics* using the Lord’s Army Ammo Box.
6. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students’ ages:
 - Joshua led the people to conquer and possess Canaan, but Israel did not remove all Canaanites from the land.
 - Children grew up in Israel, did not know the Lord, and began to worship other gods. God was angry with them and allowed their enemies to take their homes and land.
 - The people of Israel cried out to the Lord, and God raised up judges who delivered them from their enemies.

Lesson 9

Taking the Land as Their Own



Theme: Obedience – Carrying out God’s commands completely

Wednesday Evening Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Operation Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Using the footprints from Sunday, place them in a trail but pull out several key words, scattering the missing words around on the floor. Have students work together to place the footprints in the correct order to complete the trail. Have students walk the trail and say the verse. Place sentence strips in the pocket chart to show the verse.

Prayer

Starter

Lisa was a Christian. She attended worship services regularly with her parents and always tried to serve God. Lisa was a good person, and so were most of her friends. But she had one friend, Ryan, whose behavior was not good.

Ryan thought it was okay to lie, steal and cheat. Lisa liked to be around Ryan because he was funny. But Ryan got into trouble often, and one day Lisa got into trouble, too. Whenever Ryan went into a store at the mall, he often found small items to steal. He would pick up a piece of candy or a toy and put it in his pocket. Lisa knew better, but one day she stole a piece of candy when Ryan was with her.

The store manager caught Lisa stealing the candy. He called the police and then called Lisa’s father. Lisa’s father had to come pick her up and take her home. Her father could hardly believe Lisa had done this. Lisa told her father she was sorry. She realized that she never thought about stealing anything until she started hanging around Ryan. Lisa was responsible for her own actions, but she realized that Ryan had been a bad influence on her.

The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:33, “Bad company corrupts good morals.” The company we keep, or the people we spend a lot of time with, can be a bad influence on us. We have to be careful about the types of friends we choose. Israel learned this lesson the hard way.

Briefly review the lesson from Sunday morning and read Judges 2:7, 10-16.

Illustrations and Applications

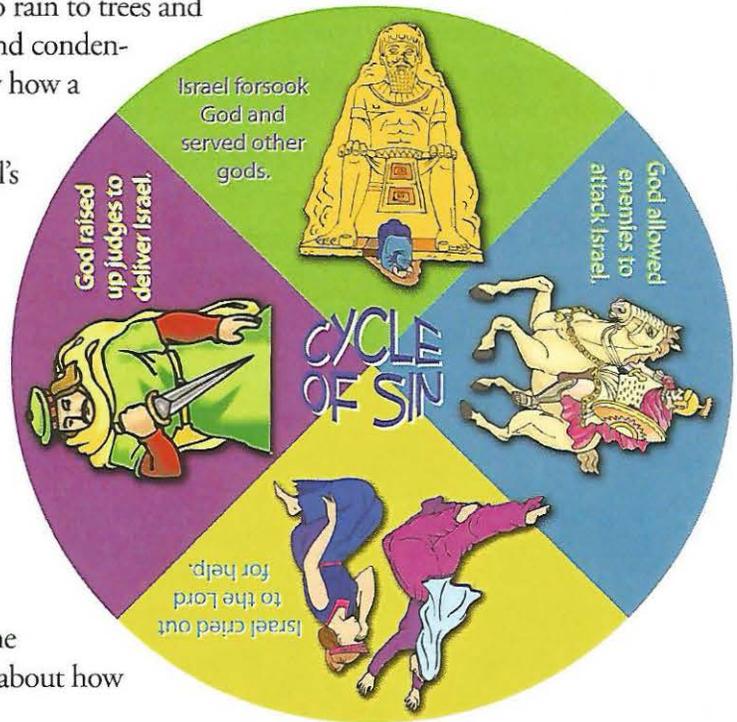
1. **Objective:** *To illustrate deliverance.*

Ask students to give examples of rescue from movies or stories. Identify parts of the rescue such as someone in trouble, another learns about it, and usually there is some difficulty that has to be overcome in order to accomplish the rescue. Apply this to the work of the judges in Israel.

2. **Objective:** *To illustrate and teach the cycle of sin in the time of the judges. This display will be used in several lessons.*

Trace the course of water from clouds to rain to trees and plants, and then through evaporation and condensation into clouds again. This is to show how a cycle works.

During the period of the judges in Israel's history, a cycle occurred several times in about the same way. Read Judges 2:11-19 to discover the stages in the cycle. Have a bulletin board prepared to illustrate the sad cycle of sin during the judges' period. "Create the Cycle of Sin Wheel," shown below. Graphics for this wheel are found on pages 65 and 67 of this Guide.



3. **Objective:** *Reinforce the cycle of sin.*

Using the "Cycle of Sin Wheel," have the students briefly act out each stage. Talk about how one leads to the other.

4. **Objective:** *To learn lessons from episodes about judges.*

Have students retell the stories of Othniel and Ehud. Lead them in discovering two lessons from each episode.

Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

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