



Future-proofing our children

Religious Instruction Class 1

Lesson Title Divine help - The Judges and Israel's first King

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Divine help - The Judges and Israel’s first King**” Religious Instruction lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1.	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</p>
2.	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • The PDF lesson that is already prepared • Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc. • The Video Clip which is an additional optional resource tool <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2. Please keep the lesson as concise as possible, bearing in mind the retention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children – you know your child best. <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lessons are class specific (i.e. SS, RI, or Confirmation).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your SS teacher if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3.	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Sunday School Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4.	Create a pleasant (disturbance free) learning environment where you and the children are at the same level Example: Sit on the mat or at a table
5.	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6.	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7.	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8.	Present the lesson to your child by telling the story. You can even read the story if you like.
9.	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning/purpose of the lesson.
10.	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook.
11.	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Religious Instruction family.
2. Discuss with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct your own research for additional information.
4. Your congregation's Sunday School Coordinator and Teacher is on stand-by to help.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	Divine help - The Judges and Israel's first King
Text	Joshua 3 - 22; 1 Samuel 1 - 3; 1 Samuel 8 - 10 and 15
Lesson Objective	The children recognize that God selects people to help His own.

Lesson Summary:

- The land of Canaan was divided among the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Joseph's area was allocated to his sons Manasseh and Ephraim and the tribe of Levi received 48 cities to live in and fields for their cattle and sheep instead of land.
- After the death of Joshua and the high priest, Eleazar, the Israelites began to sin against the Lord and to worship other gods.
- The Lord became furious with them and then allowed their enemies to overpower them and the Israelites were enslaved by their foreign rulers.
- Every time when the suffering and oppression became unbearable for the Israelites they would cry out to God for help.
- God then had mercy on them and chose a Judge, a military leader, and helped him to save the Israelites from their enemies. During the lifetime of the Judge there was peace in the land.
- After the death of the Judge, the Israelites again turned away from God and the Lord would allow renewed oppression for them under their enemies.
- God helped judge Gideon to destroy the mighty Midianites with just 300 men.
- After 7 years of suffering under the Midianites, this victory brought 40 years of peace in Israel.
- Samuel led the Israelites according to God's laws. When he grew too old, he instructed his two sons to do the same, but they disobeyed him and God's laws.
- The people wanted a king and despite Samuel's warnings of having a king, they did not listen and demanded a king.
- God chose Saul as king and Samuel anointed him as the king of Israel.
- Saul disobeyed God, after defeating the Amalekites by sparing the life of the king and taking the best animals as a sacrifice for God.



- Samuel was angry and said to Saul that because he rejected the Lord's word, the Lord has also rejected him. Obedience is better than sacrifice.
- After Samuel died, the Philistines again made war on Israel and when King Saul saw their army, he was afraid and asked God for advice, but God did not answer.
- Then, Saul foolishly turned to a medium to contact Samuel who was dead.
- Samuel appeared and confirmed that God had rejected him and prophesied that Saul and his sons would die the next day.
- The Philistines defeated the Israelites the next day and Saul's sons were killed.
- Saul was badly wounded. He did not want to be captured so he killed himself by falling on his own sword.

What does this lesson teach us?

- God wanted Saul and the Israelites to be God-fearing and obedient.
- God always saved the Israelites from all kinds of suffering; he gave them judges who guaranteed them victory against their enemies.
- Today God helps all people who believe in Jesus Christ.
- We must pray for God's help in our fight against evil and to stay faithful to Him.
- For us to experience His help we must follow His advice.
- God speaks to us through our conscience, through certain situations we are confronted with, certain people and through our divine services.
- We must pray that we understand God's will.

Do Exercise 1 with your child.

Answers to Exercise 1: Extract from Gideon's diary

1. 7 years	6. wet ground, dry fleece of wool
2. produce, sheep, ox or donkey	7. 300 men
3. the Angel of the Lord	8. trumpets, empty pitchers/jugs and torches
4. save	9. blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers
5. dry ground, wet fleece of wool	10. 40 years



Some questions we can ask:

1. How many tribes of Israel were there?

Answer: 12 tribes

2. Which tribe did not receive land?

Answer: The tribe of Levi

3. Who did God choose to save the Israelites from their suffering?

Answer: Judges

4. With how many men did Gideon defeat the Midianites?

Answer: 300 men

5. Who was the last judge over the Israelites?

Answer: Samuel

6. Why did God reject Saul and the Israelites?

Answer: They did not follow God's laws and commands/ they were disobedient





A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day

Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you


And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him

Amen

 Notes

A prayer after the lesson:

Dear Heavenly father

Thank you for keeping us safe.

Help me to be kind to everyone.

Thank you for being the Good Shepherd who loves and guides us.

Amen