

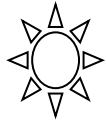
Safari

Lesson 2 – The Monkeys

- In today's lesson the children will learn that Christians are to imitate Christ, just as Jesus did the things he saw the Father do, and only spoke what he heard the Father speak.
- This month's Life Point: When I seek the Lord I will not lack anything.

Scripture Study

The Faithful Recabites
Jeremiah 35:1-19, 2nd Kings
10:15, John 5:19



Prayer:

Father, turn our hearts towards you. Place inside the children a desire to know you more. Be present in this class in supernatural ways. Let us see You. In Jesus name, amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 34:10

"Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry, but those who seek in the Lord will lack no good thing."



Memory Verse Song:

The Rizers – Psalm 34:10
"The Good Song"

You Tube Link

<https://youtu.be/X1ndN62TbyA>

The Redemption Story

(10-15 min.)

The point of this activity is to present the salvation message in brief at each lesson.

Instructions: Follow the pictures on the board or Power Point slide to tell the children about God's plan to restore our relationship with Him. Invite children who are familiar with the pictures to describe the images to the class. Always have someone ready in the classroom to pray with a child who desires to accept Jesus as his Savior or to be available to pray for any needs a child may have.

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Object Lesson

(15 minutes)

Supplies:

Safari Hat

Binoculars

Rope

Vest

Monkey balloon
or stuff animal.

You are God's vessel. He is using you to pour Himself into the hearts of these children.

Curiosity: *A strong desire to learn or know something.*

(Wear the Safari hat, vest, binoculars on your hand and rope across your chest)

Hello Kids! I am ready for today's Safari adventure! When you seek GOD you must be ready for adventure all the time. GOD is never boring. What must you do if it gets boring being a Christian? (light the lamp! – which means to read GOD's word and listen...)

If you ever go in a Safari, you will very likely see wild monkeys in the bush! (make monkey sounds) Now you do it! (let the children join the fun)

Monkeys are very curious creatures. They like to explore and learn from what they see. They also like to mimic what they learn.

I will pretend to be a monkey and you do whatever I do all right?! (do this for a couple of minutes)

Like the Monkeys, we should be curious about GOD's word. Reading GOD's word helps us learn who GOD is, what His plans are and how He talks with people. As we read His Word, His Spirit begins to change us and we begin to mimic GOD. That is GOOD!

I can tell you I prefer to mimic GOD than a monkey!

Teaching Tips:

- Consider the emotional and spiritual cost as well as the rewards of being a Sunday School teacher. Be excited, passionate, eager!
- Humble your heart before the Lord continually. Making room for the Holy Spirit to lead.
- Correct mistakes quickly. Acknowledge any errors before the class and redirect them in the right direction. This will set a humble example for the children. (2 Timothy 2:15)

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The Message

Supplies:

Continue to wear the Safari outfit.

Act it out:

Scarves, towels, bed sheets, sticks.

*Share an age appropriate testimony of a time when you or someone you know did something that was Christ like. How did God bless you?

God is after the children's hearts, mind and spirit.

Keep your teaching simple and interactive.

Trust that God is at work in the midst of the class.

Before reading, give the children a summary of the background of the story. The Word today comes from Jeremiah 35, verses 5-10, 18 and 19.

Jehonadab was the son of Recab. That is why his children, grand-children and great grand-children became known as the Recabites. Jehonadab was also a very good friend of Jehu. He helped Jehu to destroy the evil King Ahab, just as God had commanded Jehu.

In Jeremiah we learn that Jehonadab told his children to never drink wine, do not build houses, do not plant crops or vineyards. To always live in tents. His children obeyed him. And their children did the same they saw their parents do. They also told what they heard from their father to new generations.

God saw that the family of Jehonadab obeyed what he said. The children did and said just as their father did and spoke.

God rewarded the family of Jehonadab because they obeyed his instructions.

In John 5:19 says: "...He [Jesus] does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does."

God honors those who do as He does and speak as He speaks. If you seek God as Jesus did, God will honor you and bless you. You will not lack anything because God will be with you.

Imitating Christ has many rewards, it's exciting and courageous. Jesus imitated the Father and never lacked anything.

What are some ways that you can imitate Jesus? (Praying alone, worshipping, healing people, loving your family, giving people food, caring for the sick, forgiving...)

Act it out! Make teams and play out different scenarios imitating Jesus. **Challenge the kids** to imitate Christ at home or school and receive a surprise next week!

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Disciple See, Disciple Do

You will need: Scissors, brown and pink construction paper, glue, black thick marker.

Instructions:

- Cut a large brown construction paper circle. (body)
- Cut a smaller pink construction paper circle. (tummy)
- Cut five rectangular strips of brown construction paper. (legs and tail) (carefully fold the four 'legs' into squares to make them stretch)
- Cut a small brown construction paper circle (head)
- Cut a small pink construction paper circle. (face)
- Arrange and glue as in the picture below.
- Use the marker to draw the eyes and mouth.
- **If short on time, have the body of the monkey ready for the children. Then have the children glue to tail and the legs to the monkey.**

Message to write inside the monkey's tummy:

"Disciple See, Disciple Do: I will do as Jesus does and say what Jesus says."



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ADDITIONAL GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THIS MONTH

(These activities are to be used when you have spare time after a lesson)

Find the Coin (week 1)

Items: one quarter

Presentation: What GOD is able to give you is worth a lot more than money. Search after GOD. Go after Him. He is much, much more valuable than any treasure.

Instructions: Hide the quarter in the classroom. Have the kids search for the missing coin. Review the story of the 'Lost Coin' with the children.

Monkey See Monkey Do (week 2)

Items: none

Presentation: Monkeys are very curious creatures. They tend to mimic everything they see. Good or bad. We as God's children are to imitate Jesus Christ, not the world. In John 5:19 Jesus said: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does."

Instructions: This game is played like 'Simon Says' but the key is to encourage children to only use animals they would likely spot if they were in a Safari.

Wild Elephant Races (week 3)

Items: Peanuts, use construction paper and tape to create tubes aka 'elephant noses'.

Presentation: An African bush elephant can run up to 24 mph. That is pretty fast when you take in their size! In 2 Timothy 4:7 Paul says "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." Elephants run away from danger. But our race is to live a life faithful to God until we meet Him in heaven.

Instructions: Mark a start and finish line. Line three kids side by side at the starting point and place a peanut on the starting line in front of each kid. The object of the game is to see who can push the peanut to the finish line first... But the kids can only use their noses! (use tape to attach an 'elephant nose' to each kid)

The Lion is King (week 4)

Items: 12 pieces of construction paper. On two write: Elephant. On two write: Zebra. On two write: Giraffe. On two write: Rhino. On two write: Lion. On two write: Cheetah.

Presentation: In Hosea 11:10 God says: "For someday the people will follow me. I, the LORD will roar like a lion. And when I roar, my people will return trembling..." In the wild, the lion is feared. Considered the king of the animals. Our GOD is our KING and he is to be feared by all.

Instructions: This game is played as the 'Memory Game'. Choose two children. Each child turns two cards. The object is to match a pair. Children take one turn each. The child with most pairs wins. Here is the twist... If a child finds the LION pair, he wins the game immediately!