

Acts-Revelation

Jude

Jude 1:1-25

Younger Verse

Only God can keep you from falling. Jude 1:24 (CEV)

Older Verse

Only God can keep you from falling. Jude 1:24 (CEV)

Welcome Time

How many of you remember when we talked about James? Does anyone remember who his brother was? (Jesus!) Well, James had another brother. We will talk about him this week.

Bible Story

*The following is a summary of the Bible story to help you with your preparation. Please do **NOT** read to the children. Instead, study your Bible, using this summary as a guide, and make a note page to help you remember your plans for the lesson or questions you want to ask.*

The Bible tells us that, after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had four sons and some daughters (Matthew 13:55-56). James was one of those sons and he wrote the book of James that we have already studied. Another son was Jude. And just like James, Jude wrote a letter that later became a book of the Bible, the book of Jude. Do you know that there is a fancy word for those letters that are in the New Testament? The word is epistle - e-p-i-s-t-l-e and it is just a fancy word that means "letter!" James and Jude both wrote "epistles," or letters, to those who believed in God. They both wanted to encourage these believers to do the right thing, even when it's hard. But these epistles (letters) can also encourage us, too.

Jude told us in verse three that the reason for his letter was to make sure the believers fought hard for what they believed. There were people sneaking in among them who were trying to make them believe something other than what the Bible says. Jude didn't mean they had to beat these people up, but he did mean that it would be hard, it would be a struggle sometimes to stand up for the right thing. Doing the right thing isn't always easy, is it? Sometimes doing the right thing is harder than just doing what everyone else is doing.

But what usually happens when we choose the wrong thing? We sometimes get caught and punished. We don't get caught every time because there isn't always someone around who sees us, but God sees everything - even the things our teachers and parents miss. God wants us to be obedient and will sometimes punish us if we keep doing bad things. Jude talks about the true stories of the Bible where people were punished by God because they tried to do things their way instead of asking God what to do and then following Him. Do you remember our lesson from 1st, 2nd and 3rd John when we talked about not just saying we love God, but showing Him with our actions. That is love!

Lesson Goals

Love means being obedient. We should not be arrogant just because we believe in God. The Bible tells us in 1st Corinthians 10:12 that “if you think you are standing strong, be careful, for you, too, may fall into the same sin.” We need to be careful that in knowing we belong to God because of His Son, Jesus, we don’t think we know it all. We always need to remember that it is God who keeps us from falling into things we shouldn’t do. So what should we do that will help us fight for the right things. Jude told us that we should build our lives on what we believe about Jesus as our Savior. When someone is building a house, do they just put up a few boards and then say they are finished? NO! In that same way, we should keep “building,” or learning from the Bible and walking in obedience, until we are perfect! Jude also said to pray. What is prayer? Why, it is talking to God. You can do that, there are no magical words, just do it and ask Him to keep you from stumbling and falling. Jude even said to “keep in step with God’s love, as you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to show how kind he is by giving you eternal life.” Don’t walk away from God and just leave Him for your Sunday’s, stay close to Him every day. Jude also told us to “be helpful to all who may have doubts and to rescue any who need to be saved, as you would rescue someone from a fire.” You know what, if someone doesn’t know who Jesus is and doesn’t believe in Him, they are in danger and need to be saved! And you get the opportunity to do that, to tell them about God and that He loved us enough to make a way for us to spend forever with Him, Jesus.

If you have never done that yourself, let yourself be rescued by God. You are in danger of spending forever and ever away from Him and He wants to save you to be with Him forever. Will you do that today? Come and talk to me.

**Memory Verse
Activities**

Practice the following with your students. Begin in a soft voice and continue until you are as loud as is acceptable in your classroom. Teacher: “Who can keep you from falling?” Students: “Only God can keep you from falling!”

Prayer Time

Pray for your students that they will fight for what is right. Also pray asking God that he will keep them from stumbling and falling.

Clean Up/Snack time

As you are cleaning up and sharing snack, encourage each student to chose, right now, what they know is right. Share with them that it is something they need to practice doing.

Planning for December 19th
Revelation

Preschool Lesson for Jude

God Helps Me

Begin by singing: I like to go to church.
I like to go to church.
I like the happy songs we sing.
I like to go to church.

Who do we talk about at church? God!

What do we know about God? What have we talked about the last few weeks?
God loves us. God cares for us. We can talk to God. And we must obey the rules.

With your Bible opened to the book of Jude and with everyone's hands folded together, open your hands as if opening a book and say:
I open my Bible book and read, God helps me.

The book of Jude, the next to the last book of the Bible, talks a little bit about all of those other things we just mentioned, but it also tells us the God helps us. Because God loves us and cares for us, He helps us.

What does God help us with?
God helps us learn about Him. He helps us stay warm in the winter and He helps us have food to eat.

And in the book of Jude, we find out that God helps us to do the right thing. Let's say thank you to God for helping us do the right thing. (Take time to pray for each of your preschoolers, that they will do the right things this week.)

Activities for Jude

- Be sure to continue practicing the books of the Bible, adding books as you learn them. (Only one remains, Revelation.)
 - Play Bingo with the books of the Bible.
 - Make an acrostic with the letters of Jude's name. For example:
 - J** - Jesus' brother
 - U** - Ungodly people want you to do the wrong thing
 - D** - Do what is right
 - E** - Epistle writer
 - Provide word puzzles to reinforce this week's lesson as well as the memory verse.
 - Make "Stop" signs from red octagonal construction paper. Instead of printing "STOP," print this week's Bible verse, making "ONLY GOD" in large letters with the rest of the verse to follow in small letters. Have students post them on their walls or doors at home to remind them to trust God to help them.
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