

LESSON 12 “HELPLESSNESS”

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BIBLE CONNECTION

1 Kings 17:1-16 (pages 376-377)

CHARACTER WORD

Helpfulness - Giving assistance to someone in need

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

God will help me and provide for my needs.

MEMORY LINK

Psalm 46:1

“God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.”

(KBC Study Bible pg. 591)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

None

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Memory Link poster

Option 2: None

BIBLE CONNECTION

Clear jar filled with flour,
clear jar filled with olive oil

SURF TEAM TIME

Memory link cards, index
cards, pens, Hang 10 pages

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Bean bags, a cone

Option 2: Bean bags, cones

God Provides for Elijah

WHAT’S THE POINT?

According to John 14:26, God has provided the Holy Spirit to be our Helper. He helps by teaching, comforting, convicting, prompting, interceding... the list goes on and on. It is hard to imagine life without the help provided by the Holy Spirit.

What kind of help do you need today? The Holy Spirit says, “I will help you cope.” “I will help you continue on.” “I will help you make a wise decision.” “I will help you overcome.” “I will help by meeting your need.”

As a Beach Club leader, you must depend on the help God provides. Just ask Him! He will help you deal with a challenging behavior issue. He will help you identify new volunteers for your club. He will help you find an answer for a child’s difficult question.

It’s comforting to know that we are not left alone to navigate life and figure things out. God wants to help us. He wants us to ask Him for help and depend on Him to provide for our needs. God is ready, willing, and able to do for us what we can’t do for ourselves.

GET CONNECTED

Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today’s lesson



No supplies needed

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today’s lesson.

- *Today’s story takes place at a time when there was no rain, so the people had no food. How would you feel if you had no food at all?*
- *Our character word today is helpfulness. What does helpfulness mean?*
- *Tell about a time that someone helped you.*
- *Tell about a time that you helped someone else.*
- *There are people in our town that have no food. What can we do to help them?*



Guide clubbers to locate and mark today’s Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

Worship Tip

When introducing a new song, be sure to have the words visible for all clubbers. You can print the words on posters or use an electronic projection system. Take time to explain what the words mean and what the song is about. Define words that might be unfamiliar or especially “churchy.” Adding motions to the song helps clubbers remember the words and makes the experience more enjoyable for kids. On weeks when you introduce a new song, make sure the other songs are ones they know well so that everyone will participate.



**10-15
MINUTES**

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Psalm 46:1

(KBC Study Bible pg. 591)

Teaching Tip

Proximity is a great deterrent to off task behaviors. When kids get off task, simply stand beside them or place your hand on their shoulder. There is no need to stop the lesson or say their name, which can be embarrassing to the child. Walking around as you present helps keep their attention.

Today's character word is helpfulness, which means giving assistance to someone in need. Our verse says that God will help us in times of trouble. That is amazing! God, who created the universe and everything in it, is ready to help you! Think about times that God has helped you. He cares for you and provides what you need. You can show your gratitude to God by helping others. Everytime you help someone in need, you show God's love.

Option 2 - SIT DOWN

Tell each Surf Team to stand in a circle. Pick one clubber to be first and have them say the first word of the verse. The next person says the next word and so on around the circle with each clubber saying one word. The clubber saying the last word “trouble” must sit down. Start over with the first word and direct each clubber left standing to say a word. Again, the clubber saying the last word “trouble” must sit. The last clubber standing wins.



10-15 MINUTES

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Teaching Tip

Show the clubbers the jars of flour and oil. Explain that these two ingredients were used to make bread in Old Testament times, and bread was their main food. Ask the kids what you need to make flour (wheat) and olive oil (olive trees). Point out that both wheat and olive trees are plants that need water to grow. *In today's story, it did not rain for years so plants could not grow. You'll hear about a man named Elijah, and how God helped him when he had no food to eat.*

Guide kids to open their KBC Study Bibles to 1 Kings 17:1-16 (page 376). Ask a child to read the heading above chapter 17 (Elijah Proclaims a Drought). Explain that a drought is a time when there is no rain for a very long time. *At the time of our story, Ahab was the king of Israel and he worshiped false gods. He prayed to the false god, Baal, to bring rain. The one, true God sent Elijah to the king to warn him about worshipping false gods.*

1 Kings 17:7-11

Talk About It

1 Kings 17:12-16

When Elijah asked her for water and bread, the widow replied that she had only had a handful of flour and a little oil left. In fact, she was gathering sticks to build a fire to cook her last bit of bread. She knew that after her family ate this last piece of bread, they would starve to death. Elijah gave her good news. He said that the Lord God would help them. He told her to make him some bread first, and then make some for her family. And here is the good news. Hold up the two jars as you continue. Elijah told the widow that until there was rain, God would never let the bin of flour or the jar of oil become empty. The widow did what Elijah told her, and it happened as God promised. Her family and Elijah were able to eat for many days and the flour bin and olive oil jar were never empty.

Guide the clubbers to find the Bible reference for the story and keep it open as the story is told. Hold the Bible when you are telling the story and refer to it often. Tell the students to read from it during the story, find important names, and locate answers to questions. It is very important for the kids to understand that the story is from God's word and is not fictional.

[illegible]

Talk About It

Explain that both Elijah and the widow had to trust that God would help them by providing for their needs. How did Elijah show he trusted God? How did God help Elijah? How did the widow show she trusted God? How did God help the widow?

Gospel Connection

Just as God helped the widow and Elijah, He can help you by providing for your needs. When God sent His son, Jesus, into the world, He helped provide for your biggest need: forgiveness of your sins. If you want to receive forgiveness of your sins, the Bible says that you must first ADMIT you are a sinner and ASK Jesus to forgive your sins. You can BELIEVE that Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross paid the price for the sins. Finally, CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by confessing Him as your Savior and making Him Lord of your life.

Invite children wanting to know more about becoming a Christian to move to the designated area to meet with a leader one-on-one.

Application/Transition

Once you make Jesus your Forever Friend, you will begin to understand God’s plan for your life. You will be able to see how He helps you everyday by providing for your needs. It will inspire you to want to show God’s love by helping other people at school and at home. Talk about how Elijah helped the widow by sharing God’s promise and how the widow helped Elijah by sharing the food God provided. Emphasize how they helped each other and God helped them both. Ask kids to share ways they can help people who are in need of help at school, at home, and in their neighborhoods.

Teaching Tip

During the Bible Connection time, involve the kids when possible and let them help. Ask them to read the scripture, help act out the story, answer questions and/or hold teaching props. The more clubbers you can involve, the more included and needed they will feel.

Gospel Tip

When talking with a child, keep your questions open ended. Open-ended questions start with what, why, and how. Good questions include: “Why did you raise your hand (or stand up)?” “What can you tell me about Jesus?” “How have you sinned?” “What decision would you like to make right now?” Avoid questions that can be answered with “yes” and “no.” Kids can read your body language to discern how you want them to answer those “yes or no” questions. Keep your body language neutral and your questions open ended. Listen carefully and allow the child to lead the conversation. Depend on the Holy Spirit to help you.

SURF TEAM TIME

Connecting with kids in small groups;
applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word



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Memory Link Cards, Hang 10 page, index cards, pens

Gospel Connection

Before you begin, ask if there are any clubbers who would like to talk with the Bible Connection Leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their Forever Friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.

Today's Lesson

- *What questions do you have about today's story?*
- *How did God help Elijah and the widow?*
- *Describe a time when someone helped you.*
- *How can you help others at school? At home?*
- *How can you ask God for help?*

Pray

Help the kids understand that praying is a wonderful way to provide help for someone. God's help is always best and God knows the best way to meet needs. We just need to ask Him!

Challenge the kids to pray, either silently or out loud, for someone they know who needs help, or to ask God for help in a situation they face.

God, thank you for helping us by giving us what we need. Let us remember to show God's love by helping others.

Use the Bible

Give each child a Memory Link card. Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 Page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

More at Home

Draw kids' attention to the "Bible Treasures" section on page 377 of their KBC Study Bibles. Read the first paragraph to the clubbers to review today's story. Then tell them they can read the rest at home to find out what happened next to the widow and her son. Point out that the rest of the story is told in 1 Kings 17: 17-24.

Teaching Tip

Connecting with the clubbers is very important. Make eye contact with the kids and use their names when possible. Praise those who share and be encouraging to all who volunteer to help. Forming relationships with the kids is what it is all about! Only when they trust you and know you care about them, will they be ready to hear about God's love for them.

Teaching Tip

Since today's session deals with people who did not have food to eat, you may have a clubber share that they, too, don't have food at home. Contact the school counselor first to talk about how you or the partnering church might be able to help meet that need. Always make a coordinated effort with the school for ministry needs.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Game to review today's Bible Connection & Character Word



Option 1 - BEANBAG HORSESHOES

Bean bags, a cone

Divide the kids into equal teams and have each team line up in a single file. Place the cone several feet in front of the teams. Give the first person in each line a bean bag. At the signal, have each kid throw their bean bag, trying to get it as close to the cone as possible. The one that tosses their bean bag closest to the cone, gets to answer a review question. The first person then goes to the end of the line. Continue until everyone has a chance to toss the bean bag and all the review questions are answered.

Option 2 - SHUFFLE RELAY

Bean bags, cones

Prepare

Divide the kids into equal teams and have each team line up in a single file. Place a cone about 10 feet in front of each team.

Activity

Tell the first person on each team to place a bean bag on each of their feet. At the signal the first kid on each team will try to shuffle down to his cone and back without dropping the beanbags. The first one back gets to answer a review question.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is today's character word? (Helpfulness)
2. According to today's Memory Link, God is three things. Name one. (Refuge, strength, help)
3. In what book of the Bible is today's Memory Link found? (Psalms)
4. What was the prophet's name in today's story? (Elijah)
5. Why did the people in Elijah's country have no food? (There was a drought, no rain to grow crops)
6. Who brought food to Elijah when he was at the brook? (Ravens)
7. Why did Elijah leave the brook? (It dried up because there was no rain.)
8. Who gave Elijah food and water when he went to the nearby town? (the widow)
9. What happened to the widow's oil and flour after she used the last of it to feed Elijah? (The flour bin and oil jar were never empty.)
10. Name one way God helps people.



***“God is our
refuge and
strength, a very
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Psalm 46:1

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