

God's Seasonal Plan

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Teacher Preparation

Thank you

First let us begin by thanking you for the hours you are about to spend preparing to teach the children in God's church. You are truly a blessing to the church, the families, and the young lives you will be touching during the Feast. The time you spend may not be noticed by everyone, but it is noticed by those of us who have worked hard to bring you the materials and it is noticed by our Creator.

Goals of the Lessons:

This year's lessons are focused on reviewing the annual holy days and how they represent God's plan for salvation. We hope that this will serve the children well to view all of the holy days in a connected format.

How the materials are organized:

There are six lessons contained in this teaching manual. There is a lesson for each day of the Feast excluding the first and last day. Depending on your feast site, you may not be teaching all six days. If that is the case, please revise the lessons as you see fit.

Each lesson provides you with necessary background information as the teacher.

Please take time to do your own Bible study before going to the Feast so that you are

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comfortable with the information and can present it easily without reading it word for word from the manual. Included with your manual is the booklet entitled God's Seasonal Plan from the home office. It would be good to review this text as it is written for adults and will help set your mind on the objective of this set of lessons. Pray and ask God to inspire your teaching that you may communicate confidently with the children. You may decide that you need to edit the lesson depending on the age of your children. Think about how you will word the information you present and what you may choose to focus on. Remember, the emphasis is on keeping the material appropriate for the age group you are teaching.

Following each lesson are a variety of craft and game ideas. We tried to incorporate a variety of craft and activity ideas to meet the needs of all age groups. Please take into consideration the interests and abilities of the age group you are teaching when choosing your craft or activity. You may also have your own craft or activity idea. You are encouraged to take ownership of the materials and be as creative as you like. It is only asked that you meet the objective of each lesson. As you prepare your materials, keep track of your receipts. Most Feast Coordinators will reimburse you for your expenses. Please contact your specific Feast Coordinator to discuss if and how they do this.

All of the activity books for children have been sent to the Feast Coordinators. Please see them at the beginning of the Feast to collect these for your students. If you are using this as a part of your class, it is important to collect them each day. If you are

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using them for the children to work on during church services, then you might check their booklets at the start of class and give stickers for the pages they have completed. Be sure that the children keep their activity books at the end of the Feast. In most cases, the activity books have been sent to the Feast Coordinator who will bring them to the Feast site. Please let us know if you have any questions about who has the activity books.

Two songs have been burned on a CD and are with copies of the songs in a separate envelope. The copies of the words of the songs are for the children to use during practice. The CD has children's voices singing along with the songs. You may choose to have someone play these songs on guitar or piano at the Feast. There is accompaniment music in the same envelope. These songs will be the highlight of youth day during the Feast. Be sure to teach these songs to the children each day. You may change the songs if you know of something that is more fitting or that the children already know that coincides with the themes of the lessons. Reinforce with your students that when they sing for the congregation they are worshipping God and serving the congregation.

Organizing each day:

Begin each day by greeting the children by name. It is important to spend some time each day building a community of learners. Often these children come from different

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parts of the country and have never met before. Especially on day one, you may want to play some "getting to know you" kinds of games.

Next, establish some ground rules. It is okay for you to tell the children how you expect them to act. Remember, this is a new place for them and it may be overwhelming. By giving them some guidelines of what is expected, you give them the structure they need. Simple rules might include: sitting criss-cross applesauce on the floor, raising your hand to talk, using nice words only, and sharing craft materials.

Next, gather the children together for the story. Tell the story with expression and exaggeration. You may decide to draw a picture of the story as you tell, use flannel board, or dramatize it. This helps to keep the children engaged. Ask questions as you go along or ask the children to repeat phrases and names to keep them focused.

Utilize the before, during and after segments of the lesson. This organizational technique helps children comprehend the material.

Now you are ready for the craft! Craft time should be very fun! Be sure to model for the students how you want them to use the materials to make the craft. As you work together, try to reinforce the lesson or talk about the main idea. See if you can get them to answer even more questions as you work. It is a good idea to have a few activities or easy toys for the children to play with when they finish their craft. Not all students will finish at the same time and it is good for the children who finish fast

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to have something constructive to do. When all students are finished, it is important for the children to take part in cleaning up the room. It helps them learn respect for the facilities and responsibility. Enjoy this time together and make it fun.

Meet back together in a circle and recall the important things you did during the lesson. Then use this time to praise children for the positive things you saw in them. Close this time with prayer which reinforces the lesson and thanks God for the children you are teaching.

Practicing the songs will need to be coordinated with the other teachers at your feast site. Talk together about whether you want to do it in the beginning or the end of each day. You may want to practice separately for a couple days and then join together.

Just remember:

You are not expected to be an expert on everything. Enjoy the children. Laugh with them and get to know them. Be creative and flexible and use your talents to enhance the lessons. Teaching Sabbath School should be fun and enjoyable. If you need ANYTHING, please contact us and we will help. Use your fellow teachers as a community of learners and help each other with the content and the children.

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Lesson 1

Overview of the Holy Days

Leviticus 23: 4-39

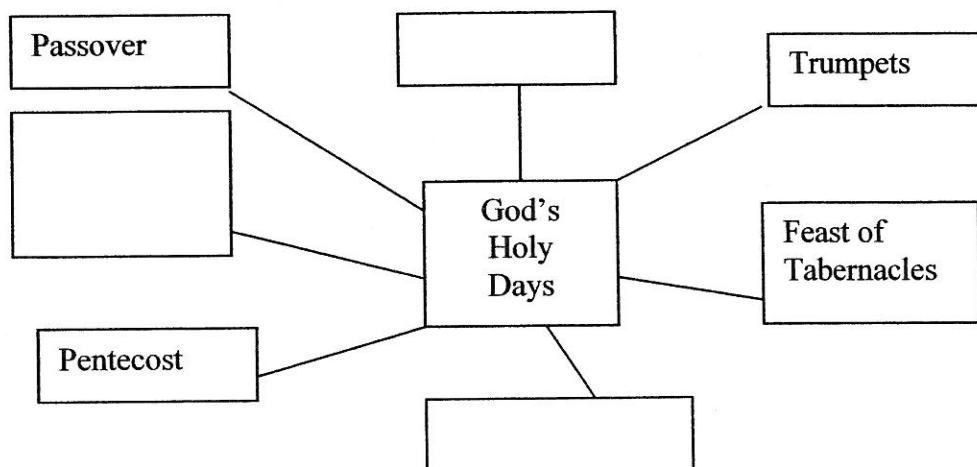
Objective:

The objective of this lesson is to review the annual holy days and provide the teacher with an informal assessment of the student's background knowledge regarding the annual holy days.

Before the scripture reading:

Gather the students together on the carpet or in a circle of chairs. Spend some time playing a get to know you type game. There are several examples of games following the main content of the lesson. The more comfortable you make them on this first day, the better participation and learning you will get in later lessons. Do not feel uneasy about spending the majority of your lesson time building this sense of community on the first day. They are learning to love their fellow man this way and you will help to make this successful. After you have spent some time creating a sense of community amongst the students gather them for the focus of today's lesson.

Ask students why their families have come all the way to your locations. Share stories about how far they've come and how they've traveled. During this time, hopefully the idea of keeping the Feast of Tabernacles will come into the discussion. If it doesn't (especially with the young children), introduce this idea. Talk about how this is a special time of year when we travel to keep a Feast of God. Ask them if they know any other feasts that God asks us to keep. Record their ideas on a chart. Your idea web may look something like this:



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Only record the holy days that the students can recall on their own.

During the scripture reading:

Now that you have recorded their initial ideas, turn with the children to Leviticus 23. Recall the events of Israel being led from Egypt prior to this moment. Build their knowledge regarding how God gave Israel the Ten Commandments and to this moment where God is now telling the Israelites how to worship Him through the holy days. Read verse 4 and identify that the holy days come from the Bible and that the Bible is God's written word. God is the one who tells us which holy days to observe and how to observe them.

Read each of the following verses. Ask students to listen for God's holy days. See how many there are and how many are already on your chart. Read each verse one at a time: verse 5, verse 6, verse 15 and 16 (you may have to do some leading here to arrive at the name of Pentecost), verse 24, verse 27, verse 34, verse 36 (you may have to do leading here to arrive at The Last Great Day).

After the scripture reading:

Identify the holy days in the scriptures and fill in any missing holy days you didn't initially fill in on your chart.

Now that students have identified all of the holy days, tell them that you will spend the Feast of Tabernacles together learning about what each of the holy days mean and how they are all connected to show God's plan for all of mankind.

The craft is a way to help the students recall the important information from the lesson. Today's important idea is to remember that there are 7 annual holy days that God asks us to keep. The craft will hopefully help them remember all 7 for tomorrow's lesson.

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Craft Ideas:

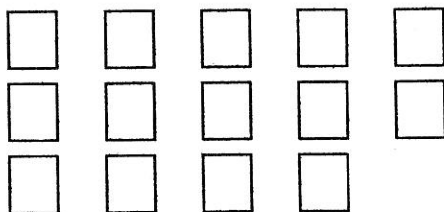
The holy days are connected! - Use 7 leaf shapes cut out from a hobby store or cut out of construction paper or copy them from the worksheet on the next page (copy them on to a heavy weight paper). Have students write the name of each holy day on one of the fall leaves. Hook them together with string to show that all of God's holy days are connected.

Create a Feast memory book. Purchase small notebooks from the dollar store. Cut scrapbooking paper to the size of the front cover. Have students glue the scrapbooking paper to the front. They can then create a title such as "My Feast Memories 2009" and record a memory in the book each day.

Make a handprint tree to help students learn each other's names and to be used to take attendance each day. Start by using a waterbased paint. Have a large tree drawn on poster board. Paint each students hand and have them make a handprint as leaves on the tree. By their handprint, they will write their name. Talk to the students about how God has brought us together and it is important to learn each other's names and become friends during the Feast. We should learn that we are all unique like our handprints and that God has chosen each of us to learn more and more about Him during the Feast.

Holy Day Memory Game - Write the names of God's holy days on 3x5 cards. Write each holy day twice as a match. Make one set for each group of 2-4 students. Shuffle the cards. Show students how to lay the cards out so that they are like the picture below. The cards should face down. Students take turns flipping up the cards to try to make a match. When they make the match, they keep the pair of cards. Each student gets one turn and then the next student tries to make a match. This game will help them become very familiar with the names of the holy days.

How cards should look when laid out:



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Friendship Bracelets with 7 Beads – This craft would be best for older students. Make friendship bracelets from embroidery floss. After the bracelet is made, add 7 beads in various colors. The seven beads are to remind the students that there are 7 holy days that God tells us to celebrate. Ask them to touch each bead and say a name of one of the holy days. Tell students to use the bracelet to help yourself practice throughout the day. For younger students, you may want to make the bracelets ahead of time and then have them add the 7 beads.

How to make friendship bracelets using floss:

The embroidered floss bracelet is probably the most popular style of friendship bracelet, and it is not difficult to master once you get started. You will need four different colors of embroidery floss - about 25 inches in length - and masking tape.

1. To start, tie your knot about an inch or so from the top. Then, tape the knotted end to a table or other hard surface, separating the strands of thread.
2. Next, loop string 1 over and then under string 2, making sure string 2 is straight. Pull until snug.
3. Repeat step No. 1.
4. Using string 1, make double knots around strings 3 and 4.
5. Next, take string 2 and do the same thing, making double knots around strings 3, 4 and 1.
6. Continue this pattern until the bracelet is to the desired length. Once there, gather the strings and tie them into a knot. Trim the ends of the bracelet.

Watch a You Tube Video to help yourself learn:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9I1M8PCRME>

They are using 8 strands of embroidery floss. You could keep it simpler by only using four.

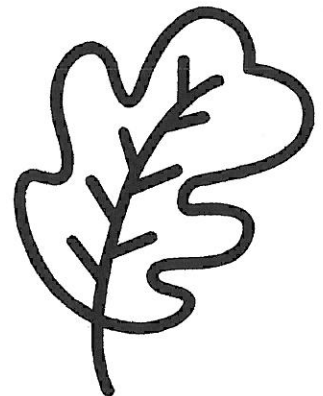
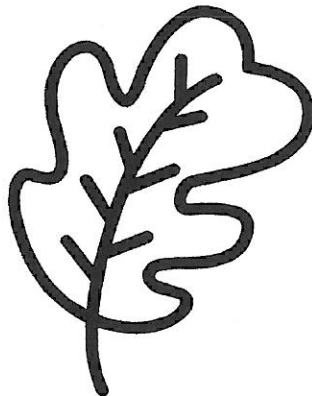
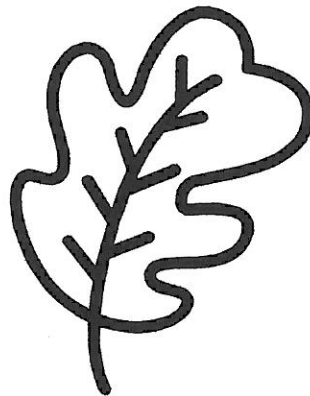
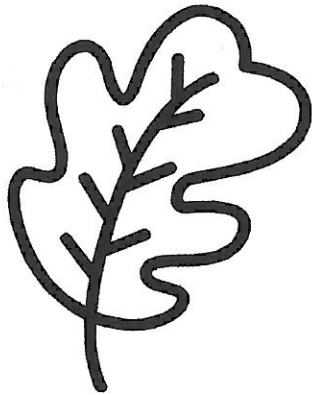
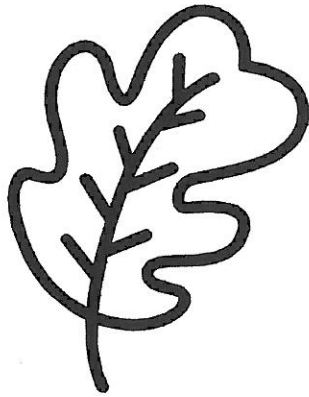
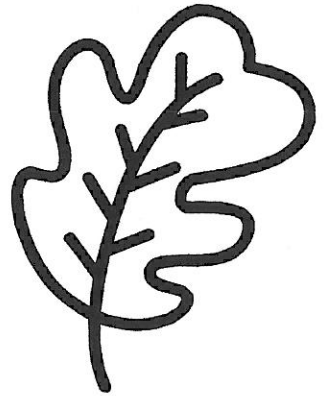
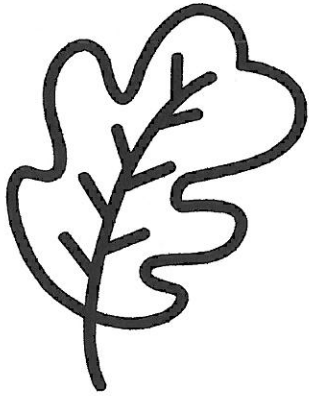
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Holy Day vs. Holiday sort – First have students cut out all of the squares. Then have the students sort the holy days that God expects us to celebrate into one category. Then sort the holidays that man has created to celebrate. Talk about the difference. Explain to the students that God only commanded us to celebrate His holy days and that the others are a distraction from the truth.

Holy Days of God	Man's Holidays
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Feast of Trumpets	Christmas	Days of Unleavened Bread	Halloween
St. Patrick's Day	Passover	Pentecost	Easter
Feast of Trumpets	The Day of Atonement	The Feast of Tabernacles	The Last Great Day
Valentine's Day			

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Lesson 2

The Spring Holy Days

Leviticus 23: 4-22

Objective:

The objective of today's lesson is to review the spring holy days. For young children, the goal will be that they remember the names of the holy days. For older children, you will hope that they can recall the name and meaning of the spring holy days.

Before the scripture reading:

Gather the students together on the carpet or in a circle of chairs. Begin informally talking about what students did at the Feast of Tabernacles yesterday after they left class. Keep these ideas in mind for a later lesson. You may want to have a chart that keeps a running list of activities and memories the children are making during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Ask students if they can remember all 7 of God's annual holy days. Take turns trying to say them all. If students can say them all, you may want to have a small prize. This gives the students something to work for. Each student that can name the holy days gets a prize. Each day they will have this chance and by the end of your lessons, hopefully everyone can say them all!

Tell students today they are going to learn about the spring holy days. Begin by reading The Ten Plagues (book provide with your teacher planner). Explain to the students that although this is a picture book made for kids, the words are from the Bible and that you can show them where to read the story in their Bible as well. This is a true story about what happened although someone did use the ideas from the Bible to draw the pictures because there were no cameras at the time.

During the scripture reading:

As you read the story, discuss what is happening. Pay particular attention to the portion about the sacrifice of the lamb. Talk about what it means to sacrifice and how the lamb was the only thing that saved their life. You may be tempted to discuss and try to remember the plagues. Those are interesting and important, however, the primary focus of this lesson is the lamb. After reading the book, the students will be comparing the lamb to Christ.

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After the scripture reading:

The first Passover was observed by Moses and the people of Israel. Today we still observe the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread. But we don't simply look back to what happened to Moses. We look to Jesus and His actions to show a new meaning to Passover.

Jesus was like the lamb. All humans would be worthy of the death angel because we have all sinned or made mistakes. The law would require us to die for our disobedience. God had a plan that He made with Jesus way before any of us were even born. That plan was that Jesus would die on the stake so that we would be forgiven of our mistakes IF we prayed to God and asked him to forgive us.

Say to students: I'm sure you all remember the story of Jesus' death. Allow students to tell what they know. Make sure these ideas are covered. He was hanged on a stake to die after he was beaten. When He died, he was in the grave for 3 days and 3 nights. But then God the Father did something miraculous. God the Father resurrected Jesus. Resurrected means brought back to life. When God brought Jesus back to life though, He was changed. He was now a spirit being instead of human. This is an important part of God's plan (John 3:1-8).

Read John 20:19-22 and 20:26 to describe some of the things Jesus could do now that He was a spirit being. He could walk through walls, disappear, eat, etc. God and Jesus made this plan so that we could become spirit beings one day.

Jesus could not stay on earth with His friends, mother, and brothers. He needed to go back to heaven to be with God the Father. Jesus spent 40 days on earth teaching the disciples about the kingdom of God. After those days, He returned to heaven to be with God. That is where He is today. He is waiting for something to happen so that He can come back to earth. We will find out what it is tomorrow.

While Jesus had to go back to heaven, He did not leave humans all alone. On the Day of Pentecost, God the Father gave His holy spirit to mankind. That means that if a person is baptized and had hands laid on them, then God's spirit will work with them to help them in life. God's spirit is all around and helps us make good decisions.

So these spring holy days are Passover, the Days of Unleavened Bread, and Pentecost. You should remember the names of the holy days and also what they mean to us today because of the gift God gave us.

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Craft Ideas:

DLTK's Crafts for Kids

Handprint Lamb Craft

This is a cute and easy handprint craft suitable for preschool and kindergarten children – it's one of those old standards I'm sure most of us remember making as children.

Make sure you connect that the lamb was important because it saved the lives of the first born in Israel. Also be sure to remind students that Jesus is likened unto a lamb for us. Without his sacrifice, we would not be able to have eternal life.



Materials:

- black construction paper (or grey)
- glue
- white pencil crayon or a silver marker
- cotton balls
- Optional: scissors
- Optional: wiggly eyes

Instructions:

- Place your hand on the black (or grey) construction paper.
 - Your fingers should be slightly spread but the thumb should be out as far as possible.
 - Fingers are legs and thumb is head.
- Trace your handprint.
- Optional: Cut out your handprint.
- Glue cotton balls all over the handprint but leave the tips of the fingers and thumb cotton free.
- Glue small wiggly eyes onto the head (tip of thumb) or use pencil crayon.

Use a white pencil crayon or silver marker to add a smile.

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Copy this on tagboard



www.ChristianPreschoolPrintables.com

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Resurrection Craft:

Cut out pieces. Glue Angels and Verse on Tomb. Fasten Boulder onto tomb with brad.



He's Not Here....He has Risen

Luke 24:6



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God Loves You Bracelet:

Materials:

- Pipe cleaner per student
- Paper plates of the following food items:
Circular cereal with a hole in the middle.
Square cheese crackers with a hole in the middle.
Fruit strips cut into the shape of a triangle
- Copy of the poem below on a poster or copy one per student.

Instructions:

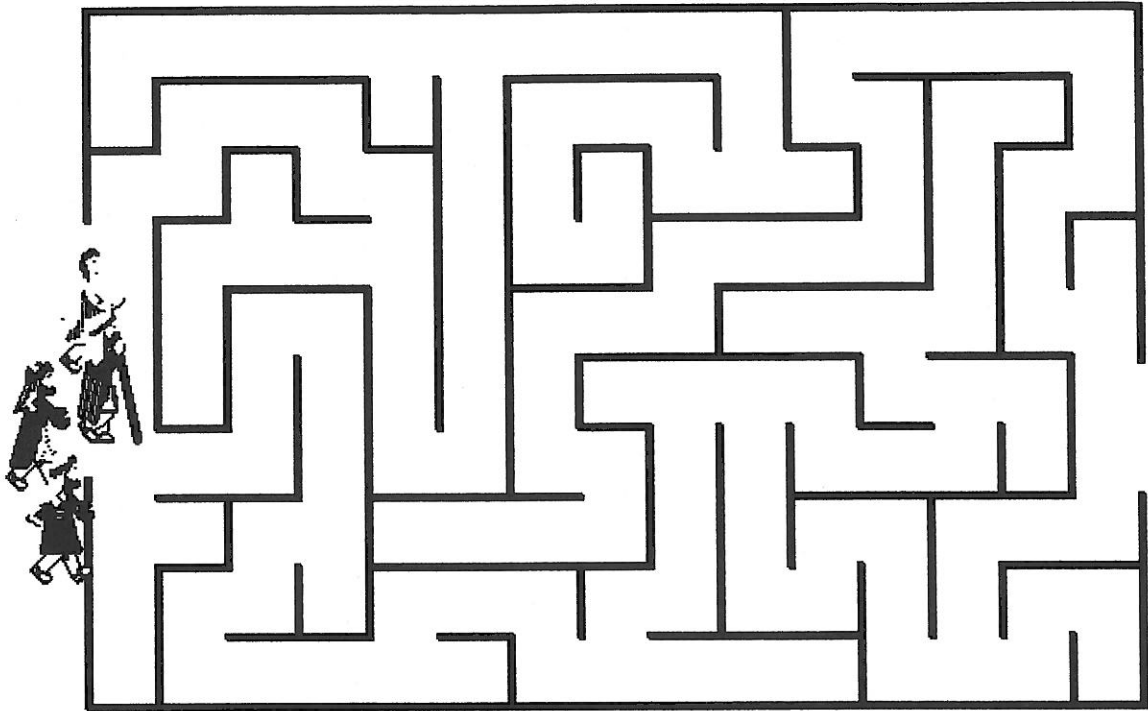
- Say "I'm going to read a little poem about God's love. Listen for 3 different shapes in the poem."
- Read the poem:

God's love is a circle like the arms of a hug.
No matter what wrong you've done He won't take away His love.
God's love is a square like the sides of a house.
He'll meet your needs, inside and out.
God's love is a triangle.
He cares for you and for me.
Loving God joins us in His family.

- Ask students what shapes did they hear. Tell them they are going to make a bracelet today to remind them of God's love.
- Demonstrate how to string the bracelet with the food items listed above onto the pipe cleaner in the pattern circle, square, triangle (repeat about 8 times).
- Twist the ends of the pipe cleaner to close it.
- Tell students to remember that God loves them and that is why He sent His son Jesus to die for our sins so that we could one day be with Him in the kingdom.

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Help the Israelites find the promise land!



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Lesson 3

Trumpets and Atonement

Leviticus 23:24-32

Objective:

The objective of today's lesson is to review the Feast of Trumpets and Day of Atonement. For young children, the goal will be that they remember the names of the holy days. For older children, you will hope that they can recall the name and meaning of these holy days.

Before the scripture reading:

Gather the students together on the carpet or in a circle of chairs. Begin informally talking about what students did at the Feast of Tabernacles yesterday after they left class. Keep these ideas in mind for a later lesson. You may want to have a chart that keeps a running list of activities and memories the children are making during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Ask students if they can remember all 7 of God's annual holy days. Take turns trying to say them all. If students can say them all, you may want to have a small prize. This gives the students something to work for. Each student that can name the holy days gets a prize. Each day they will have this chance and by the end of your lessons, hopefully everyone can say them all!

Spend a little time reviewing yesterday's lesson about the spring holy days. Ask them questions about the meaning of Passover, how Christ was like the lamb, and why we celebrate the spring holy days. Remind them that yesterday you told them that Jesus is now in heaven with God the Father waiting for an important event. Today we are going to learn about that very thing that Jesus is waiting for.

Tell the students that today they will learn about two of the fall holy days called the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. You may want to have a chart set up like the one below to help the students differentiate between the two holy days.

Feast of Trumpets	Day of Atonement

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During the scripture reading:

Tell students that God has given us specific directions about which holy days to keep and how to celebrate them in the Bible. Turn to Leviticus 23:24-25 and read how and when we are to keep the Feast of Trumpets. Ask students to tell you what God tells us to do on the Feast of Trumpets and why the Feast of Trumpets is important. Lead them towards saying that the Feast is a memorial of blowing of trumpets and that we aren't to work on that day. Record their answers on the chart under Feast of Trumpets.

Talk to the students about what trumpets are used for in life. After hearing their responses, tell them that in ancient Israel, it was one of the only ways they had to communicate over a long distance. Today we would use a cell phone or email people but in ancient Israel, those things didn't even exist. Trumpets were blown to assemble people, to call the military, to tell a tribe to march a certain way, or to announce a special event or occasion (study Numbers 10:1-10 for further details). Ask them if they know a special event that will be happening in the future that will be announced by the blowing of a trumpet.

Turn to I Thessalonians 4:16-17 and read these two verses. The students should see that the Feast of Trumpets also points to the return of Christ. Christ will return to earth and we shall be with him. The trumpet sound will announce this important event. When we celebrate the Feast of Trumpets, we celebrate the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is what Jesus is waiting for in heaven. Only God the Father knows when the trumpet will be sounded. Jesus is anxiously waiting for that trumpet sound!

Return to Leviticus 23 and read verses 27-32. Ask the students to tell you what holy day God tells us to celebrate in these scriptures. Lead them towards saying that we are to observe the Day of Atonement, that we can do no work and that we must afflict our souls. Ask students to tell you what it means to "afflict your soul." If they aren't sure, tell them that God commanded Israel and us today not to eat or drink anything from sundown to sundown on the Day of Atonement. There was a special ceremony that took place on this day.

Two goats were to be presented. One was "for the Eternal," and the other and "Azazel." The "Azazel goat was to have all the sins of Israel symbolically placed upon its head and then was to be led in the hands of a "fit man" who would not allow the goat to turn back into the distant wilderness, where it would be released.

One goat was sacrificed, symbolizing atonement for our sin. This was a symbol of what Christ did for all of humanity when he died on the stake. This sacrifice shows the terrible consequences of sin. God declared that the consequence for sin was death. Yet, He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, as the "lamb of God" to die for the sins of you and me - to atone for our sins. Why did He do that? So that when we make a mistake and sin, we can approach our Father through prayer and ask to be forgiven. Then we will be able to be with God in His Kingdom on earth when Christ returns to set that up.

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After the scripture reading:

Review your chart. Recall that the two holy days learned about today were the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. Recall the main ideas of each of these holy days.

Craft Ideas:

Trumpet #1:

Supplies:

Paper towel roll per child

Styrofoam bowl per child

Aluminum foil

Steps:

1. Cut a hole in the Styrofoam bowl and insert the paper towel roll. You should have this prepared for the children before the craft time starts. This will have the shape of a long trumpet.
2. During craft time, let the children wrap the aluminum foil around the "trumpet" so that it looks silver. You may have to help depending on their age so that you have good coverage. Use tape to secure any loose edges.
3. Talk to the children about when and where it would be appropriate to "play" their trumpet. Discuss what the trumpet means from the earlier lesson.

Trumpet #2:

1. Reproduce trumpet pictures from next page onto tagboard or thick paper. Prior to class, cut the trumpets out for young students.
2. During the craft portion, students will use aluminum foil to cover their trumpet. Use glue and tape to secure.
3. Talk to the children about when and where it would be appropriate to "play" their trumpet. Discuss what the trumpet means from the earlier lesson.

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Jesus is Coming Flag:

Materials:

- Tagboard cut into the shape of a pennant or flag.
- Scraps of construction paper
- Glitter
- Markers
- Glue

Instructions:

- Give each student a pennant or flag shape.
- Tell the student to design a flag announcing that Jesus is returning to earth.
- Student use the materials you have gathered to create their banner.

Feast of Trumpets Word Search:

Copy the word search on the following page. Ask students to work in groups to find all the words as quickly as they can. When all students have found all the words celebrate the accomplishment! You may even give a prize to the whole group. Talk about how they worked together to accomplish something wonderful. Discuss how the church is like that. We must work together so that we all accomplish wonderful things and are prepared for when Jesus returns to the earth so that we will be with Him in the kingdom.

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Feast of Trumpets

Find and circle these words. They run up, down, across, and diagonally.

trumpet	blow	return	Jesus	fall
sabbath	attention	god	earth	

e	a	r	t	h	m	e	v	f	u
t	f	c	r	e	t	u	r	n	g
f	a	l	l	l	r	s	u	o	b
l	k	w	g	r	k	u	s	i	l
b	n	z	i	t	d	s	a	t	o
n	t	l	j	v	y	e	b	n	w
u	p	a	v	w	z	j	b	e	g
i	g	o	d	i	t	n	a	t	q
t	r	u	m	p	e	t	t	t	z
p	m	u	n	z	v	b	h	a	j

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Lesson 4 Feast of Tabernacles Leviticus 23:34-43

Objective:

The objective of today's lesson is to discuss the Feast of Tabernacles as it relates to God making Israel to temporarily dwell in tents.

Before the scripture reading:

Ask students if they can remember all 7 of God's annual holy days. Take turns trying to say them all. If students can say them all, you may want to have a small prize. This gives the students something to work for. Each student that can name the holy days gets a prize. Each day they will have this chance and by the end of your lessons, hopefully everyone can say them all!

Talk about the idea of past, present, and future. This is a harder concept for young children. Discuss some things that happened at the Feast. You may even refer to the chart you have created. All of those things happened in the past. The past can be a long time ago - as in ancient Israel - or it can be a recent like yesterday. Talk about the present as being right now. Then talk about future. Tell them that today you are going to examine some things that happened in the past to the country of Israel. Remind them of how you read them the book about the ten plagues God sent to Egypt. Remind them of how the Israelites had to sacrifice a lamb and put blood on their doorpost so that the death angel would pass over them. Remind them that it was then that the Egyptians set the Israelites free. Tell the students that this is where our story picks up.

During the scripture reading:

Before beginning your reading, ask the students to pay attention to how God took care of the Israelites after they left Egypt. Read aloud Moses and the Long Walk (provided with your teacher planner). As students hear something that God did to help the Israelites, you may want to write that down to keep track of it on a poster board. Some ideas the students may have include: fire to guide them by night, cloud to guide them by day, God gave them quail for meat and manna for bread, God gave them water, God gave them the Ten Commandments to live by, God gave them the promised land after 40 years.

God's Seasonal Plan

After the scripture reading:

Look at the list you have created during your reading. Then read students this scripture - Leviticus 23:41-43. Ask the students to tell you why it is that God would create a holy day that is to remind people that He made Israel to dwell in booths or tents? What is it that He would want people to remember. Lead the students to understanding that God wants His people to realize that He is always with them. He takes care of us each day and gives us everything we need. When we look at our lives we should look at them in appreciation of all that God has given us and all that He has done to take care of us. Take some time to discuss some wonderful things that God has done for your group. Perhaps it is that He brought us all safely to a beautiful place to keep the Feast. Perhaps it is that He has blessed us with a wonderful family that loves us. Perhaps it is that He has developed a love in us for our fellow man. Whatever blessing God has given us, we ought to acknowledge the blessings and give Him all of the credit for His wonderful work. He is an amazing and awesome God.

God's Seasonal Plan

Crafts:

Make a Tent!

Supplies:

1. 1 manilla file folder per child
2. crayons
3. leaves collected from outside
4. glue
5. scissors
6. any other decorating supplies you want to add.

Directions:

1. Demonstrate to student how to unfold the file folder gently and set upside down to form a tent shape.
2. Tell students they will use the file folder to decorate as a tent to remind them that one thing the Feast of Tabernacles is about is that God made Israel to dwell in booths or tents.
3. Students will then glue on decorations to make their tent.
4. Leave to dry and students can take home the next day.

Make a Tent out of a blanket:

Do some imaginative play with the little ones today. Use a blanket or sheet from the hotel and spread it over a table or group of chairs. Go inside your "tent." Perhaps have a snack in there today. Talk about how it is fun to play in a tent once in a while. Ask the students if they would like to live in a tent everyday. Ask students what would not be fun about living in this tent. What would they miss about their normal houses. Discuss that God made us to temporarily live in this world but we are waiting for His kingdom. This tent that you have made isn't perfect but God's kingdom will be perfect in everyway.

God's Seasonal Plan

Cotton-Ball (Manna) Relay:

Today you may want to change things up and try a game instead of a craft. It makes the children work together as a team and is fun!

For each team, you'll need a spoon, a goal marked on the floor, and a large bowl filled with cotton balls.

Give the First child on each team a spoon and piece of construction paper or poster board. The race begins as the first player on each team uses the spoon to gather a cotton ball from the bowl. The player carries the cotton ball in the spoon across the room and drops it on the goal on the floor. He or she walks back to the team. Then the child hands the spoon to the next player and the relay continues. Celebrate all teams completing the task rather than having a "winning team."

Say: It was hard to gather cotton balls, but God made it easy for the Israelites to gather manna and be fed in the desert.

- How do you think the Israelites felt the first time they saw manna?
- What's a good gift God has given you?
- How can you thank God for the good gifts He has given you?

God's Seasonal Plan

Lesson 5 Feast of Tabernacles Leviticus 23:34-43

Objective:

The objective of today's lesson is to discuss the Feast of Tabernacles as it relates to God establishing His kingdom.

Before the scripture reading:

Ask students if they can remember all 7 of God's annual holy days. Take turns trying to say them all. If students can say them all, you may want to have a small prize. This gives the students something to work for. Each student that can name the holy days gets a prize. Each day they will have this chance and by the end of your lessons, hopefully everyone can say them all!

Spend a little time reviewing yesterday's lesson about the Feast of Tabernacles. Ask them questions about the meaning of Tabernacles as it relates to ancient Israel living in tents.

Gather the students together on the carpet or in a circle of chairs. Begin informally talking about what students did at the Feast of Tabernacles yesterday after they left class. Examine your running list from the previous days. Is there a way to categorize their ideas? Perhaps the students can see that the ideas are mainly:

1. Attending church - worshiping God
2. Enjoying time with their family - enjoying the fruit of their parents' hard work
3. Living in a temporary place (hotel, condo, cabin, tent)

Tell the students that today they are going to learn more about the Feast they are currently celebrating - The Feast of Tabernacles! They are going to learn how the Feast of Tabernacles tells about things that will happen in the future.

Talk about the idea of past, present, and future. This is a harder concept for young children. Discuss some things that happened at the Feast. You may even refer to the chart you have created. All of those things happened in the past. The past can be a long time ago - as in ancient Israel - or it can be a recent like yesterday. Talk about the present as being right now. Then talk about future. Does anyone know exactly what is going to happen in the future? No, we can plan for the future and think "today I am going to do this or that." But no one knows exactly what the future holds. No human. God does know the future and the Feast of Tabernacles shows us what God has in mind for the future. We won't know everything until we experience it

God's Seasonal Plan

ourselves. God has a plan for the future AND He knows how things are going to turn out! What an amazing and awesome God we have!

During the scripture reading:

Ask students to tell you what will happen after the trumpet sound occurs as pictured by the Feast of Trumpets. Hopefully the students will recall that the Feast of Trumpets is a holy day that reminds us that Jesus will return to earth to set up His kingdom on earth. His return will be marked by the loud sound of a trumpet.

So what will life be like when Jesus returns to earth? That is what the Feast of Tabernacles also pictures. It is to remind us that God is in charge and that God brought the Israelites out of Egypt but it also is a holy day that tells us what is to come for all of mankind. So what will that kingdom be like?

The Bible doesn't tell us in just one verse. We have to read bits and pieces from the whole Bible in order to understand. Today we are going to read several parts of the Bible and learn what the kingdom will be like. You may want to have the Bible verses printed on poster paper or on a large chart like shown below. This will help all students be able to see the scriptures while you are reading them and also make it easier for them to think about what the text is saying.

Scripture	What it tells us the kingdom will be like
1 Corinthians 15:52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.	We will become spirit like Jesus. Remember when we learned all of the fabulous things He could do after He was resurrected? We will be able to do those things to!
Matthew 25:21 His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'	God's people will be in charge of many things in the kingdom. We will teach all of the people on earth about God and the way He wants us to do things! We will be kings and priests in God's kingdom!
Isaiah 35:5-6 prophecies of this time during which "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing ..."	God will heal physical infirmities.

God's Seasonal Plan

<p>"And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles" (Zechariah 14:16).</p>	<p>The whole earth will keep God's laws and celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles!</p>
<p>Isaiah 11:6 the wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling [a] together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. ⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.</p>	<p>There will be peace among all living things.</p>
<p>He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. ⁴ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years (Rev 20).</p>	<p>Satan will be bound so that he can't hurt anyone or influence anyone's decision about following God.</p>
<p>Isaiah 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.</p>	<p>There will be no more wars amongst the people.</p>

God's Seasonal Plan

Please note, these are just a few "easy to understand" ideas regarding the kingdom and what it will be like. If your group is older and understanding quite a bit, you should feel free to go into further detail. These main ideas should be sufficient for a beginning understanding of what the kingdom of God will be like.

After the scripture reading:

Review your chart with the students. Ask them to imagine an earth where there was no war or fighting, no disease or sickness, where everyone was kind to one another and followed God's ways. How would it feel to live on earth with all of those things? Try to get students to say more than just "happy." Push them to think of many synonyms for happy that better describe the emotions one would feel living in God's kingdom. Compare those emotions to the feelings they are having by keeping the Feast of Tabernacles today. Are they similar emotions? God is teaching us now to celebrate the Feast and we are getting a taste of the "happiness" that will cover the earth by being here.

Craft Ideas:

Make a Crown!:

Materials:

- Construction paper
- Jewels
- Glitter
- Glue
- markers

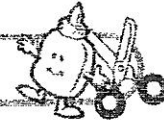
Instructions:

- Students cut a crown shape out of the construction paper
- Students use the various supplies to add details to their crown
- Measure and cut extra paper to make everyone's crown fit their head.
- Discuss how in God's kingdom we will be kings and priests and in charge of teaching the world. If that is our future, what should we act like now – in the present?

God's Seasonal Plan



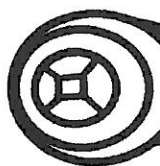
You will be a king or priest!



Crown Pattern

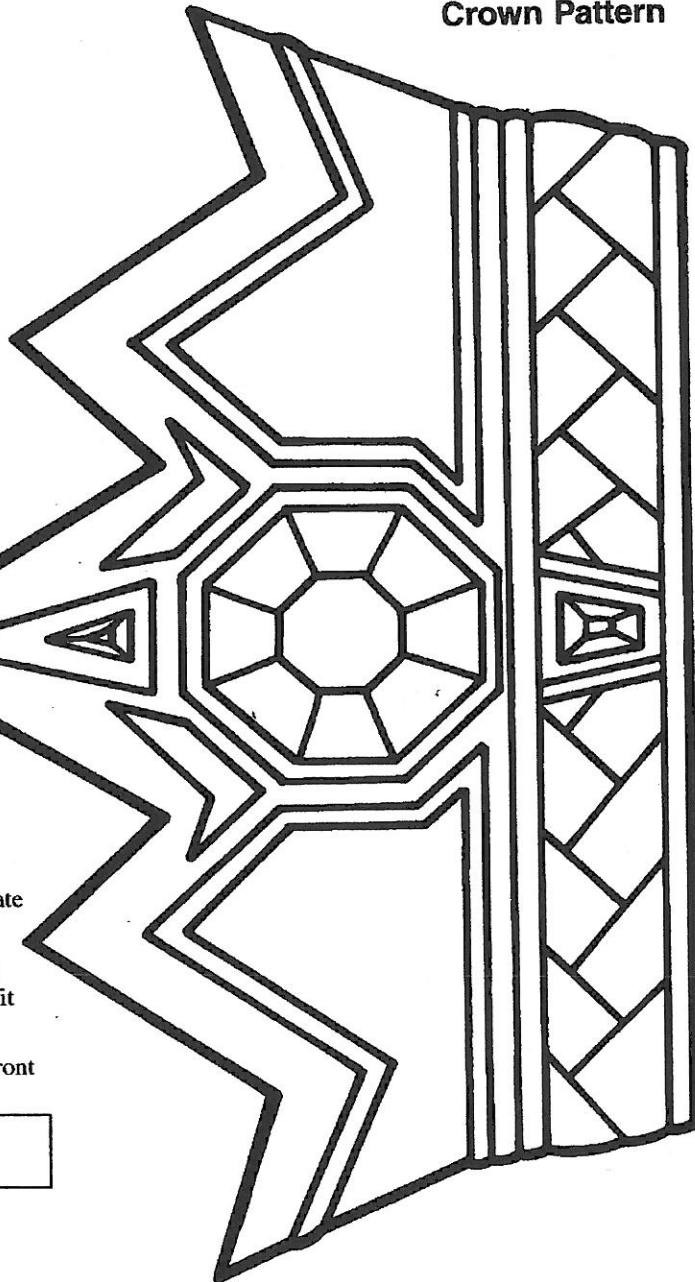
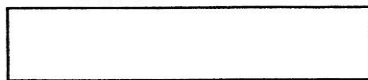
Craft Materials

- crown pattern
- white cardstock paper
- scissors
- markers or crayons
- sequins
- glitter
- stapler
- glue



Craft Directions

1. Copy pattern on white cardstock paper.
2. Color, cut out, and decorate your crown.
3. Make a 1- to 2-inch band from cardstock paper to fit around your head.
4. Staple the crown to the front of the band.



God's Seasonal Plan

Treasure Hunt Game!

Make 15 small squares of paper. On 7 of them write 7 "false" things about the kingdom such as 'all of us will be very rich.' On the other 8 pieces of paper write 8 "true" things about the kingdom. Hide the small squares of paper around the room. Give the students 4 minutes to find all 15 pieces of paper. Once all of the pieces of paper have been found, ask the students to sort the papers into "true" and "false." Talk about what makes each thing true or false. Discuss how we don't know everything that the kingdom will be like but it sounds pretty wonderful!

Heart to heart Treasure Hunt!

For this game, you'll need one heart-shaped cookie for each child and twenty heart-shaped pieces of paper. Before children arrive, hide 19 of the pieces of paper around your meeting room. Put some where they're easily seen and others in less obvious places, such as under the seats of chairs, in a book, or elsewhere in your room. Tape one very small heart on the bottom of your shoe.

Tell the children you have a treasure for them to claim - one cookie each. But you won't give them their treasure until they've found and returned all twenty hearts to you. Add some energy by announcing a time limit.

If children don't ask to see the bottoms of your shoes, don't volunteer to show them. But eventually help children find all twenty hearts, and share the treasure!

Say:

- You were willing to do a lot of work to claim your treasure. I could tell your hearts were in it!
- What's something you've saved for and bought yourself?
- What's something you once thought was amazingly cool and now you don't care much about anymore? What changed?
- Will you work this hard to have the treasure of God's kingdom? What does God require us to do work for His kingdom?

God's Seasonal Plan

Lesson 6 The Last Great Day Leviticus 23:36

Objective:

The objective of today's lesson is to discuss The Last Great Day relates to God establishing His kingdom.

Before the scripture reading:

Ask students if they can remember all 7 of God's annual holy days. Take turns trying to say them all. If students can say them all, you may want to have a small prize. This gives the students something to work for. Each student that can name the holy days gets a prize. Each day they will have this chance and by the end of your lessons, hopefully everyone can say them all!

Spend a little time reviewing yesterday's lesson about the Feast of Tabernacles. Ask them questions about the meaning of Tabernacles as it relates to ancient Israel living in tents and how it relates to God establishing His kingdom on earth.

Just as everything seems perfect there must be one more thing that happens. God has created 7 annual holy days and we have only learned about 6. There must be something more that God has in His plan for us. Let's learn about the Last Great Day today to see what God has in mind.

During the scripture reading:

Today we will read several sets of scriptures again to help us understand what will happen after the kingdom of God comes to earth for a thousand years. Each time we read a scripture, we are going to put the event on a timeline. This will show us how the events will take place over time. Make the timeline in front of the students or have it prepared before class. If students aren't familiar with a timeline, relate it to a number line that shows events happening over time.

1. Revelation 20:2-3, 7-10.

This scripture shows that Satan has been bound for the thousand years. He will be loosed or set free for a short time. Once Satan is turned loose, he and his demons proceed to again influence mankind. Millions will be deceived, despite having been exposed to sound teaching of the truth and being forewarned of Satan's arrival. As a result of this rebellion, millions will forfeit their opportunity for eternal life. Do not be discouraged. The overwhelming majority will be saved.

God's Seasonal Plan

Fortunately at the end of his time, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire so that he will not be able to deceive mankind any more.

2. Revelation 20:11-12; Daniel 7:9-10. Isaiah 65:20-24.

These verses clearly show that these are physical human beings who will live a hundred years during this judgment time. They also build houses and inhabit them. There is a change in the nature of carnivorous and dangerous animals, just as occurred in the Millennium. This one-hundred-year time of judgment will have similar conditions as existed in the Millennium, including all the blessings and abundance of that time. All who had never been called to salvation before the Return of Christ will be given their *first and only* chance. When they are resurrected to this world of peace, tranquility, abundance, joy, health and happiness, the vast majority will overwhelmingly treasure God's way of life over the misery and sin of their prior existence. The people in this judgment will be receptive to the truth and responsive to their teachers.

3. Revelation 21:1-5

"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away'"

New Jerusalem is God's holy city that He will establish. The book of Revelations tells us how beautiful the city is. But beyond being beautiful, Revelations states that God will live with us. We will be His people and He will be our God - those who have received salvation living peacefully and harmoniously with each other in the presence of God for eternity. In His wonderful Kingdom God will reveal the meaning of His promise, "Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5). From there, the Bible ends. We aren't sure what will happen next. But knowing God, He has plenty in mind!

After the scripture reading:

God's festivals celebrate the seven stages of His wonderful, all-encompassing plan so we can have faith in Him and rest assured that He knows what He is doing. He has thought out every detail to bring us—all who are willing—to repentance and give us eternal life.

By keeping His festivals we remain focused on what is important in our view of the future and our role in it. Each time we keep them we deepen our understanding of prophecies throughout the Bible that fill in the details of God's wonderful plan.

God's Seasonal Plan

Footprints

Jesus with Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17)

WHAT YOU NEED

pair of men's shoes
12" x 18" construction paper
crayons
scissors
glue

WHAT YOU PREPARE

Trace the men's shoes to make a set of Jesus' footprints for each child.

WHAT YOU DO

- ☐ Give each child a pair of Jesus' footprints to color and cut out.
- ☐ Help the children trace their shoes onto construction paper and cut out their two footprints.
- ☐ Show the children how to glue the four footprints to the construction paper so that their footprints are following Jesus'.

WHAT YOU TALK ABOUT

How did God show that Jesus is His Son in today's story?
How will you follow Jesus because He is the Son of God?



WANT TO DO MORE?

Bring paints and large cake pans. Spread a thin layer of paint in a cake pan. Help each child remove her shoes and socks, step carefully into the paint, and take two steps onto a sheet of paper. The child should then step into a tub of warm, sudsy water and then step out onto a towel for drying. After their feet are dry, the children can glue Jesus' footprints in front of their own footprints on the paper. Use longer sheets of roll paper if you want to let the children make several painted footprints.

God's Seasonal Plan

Heart Pillow

Saul Disobeys God (1 Samuel 15)

WHAT YOU NEED

red or pink roll paper
white paper
tissue paper or shredded newspaper
stapler
pen or marker
glue

WHAT YOU PREPARE

Draw a large heart on a piece of white paper. Inside the heart, write "I will obey God's laws with all my heart. Psalm 119:34." Duplicate one of these for each child.

Cut large hearts from the roll paper, 2' to 3' wide. It takes two hearts to make each pillow.

Staple pairs of hearts together around the edges, leaving one side open for stuffing. The opening should be about 10" wide.

WANT TO DO MORE?

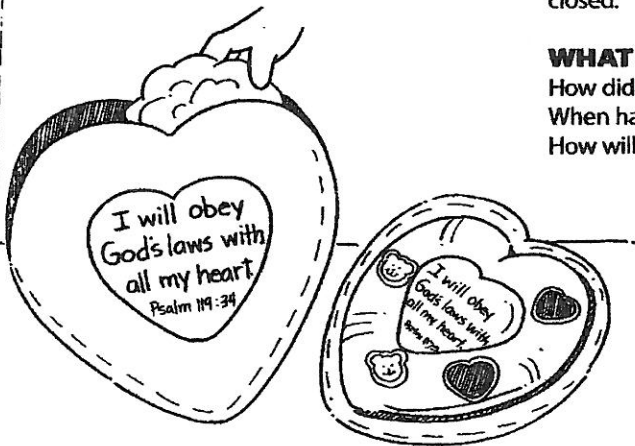
Before the pillows are stuffed, the children can decorate their pillows with rubber stamps or decorative stickers. They can glue on bits of lace and buttons.

WHAT YOU DO

- ☐ Give each child a heart from roll paper and a smaller heart with the verse on it.
- ☐ Let the children color the smaller heart, cut it out, and glue it to the center of the large roll paper heart.
- ☐ Help the children lightly stuff their pillows with tissue or shredded newspaper. Staple the opening closed.

WHAT YOU TALK ABOUT

How did Saul disobey God?
When have you disobeyed God?
How will you choose to obey?



God's Seasonal Plan

Happy and Sad Puppet

WHAT YOU NEED

11" x 18" construction paper in a variety of colors including red
scissors
glue sticks

WHAT YOU PREPARE

Cut 6"-wide smiles from red paper.

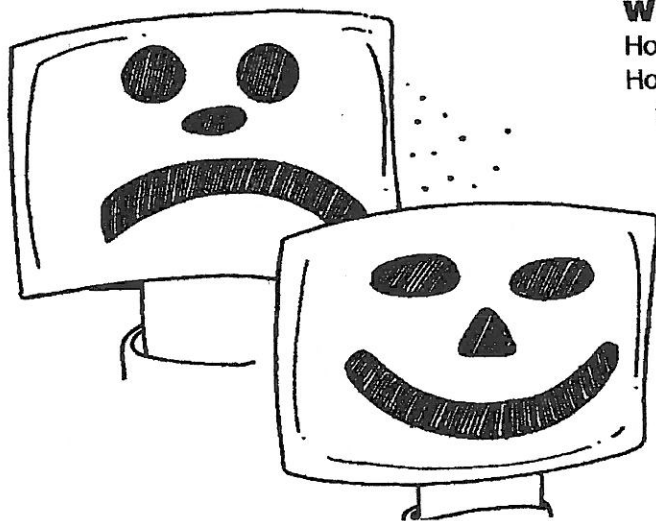
Cut large ovals, circles, and triangles to use as noses and eyes.

WHAT YOU DO

- Help each child fold a sheet of paper in half and spread a line of glue along both sides. (Don't glue the bottom of the puppet.)
- Show the children how to make a smiling face on one side of the puppet and a frowning face on the other side of the puppet by gluing on the paper shapes to form faces.

WHAT YOU TALK ABOUT

How do we feel when we do something right?
How do we feel when we know we've done something wrong?



WANT TO DO MORE?

Seat the children in a group, wearing the puppets over their hands. Describe different situations from the Bible story. If the people did right, have the children hold up the smiling face. If the people did wrong, have them hold up the frowning face. Describe different situations that the children face each day. Encourage them to show either the happy or sad face according to whether the right or wrong choice was made.