At Home Lesson The Sun Stood Still (Joshua 10:1-15)

Gather your family together. Start off in prayer. Pray for each other, the church, the leaders around the world, and people who you know are in need. Ask God to teach your family something during this time together. Tell the Bible story and discuss. Stay open and make sure kids are invited to participate however, they are comfortable.

BIBLE STORY

Today's lesson comes from Joshua 10:1-15. You can read the verses from the bible you have at home, watch the video on <u>https://jcbc.org/jcbc-kids-online/</u>, and/or retell the story like this:

"Joshua and the Israelites had defeated Jericho and other armies who were trying to invade the Land of Canaan. They made peach with the people of Gibeon and were working together with them. When neighboring kings heard about this, they were very afraid. Gibeon was a great city, and all its men were warriors. The Gibeonites and Israelites were now on the same side!

There were 5 kings who decided to join forces against Gibeon and Israel! The Lord said to Joshua, "Don't be afraid, for I have handed them over to you. Not one of them will be able to stand against you." Joshua knew that God had promised the land and safety to the Israelites, so he trusted God to protect them.

So, Joshua and his army marched all night to meet with the army of Gibeon. The Israelites and Gibeon surprised the 5 kings' armies! Then the Lord confused the other armies, so that Joshua and his men started to defeat them. But, the battle was not over. Joshua needed more time to fight before the sun went down. Joshua prayed to God so that all the Israelites could hear him. He said, "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and moon, over the valley of Aijalon (A-juhlahn).

God heard Joshua's prayer, and the sun and moon stood still until Israel defeated her enemies! The sun stood in the middle of the day and didn't set for almost a full day! There has never been a day like it before or since. It was a day when the Lord listened to a mere human being. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!"

CONNECT AND DISCUSS

Ask these questions and explain these things to your children. Break it down on their level and adapt to their age group. The older your kids are, the more they can explain and think outside the box. Instead of defining words, ask them what it means. For younger kids, make sure to explain in the simplest terms. No matter the age, let them answer before you do. Accept their answers and make sure they know you are proud of how hard they are thinking, even if they don't get the "right" answer.

Bible Story Questions

- Who was Joshua?
- Who are the Israelites?
- What is the land of Canaan?
- What was your favorite part of the story?
- What happened when Joshua prayed to God about the sun and the moon?

Connection Questions

- Do you think God listens to your prayers? Why or why not?
- Why do you think God listened to Joshua?
- God loves you! God cares about you and is always listening to you. YOU are important to God, just like every person is important to God! God answers our prayers and can do great and mighty things! God may not answer our prayers in ways that we expect, but we can trust that God is always there for us.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Pray and thank God for being faithful! Thank God for promises kept. Ask God to keep taking care of your family. Tell God what you need.

WORSHIP, CREATE, & PLAY TOGETHER

- Act out the story!
- **Create** by doing one of the crafts below!

Sing and dance along to some of our kids' favorite songs! Knights of North Castle

Jesus Loves Me Our God



Sun & Mood Craft*

What you need:

- Scissors
- Paper Plate
- Yellow and orange construction paper
- Black & yellow crayons or markers
- Glue

What you do:

- Cut small strips into construction paper
- Cut moon shape into yellow paper (optional: star shape)
- On front of plate: glue strips around the rim
- Also, on front, color in middle with yellow, or glue yellow paper to middle. Draw a face for the sun!

• On back of plate: glue moon, and star if you made one. Draw a face on the moon!

• Talk about how Joshua prayed for the Sun and Moon to stop, and God listens! God always hears our prayers!

* Craft found at https://www.inmyworld.com.au/

Prayer Bracelet Craft*



What you need:

- White construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Tape

What you do:

• Cut a strip of paper about 1-1.5 inches wide

• Draw a sun near the middle of the strip.

• Draw a moon near the sun.

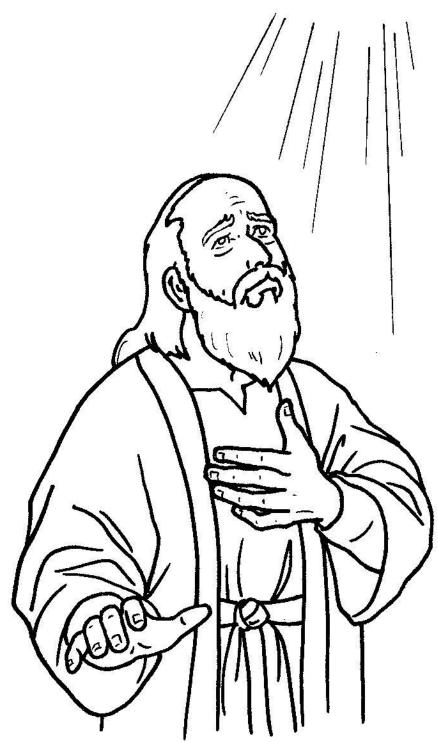
• Measure your child's wrist, cut off any excess paper, and tape the ends together. Make sure the sun and moon are facing outward.

• Talk about how we can pray to God anytime of the day – morning or night! God is always listening to us, and what we have to say is important to God!

* Craft found at https://ididityoudoit.blogspot.com/

THE SUN & MOON STAND STILL

Joshua 10:1-15



Joshua asked the Lord to make the sun and moon stand still

THE SUN & MOON STAND STILL

