

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God loves us.

**OBJECTIVE:**

In this lesson kids will learn that God takes care of us because he loves us.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Exodus 17:1-7, Water From The Rock

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:5 (NirV)*

**SUMMARY:**

The people in the desert had no water to drink. They were thirsty; they thought maybe God didn't care about them. But God loves us! He cares about his people and provided them water in a most spectacular way.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*You love us and take care of us, and we worship you.*

*Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength.” Deuteronomy 6:5 (NirV)*

### **LARGE GROUP MV ACTIVITY:**

Show the kids the motions you’ve been using since week one and ask if they remember the words of the verse that go along with them.

### **Motions:**

“Love the Lord your God”

*[Cross arms over heart and hug yourself]*

“with all your heart”

*[Move your hands in a large circle]*

“and with all your soul.”

*[Move your hands in another large circle]*

“Love him with all your strength.”

*[Flex your biceps]*

### **SMALL GROUP MV ACTIVITY:**

Have one kid volunteer to do the motions while the rest of the group says the verse.

## SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

**TITLE:** The Loving God

**ITEMS NEEDED:** Puzzle

**CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:** 2 Men

**CHARACTERS:** Jazz, Razz

*Razz is putting together a puzzle when Jazz enters.*

JAZZ: Hey Razz.

RAZZ: Oh hey, Jazz.

JAZZ: Neat. Another puzzle.

RAZZ: I just love puzzles.

JAZZ: Can I help?

RAZZ: Of course.

*Jazz joins Razz in putting the puzzle together.*

JAZZ: I see there's water over here. But that part looks like a desert. There's not usually a lot of water in the desert, is there?

RAZZ: No. Not usually. But when God shows people how much he loves them, unusual things – like water in the desert – can happen.

JAZZ: I don't get it.

RAZZ: When the Israelites were on their way to the land that God had promised them, they had to travel through the desert.

JAZZ: Like in the picture.

# SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

RAZZ: It was a hard journey. There was no water in the desert, and the people were thirsty.

JAZZ: I would be too.

RAZZ: They started to grumble and complain. They forgot that God loved them and he would take care of them.

JAZZ: Okay, but where did the water come from?

RAZZ: I'm getting to that. Their leader, Moses, talked to God and asked him to help. God told Moses to go up to a certain rock, and hit the rock with his staff. So Moses obeyed God. He walked up to the rock and hit it with his staff.

JAZZ: And what happened?

RAZZ: Water poured out of the rock. Clean, pure, fresh water from a dirty old rock in the desert.

JAZZ: That can't happen.

RAZZ: It can when God performs a miracle.

JAZZ: He must have loved the Israelites very much.

RAZZ: He did. And God loves us too.

JAZZ: What good news. God loves us. Oh, I think that piece goes there.

RAZZ: Thanks.

*End.*

## SNACK

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Rice Krispies treats, white frosting, blue food coloring

### ADVANCED PREPARATION:

Mix a few drops of food coloring into the frosting to create a pale blue “water”. Down the center of each Rice Krispies “rock” add a winding trail of “water”.

Post a sign outside the preschool area that says: “Today’s snack contains Rice Krispies Treats, white frosting and food coloring. Please let your child’s teacher know if it is not ok for your child to have this snack.”

### CONNECTION:

Our snack looks a lot like water coming out of a rock, just like in today’s story. Talk about the story, and how it shows us how much God loved the Israelites and took care of them even though they complained. We don’t have to grumble and complain because we know that God loves us too, and takes care of us.

## CRAFT

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Paper, crayons

### ADVANCED PREPARATION:

None

### DIRECTIONS:

Give paper and crayons to each child. Remind them of today's story "Water From the Rock" and today's point "God Loves Us". Ask them to draw whatever reminds them of that. Let them go and see where their creativity takes them.

## HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Water from the Rock Puzzle

### ADVANCED PREPARATION:

Create the puzzle: On a large piece of cardboard, draw a picture of a large rock and a stream of water pouring out of it (*from today's story*). Cut the image into large, differently shaped puzzle pieces. (*If you have a large group, you may need to create more than one puzzle.*)

### DIRECTIONS:

Pass out the puzzle pieces and encourage kids to work together to put the image together. Once the picture is put together, have kids retell the story of the Water from the Rock to you.

## MAIN LESSON

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God loves us.

**OBJECTIVE:**

In this lesson kids will learn that God takes care of us because he loves us.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Exodus 17:1-7, Water From The Rock

**WORSHIP TIME:**

Prior to the lesson, sing one or two songs with the kids. Use CDs or live lyrics of songs that the kids are familiar with.

**LESSON:**

Today's story comes to us from the Bible. *(Hold up a Bible.)* The Bible is God's word to us, so we know that everything it says is true. *(Open the Bible and set it down in front of you as you give the lesson.)*

The Bible tells us that there is only one God. Our God loves us.

He showed his love to the Israelites, the people of God. The Israelites wandered through the desert. They were going to the land that God had promised them.

In the desert there was no water. The people were thirsty. They started to complain to their leader Moses. "Why did you bring us out here to die of thirst," they said.

Moses called to God. "What do I do?"

Even though they complained and doubted, God still loved his people. He would take care of them.

God told Moses to walk up to a large rock. So Moses went up to the large rock. God told Moses to hit the rock with his staff. So Moses hit the rock with his staff. And guess what?

Water came pouring out of a hard, dry rock. Enough water so that all of the people could have enough to drink.

# MAIN LESSON

God loved the Israelites. He took care of them. God loves us. We can trust him to take care of us too.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*You love us and take care of us, and we worship you.*

*Amen*

## MAIN LESSON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### **WIGGLE TAMER:**

Have a little dance party. While the music is playing, kids can jump and dance around the space. When the music stops, kids must roll up into a ball and become rocks. When the music resumes, they can jump up and dance once more. Stop the music several times unexpectedly.

### **SMALL GROUP MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:**

Have one kid volunteer to do the motions while the rest of the group says the verse.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

Why were the people in the desert complaining?

Who was the leader of the Israelites?

What did God tell Moses to do?

What happened when Moses hit the rock with his staff?

### **SMALL GROUP GAME OR ACTIVITY:**

Play a few rounds of "Simon Says!" Moses listened to God and did what God said. Because we know that God loves us, we can do what he says with confidence.

## SPECIAL 1 PAGE LESSON FOR 1 & 2 YEAR OLDS

### **PLAY TIME:**

Spend the first 15 minutes on the floor playing with the kids. Cars, dolls, blocks, and simple puzzles are great for this time.

### **BIBLE TIME:**

Seat the kids in the place they will be having snack. Hold up a Bible or Illustrated Kids' Bible and say, "This is the Bible. God wrote the Bible. Everything in the Bible is true." Then allow each child to pat the Bible with his hand.

### **LESSON:**

The people in the desert had nothing to drink.  
We'll die without water, they started to think.  
But God said, "I love them. I am their God."  
So he told Moses "Hit that rock with your rod."  
God showed the people that they're never alone,  
When clean fresh water poured out of that stone.  
God loves us.

### **MAKE IT REAL:**

After the lesson say, "God loves you, and he wants you to love him too." Then point to each child and say, "God loves you (*child's name*)."

### **PRAYER TIME:**

Ask the children to fold their hands and bow their heads. Say, "Let's pray before our snack. Thank you God for our mommies and our daddies. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for this snack we get to eat. Amen."

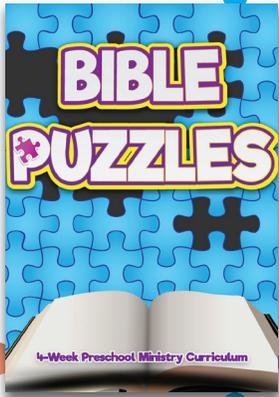
### **SNACK TIME:**

Wash each child's hand with a wet wipe and then serve the snack. At this age crackers or goldfish with water are generally best, but you always want to be mindful of any food allergies.

### **POTTY BREAK:**

After snack is a great time to ask those who are potty trained if they need to use the bathroom, or change diapers of those who are not yet potty trained.

**PLAY TIME:** Finish the day with more playtime until it's time for dismissal.



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## Bible Puzzles Lesson 3

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: THE POWERFUL GOD



#### **DRIVING:**

Play some worship music in the car. Sing about God's love. Sing songs about God's provision and care.



#### **PLAYING:**

During bath time, talk about all of the many things we need water for: drinking, bathing, water balloon fights, swimming, etc. Talk about what it must be like to be somewhere where there is no water. Talk about the story of God providing water for the Israelites in the desert. Marvel at God's great love.



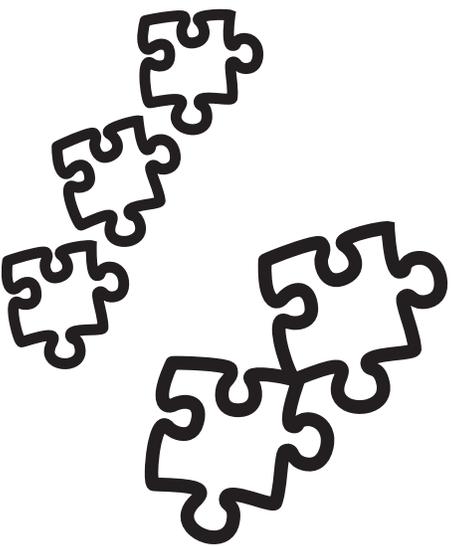
#### **EATING:**

During mealtime, thank God that you have plenty to eat and drink. Imagine what it might have been like for the Israelites in the desert who had no water to drink. How scary would that have been? Thank God for loving them and taking care of them by providing water from a rock. Thank him for loving and taking care of your family too.



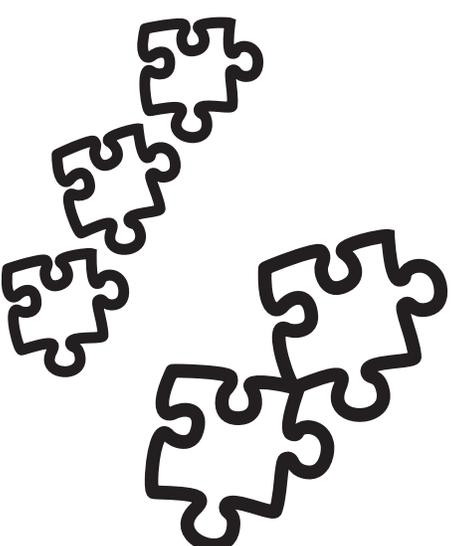
#### **SNUGGLING:**

Snuggle up together and read the memory verse together: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:5 (NirV). Talk about how we can love God because we know how much God loves us. We can never out-love God.



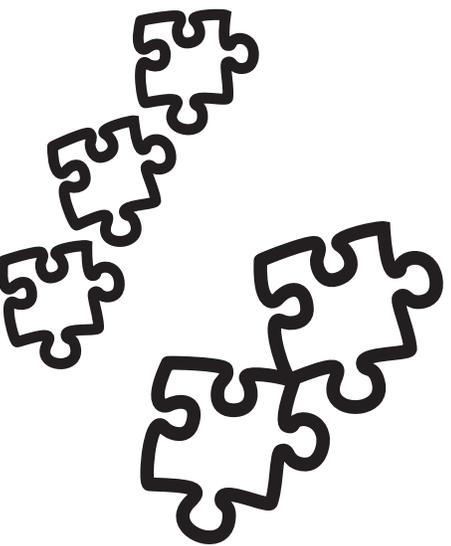
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- Deuteronomy 6:5 (NIRV)



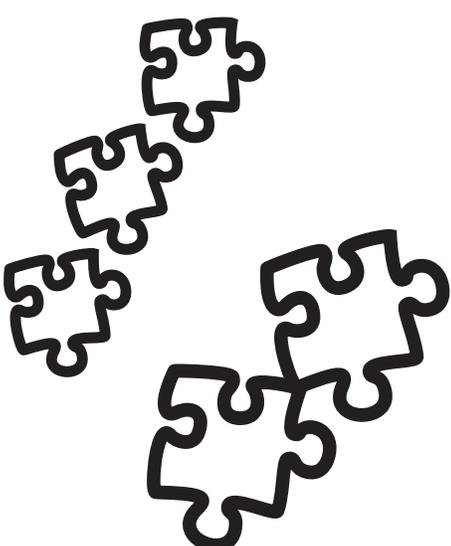
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