

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God turns our anger into joy.

OBJECTIVE:

In this lesson kids will learn “God can turn my mad to glad.”

KEY PASSAGE:

Exodus 17:1-7, Water From the Rock

MEMORY VERSE:

“I will be glad and full of joy because of you.” Psalm 9:2a (NirV)

SUMMARY:

The people of God were in the desert with no water to drink. They were hot and tired and angry. Even though the people were grumpy and complaining, God loved his people and provided water in a miraculous way.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

You can turn our mad to glad. Help us to have your joy.

Amen

MEMORY VERSE

"I will be glad and full of joy because of you." Psalm 9:2a (NirV)

LARGE GROUP MV ACTIVITY: Teach the kids the verse, using the following hand motions: "I will be glad" [Wipe your hands in front of your face in a large smile shape] "and full of joy" [Move your arms to draw a large circle in the air] "because of you." [Lift both arms and point to the sky with your hands.]

SMALL GROUP MV ACTIVITY: Have kids say the verse together in a variety of positions: standing, sitting, bowing, standing on one foot, jumping, etc.

SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

TITLE: Mad to Glad

ITEMS NEEDED: None

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2 Flexible

CHARACTERS: Jay, Ray

Ray looks angry as Jay enters.

JAY: Hey Ray.

RAY: Oh hey, Jay.

JAY: You look like something's wrong. Are you all right?

RAY: I'm mad.

JAY: Oh no. Can I help?

RAY: My brother broke my favorite toy. I'm so mad at him.

JAY: We all get mad sometimes. You won't feel this way forever.

RAY: Yes, I will. I'm going to be mad forever. I don't like feeling this way.

JAY: Have you asked God to help you?

RAY: No. Should I ask God to help me?

JAY: God can turn your mad to glad.

RAY: God can turn my mad to glad?

JAY: When the people of God were in the desert and thirsty, they were mad too. But Moses asked God for help and he provided water out of a rock.

SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

RAY: Wow. Water from a rock. That's a miracle. And God can help me too.

JAY: Yes, let's ask him for help to turn your mad to glad.

Jay and Ray bow their heads to pray.

RAY: Dear God, I am mad at my brother for breaking my toy. I don't want to be mad anymore. Please help me to be glad. Amen.

JAY: Amen. So, how do you feel?

RAY: Better.

JAY: Do you feel glad, yet?

RAY: I feel glad that God has sent me a friend like you.

JAY: Thanks. Let's go to my house. I've got lots of toys to play with. C'mon.

End.

SNACK

ITEMS NEEDED: Gushers brand candies

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Post a sign outside the preschool area that says:
“Today’s snack is Gushers candies. Please let your child’s teacher know if it is not ok
for your child to have this snack.”

CONNECTION: The Gushers have the appearance of gemstones – like rubies or emeralds – but when you bite into them, you get a burst of liquid. Rocks are hard and solid, but out of one of those rocks, God brought forth a burst of water for the people to drink.

CRAFT

ITEMS NEEDED: Yellow construction paper, crayons or markers, copper brads

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Cut construction paper into 5" circles – enough so that each kid has two. For half of the circles, cut out a 3"x1½" square between the center and the bottom edge of the circle. Join two circles – one cut and one full – together with a brad through the center.

DIRECTIONS: Give each kid a joined yellow circle, with the cut circle on top. Above the cut portion, have kids draw a pair of eyes. In the opening, have kids draw an "angry" mouth. Help kids to rotate the bottom circle a quarter turn so that the mouth disappears. Have kids draw a smiling mouth. Rotate two more times – each time, letting the kids draw whatever mouth they wish.

Use a completed face, to show that although we might be really mad, in a moment God can turn our mad into glad.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

ITEMS NEEDED: Small rocks

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Clean the stones as necessary.

DIRECTIONS:

Make it clear to kids before you pass out the stones, that these rocks are for holding not throwing. Anyone who throws a rock will no longer be allowed to participate.

Give each kid a small stone. Invite them to look at it, rub their fingers across it, and examine it. What do they see? How does it feel? Now tell the kids that you are thirsty and need some water; ask them to squeeze their stones until water comes out. Encourage those kids who know the exercise won't work to give it a try anyway.

After a few moments, collect the rocks. "Why didn't that work? Today's story was all about how water came out of a rock." Talk about how God performed a miracle to take care of his people. Sometimes when we are mad, we can feel as hard as a rock. But God can take away our anger and make us joyful like a mighty rushing river.

MAIN LESSON

BOTTOM LINE: God turns our anger into joy.

OBJECTIVE: In this lesson kids will learn “God can turn my mad to glad.”

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 God turns our anger into joy. God can turn my mad to glad.

The people of God were in the desert, on their way to the land that God had promised them. It is hard to find water in the desert, and there was no water anywhere. The people were thirsty. They started to get mad and complain.

God loves us. God loved his people and took care of them, even in the desert where there was no water to drink. God told Moses, the leader, to walk up to this large rock. Moses had a staff with him – a staff is like a big stick or a tall cane. God told Moses to hit the rock with his staff.

When Moses hit the rock with his staff, water came rushing out of the rock. Lots and lots of water. Enough water for everyone to drink.

God took away the people’s thirst. God took away their anger, and replaced it with joy. They were mad, but God turned their mad into glad.

Sometimes I get mad. I bet there are times when you get mad too. But no matter how mad we get, we can remember to ask God for help. He can turn my anger to joy. He can turn my mad to glad.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

You can turn our mad to glad. Help us to have your joy.

Amen

MAIN LESSON LESSON DISCUSSION

WIGGLE TAMER: Play a few rounds of Simon Says but call it Moses Says. Remind kids that Moses was the leader of God's people. They followed what Moses said. Moses followed what God said.

SMALL GROUP MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: Have kids say the verse together in a variety of positions: standing, sitting, bowing, standing on one foot, jumping, etc.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Why were the people in the desert mad?

What did God tell Moses to do?

What happened when Moses hit the rock with his staff?

When I ask God for help, he will turn my mad into _____.

SMALL GROUP GAME OR ACTIVITY: Rock, River. When you call out "River" kids can flow (run, walk, jump) throughout the space as they please. When you call out "Rock" kids must freeze in place.

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 were angry. GRUMBLE, GRUMBLE, GRUMBLE. They said to Moses, "there is no water." MUMBLE, MUMBLE, MUMBLE. God made water burst forth from a rock. OH BOY, OH BOY, OH BOY. God turned their anger to joy. OH JOY, OH JOY, OH JOY.

God can turn my mad into glad.

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)."

MEMORY VERSE: *"I will be glad and full of joy because of you."* Psalm 9:2a (NIRV)

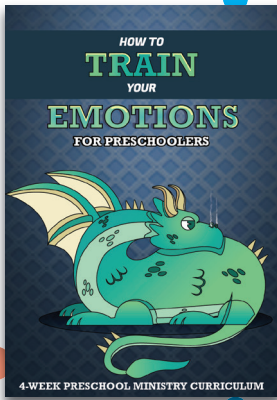
Teach the kids the verse, using the following hand motions: "I will be glad" [Wipe your hands in front of your face in a large smile shape] "and full of joy" [Move your arms to draw a large circle in the air] "because of you." [Lift both arms and point to the sky with your hands.]

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

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

How To Train Your Emotions Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: ANGER



DRIVING:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

As you drive around, talk about the things that make people mad. Which things are silly to be mad about, and which things seem appropriate to be angry with? Pray that God would help us be joyful.



PLAYING:

Make this week's lesson real:

While playing with siblings or friends, tempers are bound to flair up at some point. Take the opportunity to talk about anger, and whether God wants us to stay mad or if he wants to turn that mad into glad. Work with the kids toward reconciliation and joy.



EATING:

Before your evening meal, read the story of how God provided water to the people in the desert in Exodus 17:1-7. As you enjoy your meal, talk about how angry it must have made the people to have no water to drink. Talk about the miraculous way God provided water, turning their anger into joy.



SNUGGLING:

Snuggle up together and read the memory verse together: "I will be glad and full of joy because of you." Psalm 9:2a (NIRV). Talk about how when we are angry, God can turn our mad to glad.



-“I will be glad and full of joy because of you.”
- Psalm 9:2a (NIRV)



-“I will be glad and full of joy because of you.”
- Psalm 9:2a (NIRV)



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