

SLAM

DESPERATE FOR GOD

Topic: Desperate for God

Today's Objective: To help the children learn and understand the concept of being Salt and Light in the world.

Lesson Outline:

What	Time needed	Page
Welcome & Introduction	5 minutes	Page 1
Worship	10 minutes	Page 1
Games	10 minutes	Page 1
Discussion	10 minutes	Page 2
Activity	20 minutes	Page 3
Prayer & Wrap Up	10 minutes	Page 3

Please note that this is only a guide.

Game:

Food Challenge:

Ask for a few volunteers. Blindfold them. Have them sit in a row and then give them all a lemon wedge. See who can suck on it for the longest. Then put a small amount of salt onto several spoons and feed that to the children. Do the same again with some chili.

Please note: do not let them have a drink in-between. And please check with children that they don't have allergies before you begin.

Welcome & Worship:

Welcome all the kids and ask them to share with you their favourite hero (or heroine) is. This could be from books, movies, comics... or the Bible!

The Facilitator will let you know when it is time for worship. Please come downstairs and join with the other children for Worship ☺ Please encourage the children to join in and help the younger children to engage. We would also ask that you participate as the children will watch you also.

Wrap up:

Please have a leader or helper close in prayer. Children can be released at the conclusion of the service and return to their parents.

Please turn the lights out, close the door and return the sign in folder to the kids' church table once all the children have left.

Discussion & Activity:

Today's discussion involves food!

Have a few bowls of salt and vinegar chips – share them amongst the children. Don't allow them to have a drink. Just have a general discussion about their weeks and the food challenge that you just completed. Or you may like to recap the lesson from last week while they eat, remember though...no drinks allowed.

The children should get thirsty. Ask them to read John 4:7-15.

JOHN 4:7-15 THE MESSAGE (MSG)

⁷⁻⁸A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?" (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.)

⁹The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (Jews in those days wouldn't be caught dead talking to Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered, "If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water."

¹¹⁻¹²The woman said, "Sir, you don't even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how are you going to get this 'living water'? Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well and drank from it, he and his sons and livestock, and passed it down to us?"

¹³⁻¹⁴Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life."

¹⁵The woman said, "Sir, give me this water so I won't ever get thirsty, won't ever have to come back to this well again!"

What is this verse talking about? Discuss the verse and how it relates to them today.

Once you have completed this give each child a cold bottle of water from the fridge. Discuss the fact that that deep thirst and desire for a drink is how we should thirst after God. Do they? are they as desperate for God as they were for water? Spiritually we are all called to drink from God and he will quench our thirst.

Print the verse onto labels and attach it to the water bottles.

Leading Prayer in SLAM

Come Together:

Bring the children together in a circle. Ask if there is anything that they would like to pray for.

Some Questions you may ask to help them think:

- Is there something that you would like to praise God and thank him for this week?
- Are you sick or do you need healing?
- Have you hurt anyone or been hurt by something this week that you need to ask forgiveness for?

Pray:

Pray together— there are two choices here:

They can pray for each other or they can pray for themselves (out loud).

Praying for each other:

If they would like someone else to pray for them ask the child to sit in the middle and for another child to pray for them (ask for volunteers). If both children are comfortable they can lay hands on as they pray.

Praying for themselves:

If they would like to pray for themselves they can either sit in the middle or where they are. Ask them to pray in a loud voice so everyone can hear. We want them to be comfortable so be flexible and sensitive to the child's needs.

Continue through the group until everyone has been prayed for.

Listen:

Then take time to sit and listen to God and see if there is anything that he would like to say to the group. Ask each child to sit silently and listen to God. Explain that God may speak to them all in different ways, e.g. a picture, an idea a colour etc. Then after a minute ask if there is anything the children felt God was saying.

Write:

Have each child write in their prayer journals. If they can't think of what to write encourage them to write one of the following:

- Prayer points (something they would like to ask from God)
- A praise point for a prayer they feel God has answered.
- Draw a picture or word that they get during prayer.