

Katie



The Sunday
School Lady



EZEKIEL 1 AND 2 CALL TO THE STUBBORN

Scripture: Ezekiel 1 and 2

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Butcher paper with holes, pool noodle, painting prints, paper, blindfold.

Game

In pairs, one blindfolded child will try to draw what the other is describing to them. Each person needs a partner, with one blindfold for each group. The kids will be given a print of a painting. The one blindfolded will try to draw what the other describes and see if they can make it like the picture. After, they will switch and you will give them a new picture to describe and draw.

Ask

Was that hard? Did your picture compare to the one that you were asked to draw?

Explain

Today we're going to start studying the book of Ezekiel. He was a priest during the exile to Babylon and God called him to warn the people to turn from idolatry. Can anyone tell me what idolatry is? (the worship of anything else besides God). Well, Ezekiel also had a vision of God in heaven. We're going to read that today and it's probably a little like this. Sometimes, we can't really explain or guess what heaven will be like. It's a little like the picture drawing. It's something so beautiful and so incredible, but our representations of it don't even come close.

Read

Ezekiel 1:22-28. (Begin by explaining that earlier in the chapter, Ezekiel described creatures with 4 faces and wings, if the kids are interested, you can read the whole chapter, having them close their eyes to try and imagine it).

Ask

What would you think if you saw that? What is one thing you hope to see or do in heaven? If at this point the kids have questions about heaven, take time to answer them and the rest of the lesson can be done next week.

Read Ezekiel 2

Explain

God was sending Ezekiel on a difficult mission. Did you notice how God didn't promise him he would be successful? God said the people would be stubborn. He said they might not listen. But God called Ezekiel anyway and Ezekiel obeyed. Sometimes God asks us to do things that will be very hard. And just because God asks us to do it, doesn't mean that we will be successful in the way we think. But we're still supposed to obey,

Game

Let's play a game where we, like Ezekiel, try to "hit" the Israelites with the Word of God. We are going to play human whack-a-mole. The moles are the stubborn Israelites that keep popping up with sins like idolatry. Our Ezekiel is going to "whack" them with a pool noodle. (Set up butcher paper with holes in it. Have children pop up, while the "Ezekiel's" whack them down.)

Main Point:

I know that was probably fun, but think about it in real life. Is it frustrating to do something again and again without success? Do you get annoyed if you ask your sibling to stop doing something and they don't? Do you get frustrated if you practice and practice but don't get it right? Ezekiel spoke to the people again and again. He warned them a lot, but they were stubborn. But God still called him to warn the people. We can learn two things from this. One: God doesn't always call us to missions that will be successful in the world's eyes, but we should go anyway. Two: When God is telling us to do something, we don't want stubborn hearts. We want to respond in obedience like Ezekiel did. We want our response to God to be, "Yes, I will obey, anytime, any place, anything."

Memorize

And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them. Ezekiel 2:5