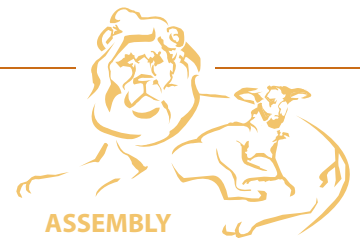


# GOD HAD MERCY ON ISRAEL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: EXODUS 33-34



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### IDOLS OF THE HEART

Explain to the children that idols can be anything we love or worship instead of God. Some people make idols out of gold or stone. They worship these instead of God. Other people have idols in their hearts. Idols in our hearts are things we love more than God. Children, like adults, often have things that they want more than God: a new bicycle, the latest toy, or sometimes things like a television show, a movie, or a computer game can be more important to us than God.

Read the following short stories (or come up with illustrations of your own) then see if the children can tell you what the idol is.

- Mary's friend asked her to come out and play dolls. Mary wanted to go play with her friend very much. She asked her mom if she could go out and play. When her mom said no, Mary became very angry with her mother. What is Mary's idol?

(Mary wanted to play with her friend more than she wanted to obey God who says honor your father and mother. Mary chose her friend over God.)

- John loves football. He loves to watch the game on Sunday with his dad. He jumps up and shouts and raises his hands when his team scores a touchdown. When he is at church on Sunday he can't wait till he gets home to watch the game. When football season is over John is sad. John does not like to worship. He doesn't think he sings very well so he doesn't like to sing. He doesn't like to raise his hands in worship because they get tired. What is John's idol?

(There is nothing wrong with sports but John likes football more than he likes to worship the Lord. He doesn't complain about raising his hands to cheer during the game but he does complain about worshipping the Lord. Football is John's idol.)

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### LOOKING AT THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS

**Supplies:**

Flannel graph set

On the left half of a flannel graph show a man kneeling in repentance and a lamb sacrificed on an altar. On the right half of the flannel graph, illustrate Jesus on the cross and another man kneeling in repentance. Explain to the children that God used the animal sacrifices in Old Testament times to point to a day when He would send His Son, Jesus, to die to take the punishment for our sin.

## Where Is Jesus?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Moses once again mediated between God and Israel. As a result of Moses speaking on behalf of the people, God agreed to continue with them and have His presence go with them. Moses however was not sinless. As a sinner, his role was limited. He could not take away the sins of Israel; he could only stay God's judgment for a while. If it were not for Jesus, the better mediator of the New Covenant, God's eternal judgment would eventually fall upon every person who has sinned, with no way of escape.

