



MIRIAM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: NUMBERS 12

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

LESSON IDEAS

MEMORIZE PSALM 139:4

"Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord."

Take time to help the children memorize this verse and help them connect it to the story of Miriam.

WHO DO WE COMPLAIN ABOUT?

Ask the children to share where we struggle with the same sins that Miriam and Aaron did. Ask them who we are tempted to complain about. Some might say their parents or brothers and sisters. Explain to the children how important it is to remember that God hears all their words. He even knows what is in their hearts before it is spoken.

Share the gospel with the children. The only way for us to be free from the same sin of Aaron and Miriam is for the Lord to change our hearts. This is possible because Jesus died that we might be free from sin. We will all make mistakes but Jesus took the punishment for all our sin.

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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.

Full of pride, Miriam opposed Moses and was struck with leprosy. Aaron appealed to Moses, and Moses in turn cried out to the Lord. As before, the Lord heard the mediation of Moses and offered healing to Miriam after seven days outside the camp. Moses acted as a type of Christ, standing in the gap before God. In addition, Moses modeled a humility more than any other man on earth (see Numbers 12:3). Moses' humility points to the humility of Christ. Moses did not speak out when insulted, but instead interceded for his sister. Jesus did not return insult for insult but instead, interceded for those who spoke against Him.

Moses could offer no payment for Miriam's sin. Instead he appealed to the mercy of God. God's mercy was made possible through the work of the Christ who was yet to come. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross paid for Miriam's sin and made it possible for Miriam to be welcomed back into camp.

