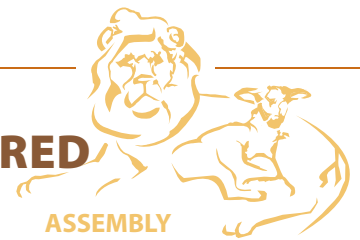


THE GOD OF ISRAEL CANNOT BE CAPTURED

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: I SAMUEL 4 - 6



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

LESSON IDEAS

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

Read Deuteronomy 5:7-8 to the children and ask them how God's command applies to this story.

Work with the children to help them to memorize: You shall have no other gods before Me. (Deuteronomy 5:7)

FELT BOARD

Tell the story of Dagon's temple using the felt board.

DAGON FALLING

Supplies:

wooden blocks

Using wooden blocks, have the kids make a rectangular pile of blocks for the ark and a tower of blocks to represent Dagon. When they are finished, have one boy represent the power of God. Have him knock down the tower of blocks. Have a group of 4 or 5 children pretend to be the Philistines. They should act amazed but also fearful.

Explain to the children why we should fear God and not assume He will help us. God wants people to call out to him.

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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.

The ark of the covenant was where the presence of God fell and represented God's presence among His people.

Because Jesus died on the cross for our sins, God's presence is now in the hearts of those who believe, see Ephesians 1:13-14. Because Jesus paid the penalty for all our sin, nothing can take away God's presence in the life of a believer, see Romans 8:38-39. Now we are the ark of God!

After the ark of God returned Samuel mediated before the Lord for Israel. Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it to the Lord. Even as he did so, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. The Lord thundered a mighty sound against them and threw them into confusion and Israel routed them (1 Samuel 7:3-11). Once again we see the sacrifice of a lamb casting a shadow forward toward Jesus.

