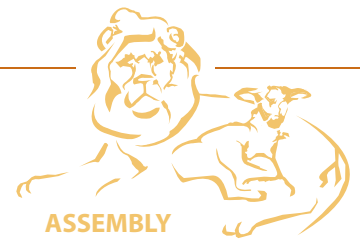


THE ARK OF GOD IS HOLY

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II SAMUEL 6:1-8



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

LESSON IDEAS

THE PROCESSION OF THE ARK

Supplies:

- make up an ark out of an old copy paper box wrapped in gold wrapping paper
- skateboard or another wheeled toy for the cart

Use the ark on the skateboard to reenact the Israelites' procession. Two of the children can play the oxen and another can play the parts of Uzzah and Ahio. The rest of the class can be given tambourines and other instruments to celebrate with.

Give Uzzah his cue to touch the ark and have him reach out to steady it. He should then fall to the ground and pretend to die. At that point the skit is over.

Explain to the class that God had given special instructions for moving the ark. Read Numbers 4:15. Talk with them about sin, God's holiness and how Jesus died to take away the sins of the world.

WHAT IS IN THE BOX?

Supplies:

make cut-outs of the items that were placed in the ark, jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant (refer to Hebrews 9:4 for what the ark contained)

Pull the cut out representations out of a box or bag at random and see if the class can guess their names and purpose. See if the children know what they are. Teach them why each of the items is important and why God wanted to keep them before the people.

- The tablets – Represented God's rule and law
- The manna – Represented God's provision for his people
- The staff – Represented God's mercy to provide a priesthood to intercede on behalf of Israel

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.

David celebrated the return of the ark because it represented the presence of the Lord. In fact the cover of the ark is call the atonement cover. This pointed forward to Jesus. Now that Jesus has come He has made the final atonement for the sins of men. Now there is a new dwelling place for God – in the hearts of men. In a sense, every Christian is a living ark. The presence of God is in us!

