

Theme-Choosing to be content and not to complain
Materials Needed- None Needed

AHAB-The Complainer

Lesson Objectives

- 1. The main objective of this lesson is that the child learn to identify the sin of covetousness in Ahab's life.**
- 2. The child should be able to answer factual questions regarding the lesson during the review time.**
- 3. The child should be able recite the verse from memory to be said the next week, with no more than three helps.**

INTRODUCTION

Boys and girls, please turn in your Bibles to 1 Kings 21. Have any of you ever wanted something that belonged to someone else? Sometimes we may see a bike or a scooter that another kid down the street has and we want it!! What about the nice rooms that our friends have? My room is not that nice! Similar things may go through our minds. Each of us has something that we have wanted at some time in our lives and have not been able to get. Today, we are going to learn about Ahab, a greedy king that just would not be satisfied with what he had.

MTS-You must be content with what God has given you.

LESSON PASSAGE: I KINGS 21:1-14

- I. Background
 - A. Ahab
 1. Ahab was a wicked king that was constantly against fighting against God.
 2. He had a wife named Jezebel.
 - B. Naboth
 1. Naboth was a Jezreelite.
 2. Naboth owned a fine vineyard.-(Explain vineyards and importance in that day.)
 3. Naboth did not want to sell his vineyard to Ahab.
- II. Ahab's Attitude-vs. 4
 - A. Ahab went home and complained to Jezebel.
 - B. He dwelt on what he didn't have instead of being thankful for what he did have.
 - C. He sought attention to get his own way.- vs. 4
 - D. He wanted something that was not his. He coveted.- Exodus 20:17

Again, you must be content with what God has given you.
- III. The Results of Ahab's Attitude and Covetousness
 - A. The wickedness of Jezebel was given an opportunity to do evil. – vs. 9-10
 - B. Naboth was murdered for a false reason. This was wicked sin. – vs. 13
 - C. Judgment was to follow. But God said that because Ahab humbled himself, He would spare the judgment till Ahab's next generation.- vs. 29

- D. The worst thing of all is that God was displeased.
- IV. Application to Students
- A. Discontentment and complaining are displeasing to God. - Give example of the Israelites that complained in the wilderness. It “displeased” the Lord.
- B. Ahab’s bad attitude affected others. Jezebel responded wrongly and sinned wickedly.- We must have an attitude that is pleasing to God even when things do not go our way.
- C. Ahab’s attitude affected Naboth in that he was killed for his vineyard. –Your sin not only affects us but those around us too. When you have bad attitudes or lie, others are affected. They are hurt or tend to have a bad attitude too.
- D. **You must be content with what God has given you.**–Our selfishness is unkind to others and displeasing to God. Our lives are not about us, but are about serving God and others.

Challenge to Unsaved Children- We have seen throughout this lesson the sin of Ahab and judgment for the sin. We are just like Ahab. We have sinned and must be punished. Our sin has separated us from God, and we cannot be allowed into Heaven when we die. God loved you so much that He sent His son to die on the cross to take your sins away. You must accept Jesus’ sacrifice as your way to Heaven. Going to Heaven is only possible because of what Jesus has done for you. All you need to do is believe this in your heart, ask God to forgive you of your sins, and trust Him as your Savior.

Romans 10:9 “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

Challenge to Saved Children- So how can we apply the story of Ahab to our lives? As we go throughout life, there are going to be things that we want but cannot have. In these times, we must choose to focus on God and what He has given us. When we do not get what we want, we need to respond in a way that would be pleasing to God. He wants us to have an attitude of gratitude and not a pouty lip attitude. When we get our focus on ourselves, we are saying, “Everybody! Look at me. I’m mad and I want you to know it.” This is unkind to others and God is not happy. What should we do if someone wins a game and we don’t, or if someone gets something for Christmas that we wanted; what should we do? What should you do when you get discontent about things? What are some things that you are thankful for? This week, let us try to remember the story of Ahab and remember how to respond when we are tempted to get focused on what we do not have!!

PRAYER

VERSE TIME- Philippians 2:14 “Do all things without murmurings and disputings:”

TEACH VERSE- Teach the verse by writing it on the board and having the children read through it several times together out loud. Talk with the children about what the verse means. Then have the students take turns telling you which word to take out. Each time a word is taken out, say the verse together again. At the end have the children say the verse by themselves.

EVALUATION

1. The student is able to answer the factual questions about the lesson to show his understanding of the material.
2. The student is able to recite the verse from memory with no more than 3 helps.

REFERENCE SOURCES- Online Bible Computer Program, Teaching Bible Notes,