

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY

CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K&K)

Misc. Lesson #6

DATE:

Unit Title: God Cares for Us

SUBJECT: God Protects the Boy Joash (Unit 1, Lesson 4)

SCRIPTURE: 2 Kings 11:1-12; 2 Chron. 22:10-23:11

AIM:

Bible Truth Aim: To discover that God protected Joash.

Life Responses Aim: To thank God for the people who take care of me.

MEMORY VERSES: "Casting ²all your ^{3b}anxiety on Him because ⁴it matters to Him concerning you." 1 Peter 5:7;

Or Eph. 5:20; 1Thes. 1:2; Psalms 107:1

Note:

Be sensitive to broken homes. Broken homes affect many children in today's world. Be sensitive to your pupils and their home situations. This is a good time to stress the care of loving adults who are not parents. In today's story, Joash lived with his aunt and uncle.

Introduction:

Use this time to talk about kings. Before today's Bible story, help the children understand the terms "king and crown". Long ago kings had power and people had to obey their commands. Use some time to talk about neighborhood helpers.

Community helper

Discuss how grownups care for children by talking about neighborhood helpers. Talk about each helper with the children and encourage the children to act out what these various helpers do. You may want to pretend with them that they are parent. Pretend you are parents. You can do things your parents did for you when you were a baby. Let them make suggestions. You may rock the baby to lullaby music, carry him quietly to his crib, or may, when the baby wakes, put her in the stroller and take her out for a ride.

Contents:

God gave most of us parents to take care of us when we were babies. Today's Bible's story is about a baby who did not have parents to care for him. Open your Bible to 2 Kings 11.

Long, long ago Baby Joash lay asleep in his bed. Beside him sat his nurse. She took care of baby Joash.

Suddenly, the baby's aunt ran into the room. "Come quickly," she cried to the nurse. "The soldiers are coming" "We must save this baby's life." The aunt picked up the baby and hurried out of the room.

The nurse ran after her, wondering what could have happened.

They ran out of the house, across the lawn, and into God's temple. The aunt led the way to a room far back inside the big building.

The aunt took baby Joash and his nurse into this room and closed the door. "Hide here with the baby till I come again," she said. "The wicked queen wants to get rid of this little prince so he won't grow up and become king."

Then the nurse understood why they had hurried. She was glad God had sent the kind aunt to save little Joash! She loved the baby too. She would hide him until it was safe for them to come out again.

After the soldiers had gone away, the aunt came back to see if Joash was safe. She was thankful God had helped her protect the baby! She knew God was taking care of Joash.

Little Joash grew to be a big boy, and the wicked queen didn't know he was alive. Because she didn't love God, she didn't come to the temple. And so Joash was quite safe and happy. His kind aunt and uncle were like a father and mother to him. They taught him about God and about God's people.

When Joash was seven years old, his uncle said to him, "The people are tired of having the wicked queen tell them what to do. They'll be glad when they find that God has saved your life. They will want you to be their king."

Then the uncle told a few important people that the boy prince was safe. They were glad to hear about him. They wanted him to be their king. The uncle told some other people about the boy. They were glad and wanted Joash to be their king too. The uncle told many soldiers and some priests. They were all glad.

One day the soldiers and priests and many of God's people came to the big temple. The uncle brought Joash out where all the soldiers and other people could see him. The people wanted to clap their hands and blow their trumpets and shout. But they waited till the uncle brought out a beautiful crown. This crown was worn only by kings and queens. He placed the crown on Joash's head. Joash was king!

Then the people clapped their hands They shouted! They blew their trumpets! They were glad they now had a king who loved God!

Play out the story:

We make a crown and a trumpets

If you play that you are Joash, what will you need as a king? Yes, a crown. And the people will need trumpets to blow at the right time.

Show the children how to make trumpets with their hands held to their mouths. Or, if you have accumulated paper towel rolls, distribute them to the children to be used as trumpets.

Crowning the king

Play only the last part of the story and repeat it many times. Designate an elevated place where a child pretending to be Joash may stand (possibly a stool with newspaper on it). The other children may be

the people and a teacher the uncle.

Everyone is quiet until after the crown is placed on Joash's head with the dramatic announcement, "Joash is king!" Then everyone claps and blows pretend trumpets. Choose another child to be Joash. With each new Joash, include comments such as "Here is a boy only seven years old. But he loves God. Do you want him for your king? Vary the words of introduction before each crowning, stressing the good character of this boy king. How even a young boy can obey God, how he was kept safe by God, etc.

Application:

God Takes care of us – Our goal is to help the children thank God for the people who take care of us. Ask them who some people who take care of them are. (Baby-sitters, grandma, children's meeting teachers, policemen, firemen, uncles, parents (of course), etc.) Pray briefly to thank God for these adults who love and care for us. You may want to play out some scenes with them showing how these adults care for children. You may have some personal experience of how God has cared for you through others, or some real life stories that apply to today's lesson.

Craft:

Make crowns of construction paper and decorate them with stars and stickers. Use paper towel tubes (if you can get some) for trumpets and play out the "crowning of Joash".

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