

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

We can place our trust in God.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that a godly life begins with trusting God.

KEY PASSAGE:

2 Kings 4:1-7, The Widow's Oil

MEMORY VERSE:

*"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the person who goes to him for safety."
Psalm 34:8 (NIV)*

SUMMARY:

The poor widow's sons were going to be taken from her to pay her debt. Elisha told her to get every container she had and fill it with oil. The widow said she only had a little oil, but she trusted Elisha and did what he said. She ended up pouring oil into every jar she could find and had enough to pay her debt.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Fill our bowl with trust for You.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



MEMORY VERSE

*“Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.”
Psalm 34:8 (NIV)*

*“Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the person who goes to him for safety.”
Psalm 34:8 (NIRV)*

LARGE GROUP:

Have all the fifth/sixth graders (whatever the oldest age in the room may be) read the verse first. Then add the next grade down and repeat. Add the next grade down, and repeat. Keep repeating until everyone is reading together.

SMALL GROUP:

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.



SKIT

COOKIN' WITH THE WIDOW

ITEMS NEEDED:

A Biblical costume for Madelyn

A small jar

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

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CHARACTERS:

Guy - A TV chef

Madelyn - A widow

Guy enters.

GUY: Hey everybody, I'm TV chef Guy, and we're rolling out. We're traveling the pages of the Bible looking for the Ingredients of a Godly Life! Our journey starts right here, in the book of Second Kings, at the home of a widow woman and her young sons.

Madelyn enters carrying a jar of olive oil.

MADELYN: Oh, hello there, stranger.

GUY: Hello, widow woman!

MADELYN: The name is Madelyn.

GUY: Say, Madelyn, is that the olive oil I keep hearing about that you make?

MADELYN: Well, it's not much.

Guy dips his finger in the jar and tastes the oil.

GUY: Mmmm, wow, that's good oil.

Guy holds his fist out for a fist bump.

SKIT

GUY: Fist bump? No? We don't do that in Second Kings?

MADELYN: I'm not sure.

GUY: Madelyn, can you tell my friends here what the secret ingredient is to this oil.

MADELYN: There's no secret ingredient. It's just oil.

GUY: And trust!

MADELYN: Trust?

GUY: That's right. Madelyn uses a big bowl of trust to make this oil.

MADELYN: I do?

GUY: Madelyn was poor, and she was about to lose her sons because she could not pay her debts. But then a man of God named Elisha told her to trust him.

MADELYN: He told me to get as many jars as I could and start pouring oil into each of them. I only had a small jar with just a little oil in it, but when I trusted that man of God, I started to fill every single jar! I filled enough jars to sell the oil and make money to keep my sons!

GUY: And all because of what ingredient?

MADELYN: I guess you're right. It was trust.

GUY: A godly life starts with a big bowl of trust. Just take it from my friend Madelyn here.

MADELYN: No, don't take it from me. Get your own!

GUY: Good idea. Get your own bowl, and fill it with trust. You'll be on your way to a godly life! Thanks, Maddy!

Guy exits.

MADELYN: Who was that guy?



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

Cereal

Bananas

A bowl

How many of you start each day with a bowl of cereal? How many of you eat the same cereal every day? If you want to add a little excitement to your cereal, you can by adding another healthy ingredient – fruit! The next time you go to the pantry and see that box of Cheerios, grab a banana or some strawberries or some blueberries. Add that fruit to your cereal, and you'll add some extra flavor and nutrition.

A godly life starts with a bowl of trust. Just as breakfast is the most important meal of the day, we need trust to help us stay true to God and to the Bible. Trust will get each day started on the right foot, and trust will keep us following the path God wants us to follow.

A godly life begins with a bowl of trust. Trust God, and He will never lead you astray!



LARGE GROUP GAME

PING PONG BOWLS

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two large metal mixing bowls
Ping-pong balls in a bucket

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two teams of two, and have the partners stand across from each other several feet apart. Place the bucket of balls between two opposing players, and give their teammates the bowls. The teams will race to see who can get three balls into their mixing bowl first by having one team-mate bounce the balls off the floor and into the bowl. The team member with the bowl can move to the ball, but they must be careful not to spill any balls they've already caught. First team to five wins.

VARIATION:

This can also be a timed game, with one team of two racing to try and get 5-8 balls into the bowl in 60 seconds or less.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

The first ingredient to a godly life is a bowl of trust.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

We can place our trust in God.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that a godly life begins with trusting God.

KEY PASSAGE:

2 Kings 4:1-7, The Widow's Oil

INTRO:

How many of you have parents who cook at home? How many of you have already started cooking with them? For some people cooking is just another chore, but for many, cooking is a great deal of fun. Many men and women and kids LOVE to cook. Cooking at home is a wise choice because it's usually healthier than eating out, but it's also a great way to show love to friends and family. When you cook something special at home, it means a great deal to the people who pull up a chair at the dining table to enjoy your hard work. They know you put a lot of thought and effort into the meal, and that alone can make a home cooked meal more tasty than even the finest restaurant meal!

Sometimes you'll hear people say that the secret ingredient in home cooking is "love." Love is not something you keep on a spice rack or can scoop with a measuring cup, but there's definitely love in every home cooked meal. It's in every bowl, on every plate, and in every scoop. Over the next eight weeks we'll be looking at eight "invisible" ingredients that we all need to have a godly life. Just as a bit of flour, a bit of warm water, some yeast, and some oil will make a loaf of bread, these ingredients combine in our hearts to make us disciples of Christ.

We're going to pull out a big bowl for our first ingredient today, because it's an important one. If you look at most recipes, you'll see that the ingredient lists start with the one item you need the most of, and that's exactly the case today. Our first ingredient is trust, and it's critical we have a big bowl of trust if we want to live a godly life.

God asks us for a lot of trust. He wants us to trust that He is the One true God, and He wants us to trust the Bible to be our recipe book for life.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

God often asks us to step out and show how much we trust Him, and as we will see in today's scripture, when we show that we trust God, God will reward that trust with unexpected blessings.

READ 2 KINGS 4:1-7

MAIN POINT:

You have to feel sorry for the widow in this story. She's in debt. She has no money, and nothing she can sell to make money. She's been through many hardships already, and now, if she can't pay some of her debts, she's going to lose her sons!

Elisha tells the woman to get some jars together. He tells her to pour what little oil she has left into all those jars. The first jar fills up. Then the second. Then the third. One by one, the oil fills each jar, and the oil doesn't run out. The woman fills enough jars, she is able to sell the oil and keep her sons.

The widow had no reason to believe what Elisha told her would work. She knew how much oil was left in that first jar. How was she supposed to fill all those other jars? It took a miracle to save the woman's sons, and God gave her a miracle. He did it because she trusted God. God wants us to trust Him as well so that like the widow, we can live a godly life.

DRIVE IT HOME:

When I read the story of the widow and the oil aloud, some of you may have remembered another story that comes later in the Bible. It's the story of a young boy who packed a box lunch to go hear Jesus preach. A crowd of 5000 people came to hear Jesus preach, and when Jesus decided to feed the people, the boy offered up his five loaves of bread and two fish. Like the widow with the oil, the boy knew he did not have enough food for so many people. But he trusted Jesus, and Jesus did a miracle.

God wants us to put our trust in Him, just like the widow, and just like the boy with the lunch. He gave us a book filled with stories like these so that we might believe that He is who He claims to be. God wants us to read these stories, to be filled with faith, and to place our trust in Him.

God has a plan for all of our lives. He wants first and foremost to save us from sin, and He wants us to have a relationship with Him through His Son Jesus. God can use us with our bowls of trust to be a witness to the world. When people look at us, they will see people who believe, just like the widow, and just like the boy. They will see enough in the story of our life to pour a bowl of trust for themselves. Then they too can discover a godly life.

Trust is the first ingredient to a godly life.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Without trust, we might never take the first step following God. We might never have the faith to open the Bible and see where God wants to lead us. Trust that God is God. Trust that Jesus is God's Son. Trust the Bible to reveal God and what God's plan is. Trust God to lead you, and you will never go astray.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Fill our bowl with trust for You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

Soup or cereal: what's your favorite meal in a bowl?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Psalm 34:8

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of charades by putting some words or names of things in a bowl and having each kid pull one word out of the bowl to act out for the group.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 2 Kings 4:1-7

What was the widow's problem?

What did Elisha tell her to do?

What happened when the widow did what Elisha asked?

Why did the widow trust Elisha?

Why is it important to trust God?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to trust You and Your Word.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

Soup or cereal: what's your favorite meal in a bowl?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Psalm 34:8

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of charades by putting some words or names of things in a bowl and having each kid pull one word out of the bowl to act out for the group.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 2 Kings 4:1-7

What did Elisha tell the widow to do?

Why did the widow trust Elisha?

How did God reward her trust?

Why is it important to trust God?

How can we become people who trust God more?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to trust You and Your Word.

In Jesus' name,

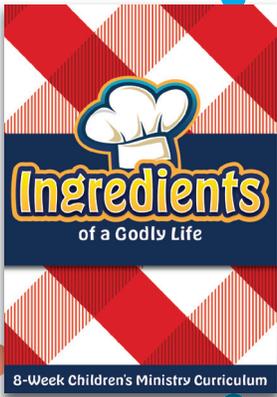
Amen



POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The widow was afraid that _____.
A. she and her sons would starve to death
B. her sons would be sold as slaves*
C. her sons would go to jail
2. The widow needed advice, so she went to _____.
A. the king
B. her creditors
C. a prophet named Elisha*
3. Elisha told the woman to ask her neighbors for _____.
A. empty jars*
B. money
C. oil
4. When the woman started pouring oil into other jars, she _____.
A. ran out of oil
B. ran out of jars*
C. ran out of time
5. The first ingredient to a godly life is a _____.
A. bowl of oil
B. jar of oil
C. bowl of trust*



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Ingredients of a Godly Life Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: A BOWL OF TRUST



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

The poor widow's sons were going to be taken from her to pay her debt. Elisha told her to get every container she had and fill it with oil. The widow said she only had a little oil, but she trusted Elisha and did what he said. She ended up pouring oil into every jar she could find and had enough to pay her debt. 2 Kings 4:1-7, The Widow's Oil



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Let your kids help with the cooking one night. When you pull out a mixing bowl, ask them to tell you the first ingredient to a godly life.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- How did the widow show she trusted God?
- What did God do to reward her trust?
- Why do we need to trust God?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the person who goes to him for safety."
Psalm 34:8 (NIRV)



PARENT TIME:

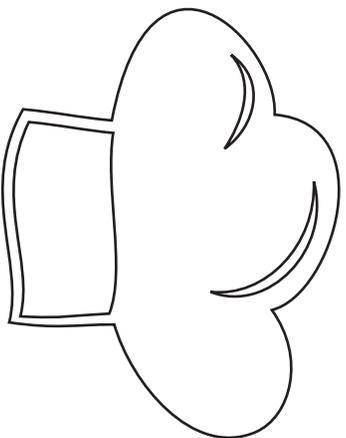
What you need to know:

A godly life begins with trust. God wants us to trust Him and trust His Word. Encourage your kids to spend some time reading the Bible and praying for trust this week.

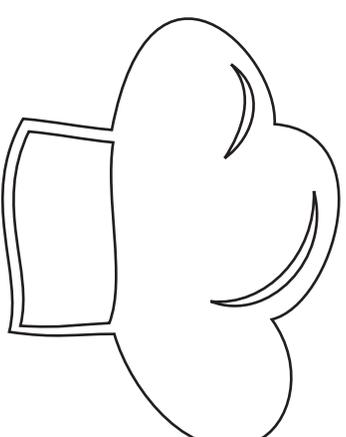


SNACK ACTIVITY

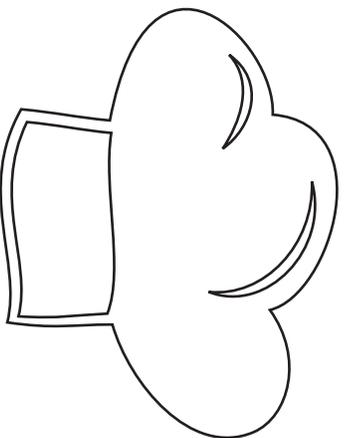
Let the kids mix up a baggie of cereal and fruit to take home and eat for breakfast. Encourage them to share this week's lesson with their family when they eat their cereal.



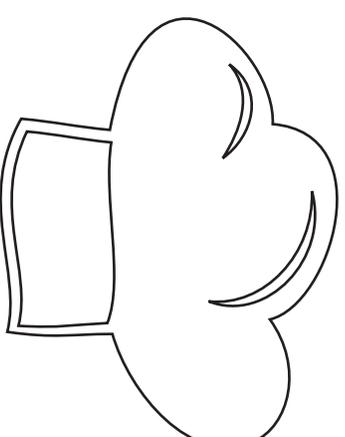
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is the person who goes to him for safety."
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