



May 14

Aching Sinned

Large Group

Big Picture Question: How does God feel about sin? God hates sin and punishes sin.

Bible Passage: Joshua 7

Christ Connection: Joshua was a representation of Christ, leading the Israelites to victory in overcoming Canaan as Jesus leads us to victory in overcoming the world.

Room will be decorated with flags or banners, like ones used in battle. It will be decorated with stone type walls that resemble a fort.

Countdown

The countdown video will be showing as kids arrive. It is set to end as Large Group time begins.

Introduce the Session (2 minutes)

[Large Group Leader enters looking sad.]

Leader: “Hey, everyone. How are you? I’m sad. My brother did something that really hurt me. My brother stole my favorite, best, most amazing, awesome, totally cool coin given to me by my grandfather. It was a special present for my birthday last year. I wanted to bring it to show you, but I couldn’t find it anywhere. It was missing. I searched. I hunted. I looked everywhere. Finally, my brother confessed that he had taken it and lost it. It really hurt my feelings that he would take something from me. Do you have something special you would be sad to lose?”

“Have any of you ever been hurt because someone else sinned? You have. Was it hard to forgive that person? Yes, I know what you mean. It was really hard to forgive my brother, but I did. Still, I’m just a little sad that it happened. Did you know that your sin could hurt someone else? Yes. The Israelites learned that lesson and some others in today’s Bible story.”

“Before we look at our timeline map, we need to stand up and march a little. We didn’t practice our marching last week, so let’s practice today. Everyone stand up and follow me. Left, left, left, right, left. Left, left, left, right, left. Good marching! Everyone can have a seat again.”

Timeline (1 minute)

Leader: “Our time here at this old fort has been a lot of fun. Who remembers one of the Bible stories we have heard the last two weeks? Good. God stopped the water in the Jordan River so the Israelites could cross. They built a memorial of 12 stones to remember how God had saved and sustained them.”

“Next, the Israelites conquered the city of Jericho. What did God tell the Israelites to do after the walls fell down? Right! God instructed the Israelites to put some things in the treasury of the Lord and to destroy everything else. Today we are going to hear what happened to the Israelites after the battle of Jericho.”

Big Picture Question (1 minute)

Leader: “Our big picture question is, *How does God feel about sin?* I need one volunteer to tell me what you think.”

Call on one kid to provide an answer.

Leader: “That is a good answer. We are going to look at our Bible story to find the answer to our big picture question.”

Bible story Video (9 minutes)

Show the Bible story video “*Achan Sinned.*”

Leader: “Achan’s sin had serious consequences. He died because of his sin. Sin is breaking God’s laws. Our big picture question is, How does God feel about sin? The answer is, God hates sin and punishes sin. Because God is holy, He cannot be around sin. Because He is just, He cannot allow sin to occur without consequences. Sin has a price. The price is that sin separates us from God. God wants His people to obey Him. He wants them to be holy because He is holy.”

“Sin can also affect other people. The Israelites suffered because of Achan’s sin. They went into battle, but God did not fight for them because of Achan’s sin. Men died because of Achan’s sin. Sin is always serious and always has consequences.”

“Did you notice that Achan thought he could hide his sin? He thought no one would know about the items he took because he hid them. Do we ever try to hide our sin? Sometimes, but God always knows about our sin. When we sin, we should confess it to God and seek His forgiveness. Trying to hide that we’ve sinned never helps.”

Key Passage (4 minutes)

Leader: “Our key passage is a reminder of the covenant God made with the Israelites. They could choose to follow God and receive all the promises and blessings He promised, or they could refuse to follow God and receive none of His blessings. Do I have a volunteer who would like to say the key passage for the group?”

Sing (4 minutes)

Leader: “Our God is worthy of our praise. We can trust Him to help us, provide for us, and guide us. Join me in singing our theme song. Remember that God will be with us. We can choose to follow Him and obey His commands.”

Sing “Our God.”

Key Passage:

“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15

Prayer (2 minutes)

Leader: *“How does God feel about sin? God hates sin and punishes sin. The story of Achan is a sad story. Achan knew God’s commands about the city of Jericho, but he chose to sin. Sin always has consequences. We can learn from the story of Achan. It is a reminder to us that our sin not only affect us, but it can affect other people too.”*

“God is serious about sin, and He is serious about forgiveness. If we ask Him for forgiveness, He will freely give it to us. We may still have consequences for our sin, but we are forgiven. God is so serious about forgiveness that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross in our place. We can be forgiven when we confess our sin and trust Jesus as our Savior and Lord.”

“If you have any questions about becoming a Christian or being forgiven for your sin, please come talk to me or another one of the teachers in our room.”

“After I pray, watch your small group leader for the signal for you to march to your small group.”

Close in prayer.

Dismiss to Small Groups