Preschool–Grade 6

Job Trusts God

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: I can love God and trust Him, even on sad days.
Bible passage: Job 1–2 and Job 42. Read them yourself before class.
Memory verse: "blessed be the name of the LORD." *Job 1:21 (KJV)*
You need: a Bible, toy animals or animal pictures (two sheep, two camels, two oxen and two donkeys, optional), crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Job 1:21.

1. Opening game: Happy Face, Sad Face (5 minutes)

Say something happy, like "It's your birthday!", and the kids make a big happy face and clap. Say something sad, like "Your ice cream fell on the ground!", and they make a sad face. Do a few of each. Say: "We have happy days and sad days. Today we will hear a true story about a man named Job. He loved God on happy days, and he still loved God on sad days!"

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Job 1. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Job loved God. He did what was right (Job 1:1). *(Point up.)*
Job had lots and lots of animals: sheep, camels, oxen and donkeys (1:3). *(Say "Baa!")*
One day, very sad things happened. Job's animals were all gone (1:14–17). *(Make a sad face.)*
Job was very, very sad (2:13). *(Rub your eyes like you are crying.)*
But Job still loved God. He bowed down and worshipped God (1:20). *(Bow down low.)*
Job said, "Blessed be the name of the LORD!" (1:21) *(Raise your hands high.)*
Say it with me: "I can love God on sad days!"

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The story continues:
Then Job got sick. He had sore spots all over (2:7). *(Pat your arms.)*
Job's three friends came. They sat with him for a long time (2:11, 2:13). *(Sit down.)*
Job prayed for his friends (42:10). *(Fold your hands.)*
God turned Job's sad days around (42:10). *(Turn around in a circle.)*
God gave Job twice as much as before: two times as many animals (42:10, 42:12)! *(Hold up two fingers.)*
Say it with me: "God takes care of me!"

3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Did Job still love God when sad things happened? *(Yes! He bowed down and worshipped, Job 1:20)*
2. Who did Job pray for? *(His friends, 42:10)*
3. How much did God give Job at the end? *(Twice as much! 42:10)* Hold up two fingers!

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Blessed be the name of the LORD." Explain: "**Blessed be** means we praise Him." Teach the motions: raise both hands high and wave them for "blessed be," then point up for "the name of the LORD." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a big voice. Then say "Job 1:21" and clap two times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you, on happy days and on sad days! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

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6. Activity: Twice as Many (5–10 minutes)

Put out one toy sheep, one camel, one ox and one donkey (or one picture of each). Say: "Job had lots of animals." Then add a second one of each kind, and count together: "One sheep, two sheep! God gave Job twice as many!" Then give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw two sheep, or two of any of Job's animals. While they color, ask: "Who takes care of you? Can you love God on sad days?"

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for taking care of me.
I love You on happy days and sad days.
In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving and let every child do the motions. If they get wiggly, play Happy Face, Sad Face again. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

Left out on purpose: this lesson does not tell about Satan (Job 1:6–12; 2:1–7), that Job's children died (1:18–19), that his servants were killed (1:15–17), what Job's wife said (2:9), or the long talks in chapters 3–41. Read Job 1–2 and Job 42 yourself before class. If a child asks why sad things happen, say: "Sometimes sad things happen. God loves us, and we can pray to Him and trust Him, like Job did."

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