

MAIN POINT:

Follow God: He Knows Best

MEMORY VERSE:

"I will guide you and teach you the way you should go. I will give you good advice and watch over you."
Psalm 32:8

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

Solomon turned away from God and worshipped false gods. God was angry and He told Solomon the kingdom would be split into two. God also said His royal official, Jeroboam, would rule over Israel, and Solomon's son Rehoboam would only get part of the kingdom (one tribe). Jeroboam hid in Egypt because Solomon got angry that he would be king. When Solomon died, all of Israel came together to make Rehoboam their king. When Jeroboam heard that Solomon had died, he returned from Egypt. The Israelites told Rehoboam that Solomon had made them work very hard. They wanted him to make the work easier. They promised if he did this, they would serve him as king.

Rehoboam sent all of the people away so he could think about it. Rehoboam asked his father's advisers/elders what he should do. They told him to give the people what they wanted because they would always serve him if they did. Rehoboam also asked the young men who were his friends what he should do. They said that the people should work harder. Three days later, the people came back with Jeroboam and asked Rehoboam what his decision was. Rehoboam said that he was going to make their work harder! The people didn't want to follow him anymore because he refused to listen. Instead, they made Jeroboam their king just like God had told Solomon. Rehoboam only ruled over the tribe of Judah. Rehoboam didn't listen to the good advice from the elders and he lost most of the kingdom. God told Rehoboam's grandfather, King David, that if his sons and listened and followed God: He Knows Best, his family would rule over Israel forever. But since they didn't listen to God, they didn't get to.

WATCH IT:

Find the lesson video on our website: <https://cchurch.ca/childrens-online>

Continued on next page →

DO IT → WATER BOTTLE PRESSURE

Supplies:

- Water-bottle (1 per child)
- Ketchup packet (1 per child)
- Coloured sharpies (1 per child)

Activity Instructions:

- Have children remove the label off their water bottle.
- On the blank side of the ketchup packet have them draw a stick man.
- Place the ketchup packet inside the water bottle. (Dump out a bit of water to leave some air in the bottle.)
- Seal the water bottle.
- Gently squeeze the sides of the bottle. The ketchup packet will move down. Let go and it will float back up.
- Children can continue to decorate their water bottle as desired with the sharpies.

The Point

When we try to do things in our own strength (like have a problem, issue we are facing, relationship that isn't going well), we hold things tightly and we try to solve it with human thinking (squeeze bottle and ketchup packet goes down). We go to people who give us bad advice, we really don't go to God who knows best.

But when we let go and seek God through the Bible and prayer, we can let go and not control things (ketchup packet goes up to the top of the bottle). God will give us wisdom in how to solve the problem. We want to Follow God: He Knows Best. We can let go and He will lead us through whatever we are facing.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Do this section with your child while they are assembling their water bottle.

- 1. Have you ever listened to bad directions or bad advice? What happened?** *(the map on your parents phone told them to take a wrong turn and you went the wrong way or went to the wrong place. Your friend dared you to do something that wasn't safe and you got hurt.)*
- 2. We need to be careful who we get our advice from. How do you know if someone is able to give you good advice?** *(Older people have more life experience and have likely been through a similar situation as the one you're in. If they gave you good advice before, they are likely repeat good advice. If it is advice that points you to Jesus and lines up with the Bible. If they are caring for your safety and well-being.)*
- 3. We want to Follow God: He Knows Best. But we can't know what God wants us to do unless we're listening to Him! What are ways that God can talk/communicate with us?** *(Through the Bible, through Godly people like parents, grandparents or whoever brings you to church, through prayer.)*

Continued on next page →

Anything God wants us to do will be supported by what the Bible says. If you're unsure, ask a grown up for help/guidance. If it's a good thing, like being kind to others or follows other fruit of the spirit, it's never a bad thing to do!

FAMILY PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You that You know what is best for us. Thank you for your Word, the Bible, and how you speak to us through it. I pray that (child's name) will listen to your voice and follow your promises, commandments, and instructions. May they follow you and trust that YOU know what is best for their life. I pray that you will uphold them with your mighty right hand and that you fill them with joy and hope as they follow you. In Jesus' name, amen.

OFFERING:

Our offering for the months of July to September is going to a partner church in SE Asia to help farmers with micro-farming of chickens and frogs.