

GCG Sunday School - 11th February 2024

Lesson Outline



Lesson: The Golden Telephone.
Passage: 1 Kings 8:22-53
Big Idea: Thanks to Jesus, the Lord is faithful and just to hear prayer and forgive sin.
Main Aim: Trust in the Lord's promise to hear and forgive our sin through Jesus.

Please pray for the lesson preparation, that you and the children would be built up by God's word.

Unless you are at the Greenwich service, you will need to bring a **laptop/tablet** to play the videos and songs. If needed, Jonny can provide **a laptop and a Bluetooth speaker**. 😊

Additional resources: [GCG Sunday School Google Drive](#)

The Passage

Summary.

God kept his promises made to David - the temple has been built! 1 Kings 8:1-21

And so Solomon prays to the Lord:

1. You have kept your promises to David, so please keep keeping your promises. V22-30
 - a. (Listen to our prayers for forgiveness.)
2. 7 Times. If (when) sin happens. And we say truly sorry through the temple, please forgive! v31, v33, v35, v37, v41, v44, v46
3. (Like point 1) Because we are your people, please keep us as your people. v51-53

The Lord will listen and forgive Israel, provided there is repentance. (1 Kings 9:3)

For them then.

This looks a lot like Leviticus 26 (see week 13). This is a comfort (with a warning) for Israelites. The people will sin massively, but God will be open to listen and forgive as long as they repent. When they sin. They can still pray, the Lord will hear and forgive.

For us now.

1 John 1:8-9. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

God did this in the past through the temple, he does it now in an even bigger way through Jesus. Let's trust this and never take that for granted.

The Age Ranges

For CW (average age 4-5 years) and Greenwich (average age 6-7 years):

Prepare the lesson for **all ages**. Then prepare your leaders to divide into separate **Sailor** and **Officer** groups for **Heart & Hands** teaching.


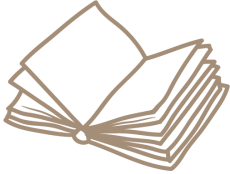



Sailors: Ages 3-7

Officers: Ages 8-11

Eltham (Sailors average age: 4-5 years, Officers average age: 7-8 years):

Personalise **all material** for the Sailors or Officers.

The Rough Format.

Get Going 3 min + song	Main Teaching ~15 mins	Heart & Hands ~20 mins	Land The Lesson ~10 mins	Extra Fun Time ~10 mins
				
Welcome & Pray Quick Recap Song	The Big Idea The Main Aim	Activities Discussion	Recap Memory Verse Pray to close.	Optional: Can go mid-session.

Outline Idea



Get Going

Welcome, Pray, Quick Recap & Song

Welcome the children - Connect briefly with the children.

- Ask them a fun question, showing we're interested in their lives.
- Then you could ask them a simple question which will connect loosely with the theme.
 - Sailors - [When we do something wrong to someone, what do we do/say?](#)
[Imagine if we couldn't talk to them, what would we do?](#)
[How bad would that be? \(Unresolved, undealt with hard feelings\)](#)
 - Officers - [Same - personalised for your Officers.](#)

Link: God keeps hearing prayers when people say we're sorry, even when we mess up.

Prayer

- Let's listen carefully to what God has to say to us today.



Very Speedy Recap - Scroll of time

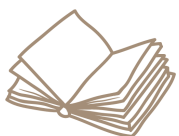
Last week's big idea: We saw that the Lord's true King was chosen by God.

Link: In today's passage, Solomon prays for God to keep his promise to David.

Song

Talk through the words and actions before singing, if needed.

- [Long Long Long Time Ago, link to follow.](#)



Main Teaching

Teaching the Big Idea & Main Aim.

Have a Bible open throughout for the children to see that we're teaching from God's word, and not from our heads. Try to get clearly and repeatedly to the Big Idea and Main Aim.

- Visual aid suggestion: Make a "crossroads tree" using pictures or whiteboard pens.

At each step, the sin gets worse. At each step, the Lord will hear them through the temple and forgive.

(But if you don't ask for forgiveness, then there will be a problem.)

- Lesson Points

Intro: The Lord had made promises to David.

Solomon, would build a temple and be the start of a long family of kings.

The temple is built. Solomon prays for the rest of the promise.

1. You have kept your promises to David, so please keep keeping your promises. V22-30
 - a. (Listen to our prayers for forgiveness.)
2. 7 Times. If (when) sin happens. And we say truly sorry through the temple, please forgive!

v31, v33, v35, v37, v41, v44, v46
3. (Like point 1) Because we are your people, please keep us as your people. V51-53
 - a. (By forgiving us)

The Lord will listen and forgive Israel, provided there is repentance. (1 Kings 9:3)

- Brief Application - Main aim expanded.

God is so generous.

He listened to Solomon and Israelite prayers through the temple and he forgave their sins.

Thanks to Jesus, he now listens to us, through him, and forgives ours sins too.

We can remember how good this is and be thankful.

- Sailors

*Explain the passage, asking questions along the way. **Keep it clear.***

Repeat the Big Idea and the Main Aim.

*Use the **lesson points above** with the **teaching images**.*

- Visual aid suggestion: Lay out the teaching images to make suggestion above.

- *Brief application - Main Aim expanded*

- Officers

*Interactive talk through the text. **Keep it clear.***

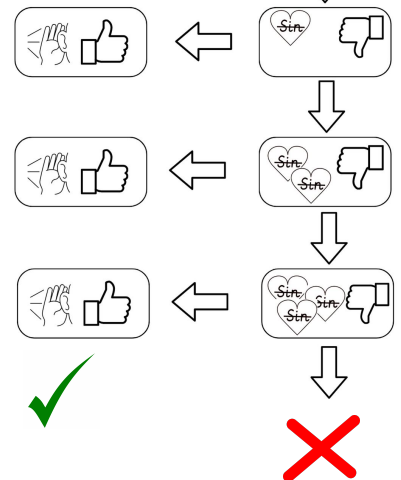
Repeat the Big Idea and the Main Aim.

Maybe act it out, or have them draw something, or shout out the best thing they see in the passage, make a puppet show using paper and card, go for a walk outside.

- *Use the **lesson points above**.*

- *Brief application - Main Aim expanded*

What would the temple do?



Heart and Hands

Think more about the Main Aim with: Activities and discussion.

Activities - Craft or worksheet

- Sailors - [Craft - Paper phone](#). The younger ones will need help.

The Israelites and we can talk to “call” God and he will hear, thanks to Jesus.

- Officers - [Worksheet](#)
- Extra games - In the GDrive.

If you finish craft early, you may want to play a game with the remaining time.

Discussion - What would it look like to believe the Main Aim?

Think through with the children what the Main Aim means for our lives.

- Talk through the Main Aim further.
 - Sailors - [Go further than Brief Application](#).

We can sometimes feel very sad about the bad things we’ve done.

But we can remember, that we can ask God for forgiveness, and he’ll hear us and forgive.

- Officers - [Go further than Brief Application, with questions to provoke thought](#).

We don’t have a temple. Jesus makes a way for us to pray to God.

When we sin, what’s the best thing we can do?

How can we be certain that God is listening?

How can we be certain that he’ll forgive?



Land the lesson

Bring everything together with: Recap, Memory Verse and Prayer.

Scroll of time update

- Remind them of the Big Idea and Main Aim.



Memory verse

“Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back.” Deuteronomy 30:4 (NIVUK)

[Ideas for learning the memory verse](#). I will provide the verse on laminated paper with Blu Tack.

- Sailors - **Song and actions are available here. (Sent on Whatsapp for now)**
- Officers - If capable, they can come up with a rap/ spoken word for the verse. They can repeat and improve it each week.

Pray

Encourage the children to pray with you about the Big Idea and Main Aim.

They could **thank/praise God** for it or **ask for help** in believing it.

- Sailors

You could ask for hands up/ thumbs up for those who would like to pray.

You could suggest “Popcorn prayers” - really short prayers. Or “Arrow prayers” - We all shoot up like an arrow at the end. Or you could try the idea we use with Officers.

- Officers

You could pass an object, like a Bible, around the room. When a child receives the Bible, they can choose to pray in their head or aloud.



Extra fun time.

An optional game, which can be played mid-session.

Game idea. Feel free to play something different!

- Sailors - [Chinese whispers.](#)
- Officers - [Same.](#)

Link: God always hears our prayers clearly.

Sign out with Take Home Sheets

- While signing out with Rollcall, Take Home sheets will be provided to carers and parents about the children's lesson.

Final notes

The following items will be printed for you and brought to the lesson:

- Main teaching pictures and materials.
- Activities: Sailors craft and Officers worksheets.
- Memory verse, laminated.
- Take Home Sheets.

Additional materials will be available:

- Craft materials.
- Pens, paper, glue, scissors.