

Names of God

Huddle 17: *Helper*



SETTING THE ATMOSPHERE

As children arrive, collect the “In” slips and see which grade they are in for their huddle teams. Remember to check all slips to make sure children are to be in Up & Out this hour.

Team Time

Each team leader (student leader) should spend time getting a conversation started within the team to find out more about each child. Spend time today discussing the following questions up front...

- What does it mean to be rescued? (*To be saved from danger*)
- Does anyone have a story about when someone rescued (or helped) you?
- What word does the Bible use to talk about our being rescued from sin? (*Salvation*)
- How is Jesus like our rescuer, or like our ‘life preserver’? (*When Jesus died on the cross, he took your sin and made a way back to be in right relationship with God if you trust in Him.*)

Huddle Teams

- 1st & 2nd grade girls
- 1st & 2nd grade boys
- 3rd & 4th grade girls
- 3rd & 4th grade boys

Opening Prayer

Leader prays for the group.

LESSON HUDDLE

Let’s all come over together and get started this morning. Good morning, Up & Out. Where we look up (pause for the group to respond) **TO GOD** and look out (Pause) **TO OTHERS**.

Have you ever been in a situation where you could really use some help? All throughout the Bible, we see that God is our Helper. He is a helper to people who are in need – and whether we realize it or not, we are all in need of someone to help us!

Who wants to share a time when they were really in need of someone to help them with something?

When God’s people, the Israelites, were escaping from slavery in Egypt, there came a time when they were in big need of some help – and God came to help them in a big way! After Pharaoh let them out of their slavery in Egypt, they left Egypt, taking everything they had on their way to a new

land that God had promised them, a place they could call home and live in freedom.

But it wasn't long until Pharaoh changed his mind about letting them go. "What have I done, letting all those Israelite slaves get away?" he asked himself (Exodus 14:5). He got in his chariot and took 600 of his best Egyptian soldiers to chase after the Israelites. Just when the Egyptians were about to catch up to them, the Israelites were coming up to a huge sea that they could not cross. Does anybody know what that sea was called? (*The Red Sea*)

As the Israelites looked one way, they saw this great sea they couldn't cross; when they looked the other way, there was Pharaoh and his army, chasing after them as angry as could be. To many of God's people, it seemed like they were trapped! They were unable to save themselves, and needed God to help them in a big way! One of the great things about our God is that He loves to help His people when they need Him. He delights in being our great Helper.

So as the Egyptians got closer, the LORD told Moses to pick up his staff and raise his hand over the sea. When he did this, a path of dry land opened right in the middle of the Red Sea for the Israelites to walk through. "So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side" until they were safe and sound (not to mention dry!) on the other side (Exod. 14:22). He closed the Red Sea behind the Israelites so that Pharaoh and his army couldn't catch them. What had at one point looked like a helpless situation was now a great victory for God's people because God helped them.

The Exodus is just one example out of hundreds from the Bible where God takes pleasure in helping His people. He wants to help you, too. Whenever you feel like there's nothing that you can do, or there's something scary happening – remember that God is our Helper. We can call on Him, because He loves to be a helper to those in need!

Huddle Up, Pray, & Break

ACTIVITY: God is our Helper

Materials:

- Blue construction paper
- Yellow construction paper
- Crayons/makers
- Glue sticks

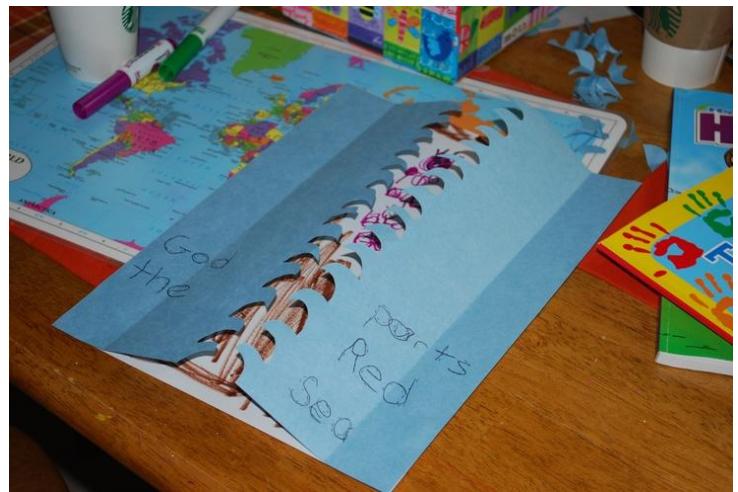
Instructions:

1. Using one of the methods seen in the pictures below, have the kids create a "sea" that parts in the middle to reveal the dry land underneath. They can decorate the sea and the dry land however they want. They can also add some of the Israelites walking across the dry land on the inside, if they would like.

2. On the front of the sea (when it is closed), the kids can reference Hebrews 13:6 (below) or, if they want it to be simpler, they can just write "God is our Helper".

That is why we can say with confidence,
"The Lord is my helper,
so I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?"

3. On the dry land on the inside of the paper, the kids can reference a verse in Exodus – 14:10, 14:13-14, 14:21-22, 14:29 or they can simply write "God parted the Red Sea" as a part of their decorations





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