

Names of God

Huddle 3 – *El Shaddai – God Almighty*



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 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...

Huddle Teams

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

- Last week we learned that God is Jehovah, Yahweh – Can you tell me what that means? (*“I am”*)
- Read Romans 11:34-36
 - What does this say about God? (*everything comes from Him*) He doesn’t need anything and gives us everything we have (*our food, our house, our family and friends*)!
 - What should our response to Him be? (*We should praise Him! Romans 11:36b*)
- Who remembers Abraham? Can anyone tell me about his story? (*Have the children share what they remember about Abraham. We will be learning more about him during our lesson today.*)

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**.

This week we are going to learn about another name for God. This name is El Shaddai. Can you say it with me? El Shaddai literally means God Almighty. You can also think of it as God is all powerful!

There are many times in the Bible where God does some pretty powerful things. Can you guys think of any? (*allow responses*) He led the Israelites from Egypt with a pillar of wind and a pillar of fire; He also split the Red Sea to create walls of water so that the Israelites could escape. He used a big fish to save Jonah and used a young boy your age to feed thousands of people! But before all of these powerful things happened, God taught us that He is God Almighty through a very faithful man named Abraham. Who can tell me what they know about Abraham? (*allow responses*)

Abraham and Sarah were very old and had not been able to have any children, but God promised Abraham that he would have as many descendants as the stars in the sky. God spoke to Abraham and said, "I am El-Shaddai – God Almighty. Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants." (Genesis 17:1-2) And guess what happened! When Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90, they had a son and named him Isaac.

God told Abraham that He is God Almighty – that He is our all-powerful God. And then He showed Abraham His power through the birth of Isaac. Nothing is too hard for our God!

This week, your challenge is to think about some of the most powerful things that you know. Maybe an animal that is really fast, a person you think is really strong, or a powerful thunderstorm. Then remember that God is so much more powerful than all of these things.

Huddle Up, Pray, & Break

ACTIVITY: Loaves and Fish Craft

Materials:

- Basket
- Loaves and Fish Cut-Outs
- Crayons/Markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Construction Paper/Cardstock

There are many times in the Bible where God shows His power. One occurs in Matthew 14:13-21. (*Read the story from the Bible*). That is an example of the power that Jesus has. He is God Almighty and nothing is too hard for Him. We are going to create our own loaves and fish basket to help us remember God's power.

1. Color and cut out each piece.
2. Glue the fish and loaves behind the basket in a random order.
3. Glue the whole thing onto a piece of construction paper or cardstock.
4. Have the kids write El Shaddai on the construction paper.

ACTIVITY: Wall-to-Wall

Materials:

- A room or field with sides

Directions:

1. Have the children stand in the middle of the room.

2. Explain that you will read a statement (examples below), and they will move to one side of the room or the other according to which “this or that” they believe is more powerful. As you read the statement, point to the side of the room for that selection.
3. Occasionally, pause and ask a child or two why they chose that answer.

Which do you believe is more powerful?

- Lion or bear
- Thunder or lightning
- Ant or centipede
- Batman or Spiderman
- Dog or cat
- Tiger or panther
- Wind or fire
- Winnie the Pooh or Tinkerbell
- God or everything else combined



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