

## Session 6

The sun stands still: God protects creation

Children discover another miracle and we revise all the miracles we heard about this year. All these miracles prove that God stays connected to his creation. The miracles involved all elements of creation and we end with an appropriate activity.

**Scripture:** Psalm 148, Psalm 136, Joshua 10

**Supplies:**

- A pack of cheap rubber bands
- Black cardboard and silver stars
- Gold dot stickers
- Summary of the miracles
- Orange, yellow or red paint and paper plates



**Welcome**

**Riddles:**

*What am I talking about?*

My mom has sheets she cannot fold... clouds

She has jewels that she cannot wear... stars

My brother has a ball he can't kick... moon

My sister has scarves you can't wear... rainbow

My dad has a light he cannot switch off... sun



**Worship**

Psalm 148 and 136

When the leader reads a verse, the children answer: "His love endures forever."

**Settle down ritual:** Play the sound clip (download it free from our website and play on a phone.)

Loud sounds

"Look left and look right, but don't be scared!" (*Show with movements*)

Thunder etc.

"Look up, look down, and don't be afraid." (*Show with movements*)

Music

"In front and behind you, above and below you, around you and inside you is God, the everlasting Lord." (*Turn around with your arms spread out.*)



## Word

*Use black A4 cardboard. Draw or paste a crescent moon on it. Give two children each a pack of golden or silver stars and ask them to stick it on the cardboard. Let them stick only one or two and then stop them. Tell them their time is up. Hopefully they'll ask for more time. Negotiate with them that they get more time, but first you want to tell them about the day Joshua didn't have enough time.*

*Show the rams' horn from last time. Remind the children of the great victory that Joshua and the Israelites had over Jericho.*

The news spread among kings from other cities and they became very scared. They all worshipped idols and knew that God was on Joshua's side. They thought they could win if they joined forces against Israel. One of the cities, Gibeon, had a peace treaty with Joshua. When the other kings heard about it, they were very angry and 5 of the kings came together to attack Gibeon.

Gibeon sent Joshua a message: "Don't let us down! Come help us. All the kings from the mountain areas are attacking us." Joshua took his brave warriors and left to help them. God said to him, "Don't be afraid; I have given you victory over them. Not one of them will beat you."

After an all-night march, Joshua and his army took them by surprise. God threw the 5 kings into a panic. They began retreating and God sent a terrible hailstorm.

Joshua saw that it would be very easy to chase away the kings and win, but there wasn't enough time. When it became dark, they would not be able to see where everyone was fleeing to and the enemy could return. Joshua asked God's help. He really believed that God would help him, so he called out: "Sun, stand still! Moon, stand still!" Immediately everything froze. The sun stood still halfway through the sky. The whole time they were fighting they could see the sun did not move for hours and hours, almost an entire day! Everyone was surprised. Never before that day or since then has God answered such a prayer. God made sure that Joshua won the war.

God made everything; the sun, moon, stars, the earth, the sea, everything that lives, everything we know of and don't know of yet. Only He can make the day last twice as long!

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder what you liked about this story.
2. I wonder what was important to you in this story.



## Working and Playing

- Creation activity: Use the activity from session 1 (Creation). Supply a list of God's miracles in this year's stories. Give the children golden stickers. Let them stick it in the appropriate section where miracles happened. For example, in the water or under the ground for the great flood, on the earth for Isaac's birth, etc. God shows that He is in charge of day and night, the sun, moon, stars and planets. We see in the stories of the Bible how God displays time and again that He is the true God.

### Summary of miracles:

- The flood in Noah's story
- Isaac's birth
- Joseph's dreams
- The ten plagues
- The pillar of cloud and fire
- The road through the Red Sea
- Manna and the birds

- Water from the rock
- The River Jordan drying up
- Jericho's walls falling down
- God sending a hail storm to chase off the kings
- Joshua gets an extra-long day to finish the war

**Another suggestion:**

- Paint a paper plate orange or yellow. Glue it to a large white piece of paper. Paint the child's hand and fingers and let them press it all around the "sun". The handprints will look like rays of sunshine.

**Closing prayer to end the session**

