

Session 6

Isaiah

Children learn about the prophet Isaiah

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

Supplies:

- Honey/syrup
- Copies of the colouring picture
- Paper and pencils to write letters to the church elders/school principal
- Copies of the “mouth” activity
- Small marshmallows
- Glue or icing sugar



Welcome

As the children arrive, put some honey/syrup on their lips but they aren't allowed to lick it. Sing a few songs together or play some welcome games, but remind them often that they aren't allowed to lick their lips. After some time let them put their lips together to see whose lips are the stickiest. Let everyone lick their lips and taste the sweetness and also experience how much easier it is to sing now. Sing a last song together.



Worship

Settle down ritual: Let the children close their eyes. Let them look at the dark and light patterns inside their eyelids. After 10 counts say in a quiet voice: “God’s light shines over all of us, whether it’s dark or light in our lives. Ask God to show you the dark things in your life and to help you get rid of them.” Wait a few more seconds and then close with “Amen”.



Word

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah was a prophet. He was one of the greater prophets of Judah (the Southern kingdom). He lived in Jerusalem and began prophesying in 740bC. He warned the people again and again that God would punish them for all their sins. He prophesied for 64 years.

All the warnings came true. If you remember well, the Northern kingdom was conquered by the Assyrians. The Southern kingdom was also in trouble. Even though they saw what happened to the Northern kingdom and even though God sent Isaiah to warn them, they just continued in their sinful ways.

Isaiah experienced how the ten tribes of Israel begged the other two tribes or Judah to help them, but they wouldn't.

God called Isaiah in a very special way to be a prophet. He allowed Isaiah to see a part of heaven. He saw God sitting on a throne with seraphs, special angels, singing around Him. When Isaiah saw how great and holy God is,

he became scared. There was a big problem. In verse 5 Isaiah says: “My words and the words of the people are not good.”

Isaiah immediately realized that he can never say God’s name again, and the people couldn’t either. They were too impure. No one had the right to speak about God, sing songs to Him, or to pray to Him.

One of the other greater prophets. Ezekiel, also experienced this. God sent him a vision where he ate the Word and it tasted like honey.

What are pure and impure words? Are they just bad and blasphemous words?

Yes, but it’s also more than that.

If you do well in a test or in sport, your words are impure if you say: “It is my own hard work that I did so well.” Or if you say: “It was just luck that I did so well.” Or if you say: “It’s because the stars were correctly aligned.”

Pure words are to thank God for giving you talents and skills. It is to honour Him for the opportunities you have to work hard and do your best.

If we want to keep our mouths pure, we need the Word of God on our lips. That means to speak properly about God, before God, and with God. That’s why we need to read the Word of God. Ask someone to help you read the Word if you struggle to do it or understand it sometimes. Then we can learn the words that we can use to praise God.

Teach them a piece of God’s Word, such as Psalm 136:1:

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.”

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder what things you say that are nice
2. I wonder what you say that hurt other people
3. I wonder what you will do to speak more words that make God happy



Working and Playing

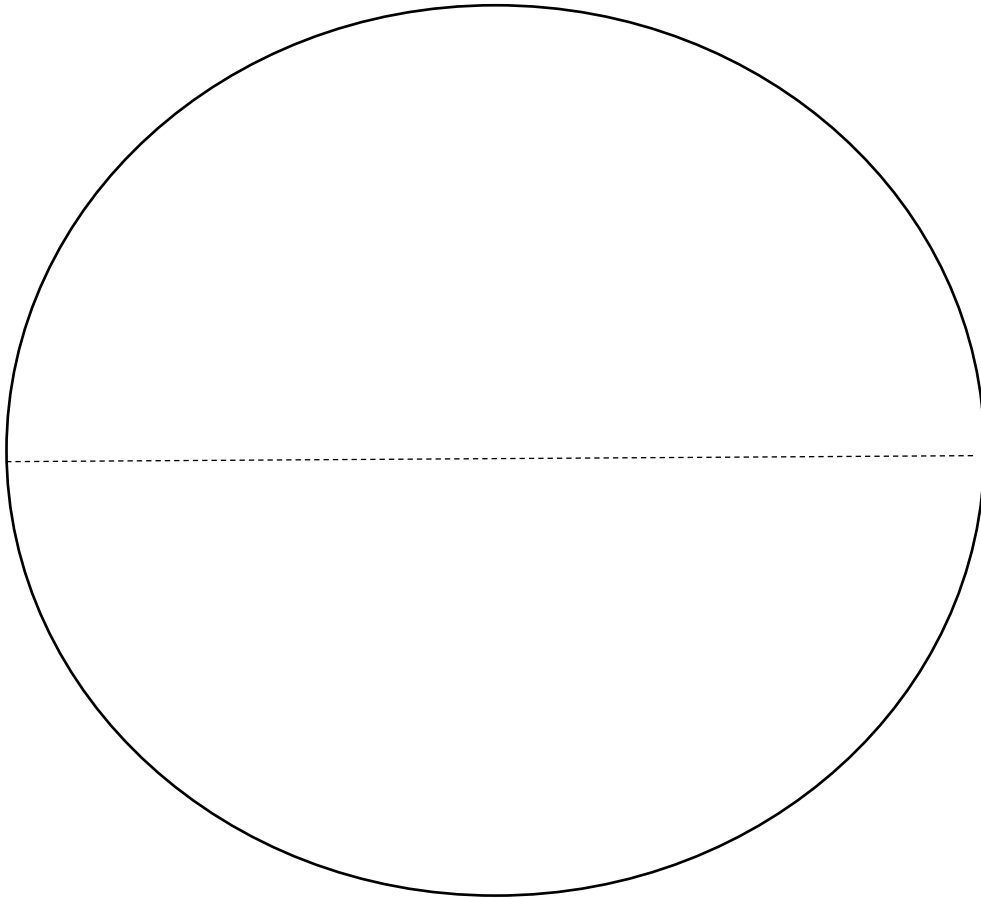
- Make a mouth from cardboard and marshmallows
- Put a bowl out with honey/syrup and let the children dip a finger in it and make their lips sticky again
- Give them a copy of the following cards on some paper and let them complete it. You can put them all together on a poster or display it somewhere.

Closing prayer to end the session

Lord, our lips become dirty very quickly because we say bad things. Help us to keep our lips clean and to always thank You and praise You. Amen.

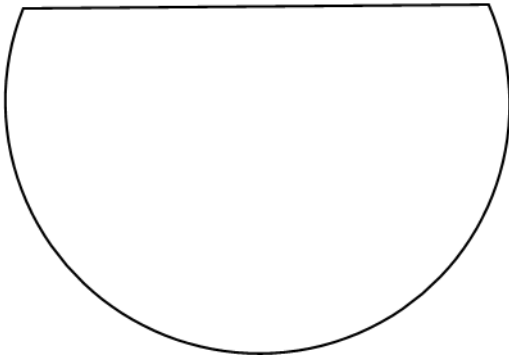
I will try not to.....

I will try to



1. Cut the circle out for a mouth

2. Fold it on the dotted line



3. Cut out the half-moon shape for a tongue and stick it below the dotted line. Then glue some small marshmallows as teeth to the bottom and top of the "mouth". It is safer to use icing sugar as glue for this.

