

Deborah

Materials

- 1 jingle bell for each student

Introduction

Have the children sit on the floor in a circle. Give each child a jingle bell to hold out of sight behind their backs.

Select one child to be "it." "It" comes to the center and covers his/her eyes.

Choose one child to ring his/her bell in a way that is not detectable to "it."

Then, with open eyes, "it" says "I'm listening." The designated child will ring the jingle bell. If "it" guesses the correct child within two tries, the two children change places. Play several times.

Ask: What did you have to do to discover who was making the noise?

Our Bible story today is about listening and doing. Let's see if you can discover who listened in the story and what they did.

Story

Today's story is in the book of Judges. Where is it found? (7th book of the OT) Judges is the part of the Old Testament called the Historical Books. The book tells the story of a time in Israel when there were no kings. God chose judges to be leaders and to lead the people back to God. The Israelites weren't very good at remembering God and living the way God wanted them to live.

Read the Judges Book Intro on page 260 in the Spark Bible. Then direct them to chapters 4 and 5 on pages 264-267. This is a story about a judge named Deborah and a military leader named Barak. The story has a lot of names of people and places that will not be familiar to us. Let's take turns reading verses from chapter 4. When you come to a name you don't know how to pronounce, just say the first letter of the name and keep reading

Next, read Judges 5:1-3, 9, 31.

Discussion questions:

- What did Deborah do? (She was a judge, sat under a palm tree, gave people messages from God, helped people, settled arguments, helped Barak win a war.)
- Who gave Deborah the wisdom to win the war? (God)
- What would you do if God asked you to lead people?
- Why did God appoint different people to lead His people?
- Why is it important for you to learn about this period in the Israelite history?
- How does this story point to Jesus?