

PLEASE AND THANK YOU

Memory Verse

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please God.

Central Thought

God is pleased with us when we believe He can and will do what we ask. He will bless us when He's pleased with us.

Bible Story

1 Kings 17:7-16 The Widow Makes Her Last Meal

MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please God.

Example:

A parent tells a child that he/she will go to Chuck E. Cheese next weekend. The child is excited because he/she believes his/her parent will take him/her to Chuck E. Cheese next weekend. The child says "Thank You" at the moment the parent says he/she will go. Why is the child excited? Why does the child say "Thank You." [He/She believes that the parent will take him/her to Chuck E. Cheese, just like the parent said. He/She didn't wait until next weekend to say "Thank You"].

What happens when your parents tell you "Yes" to something and then you keep asking over and over again? They said "Yes" once, so there's no need to continue asking. They want you to believe what they said the first time they said it.

Illustration:

- Have all the children stand up. Have all the children sit down.
- Did anyone wonder if the chair was going to fall apart before you sat down? [No. They just sat down].

You believed the chair was going to hold you up, so you sat down. Faith is believing in something without questioning it. God wants us to believe His Word without asking why or how or when.

REVIEW GAME

Materials: apple, blindfold

1. Blindfold 1 child.
2. Hide apple.
3. Give directions to the child to find the apple.

Because the child couldn't see, he/she had to trust (have faith) that I was giving the right directions. The Lord wants us to believe what He says the same way, even if we can't see it.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

I. Faith

A. Faith is simple and complete confidence and trust in God, even when we can't see any evidence.

1. confidence and trust = believe without asking questions.
2. evidence = clues or hints

B. In prayer, it means that we believe God can and will do what we ask, BEFORE He gives it to us.

II. Please and Thank You

A. "Please"

1. When we ask for something, we say "please."
2. Do we know we'll get what we ask for just because we say "please?"

B. "Thank You"

1. After we receive something, we say "thank you."
2. In prayer, faith is when we say "thank you" to God BEFORE He gives us what we've asked for.

C. "Thank You" = Actions

1. Mt 14:22-32
 - a. Peter asked Jesus if He could come out of the boat to Him. ("please")
 - b. Jesus said, "Come."
 - c. BEFORE Peter really knew it was Jesus, He stepped out of the boat and started walking on water. ("thank you")
2. 2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by FAITH, not by sight.
 - a. Peter stepped out of the boat in FAITH.
 - b. But, Peter saw the wind and he started to sink in the water.
Is Peter still in FAITH? [No].
 - c. Jesus catches Peter and says, "O you of LITTLE FAITH, why did you doubt?"
3. Illustration: When your mom says she will pick you up from daycare/school, do you believe her? Do you call her in the middle of the day to make sure she's still coming? ("thank you").

III. Growing Faith

A. Faith starts with believing what God says in His Word.

B. Faith is waiting until you receive what you prayed for, no matter how long it takes.

C. Faith is thinking on His Word while you wait.

1. Select a verse to pray, i.e., Ph 4:13, Ph 4:19
2. Model praying the scripture.

Dear God,

I pray for _____. Your Word says You will supply all of my needs according to your riches in Christ Jesus. So, I ask you for _____ and thank you before I receive it because I believe you will keep your Word.
In Jesus Name, Amen.

3. Allow children to repeat/practice various verses.