

Youth Teaching Resources

February 7, 2016



Transfiguration Sunday

Who Needs a King? — Psalm 99

Season of Lent (February 10-March 26)

Who Needs a Rescuer? — Psalm 91 (RCL 91:1-2, 9-16)

Who Needs a Light? — Psalm 27

Who Needs God? — Psalm 63 (RCL 63:1-8)

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Find links and videos related to this lesson.

Who Needs a King?

Psalm 99

YOUTH Teaching Guide

by Jeremy Colliver

This youth teaching outline is designed to support THE BIBLE LESSON by Tony Cartlege, printed in *Baptists Today*. You can subscribe to either the digital or print edition of *Baptists Today* to access the lessons. Please also ensure that each person in your class has a copy of *Baptists Today* so they can prepare before the lesson.

TEACHER PREPARATION: YOUTH AND THIS LESSON

Youth crave independence. How many times have you heard your students say, “I don’t need any help with that” or “My parents are always trying to get me to...”? Youth are trying to establish their own identity as they discover who they are. They do this, at times, by trying on different personalities. The catch is that youth still function well with structure and guidance. As developmentally they move from concrete thinking to more abstract thinking, youth will fall back into a safety net of concrete thinking where guidance is sought after. Remember this as you minister with your students; hold in tension providing structure and guidance with the freedom they desire.

TEACHING THE LESSON

Fellowship

Begin your session by challenging the students to list the 10 Commandments from memory. After you give them time to list them, show them the clip “Name Ten” from Prayer Stop. If you are unable to show the clip, summarize it to the best of your ability and then facilitate a discussion using the following:

- 1) Was this task more difficult than you thought it would be?
- 2) Was this task more difficult than it should have been?
- 3) Why do you think we can’t remember the 10 Commandments, but we make such a big deal about them?
- 4) Why do we make such a big deal about the 10 Commandments?
- 5) How does the law of God impact your life?

Information

Transition to the next section of the session by reading Psalm 99. Allow the students to ask any initial questions they have about the text. As you answer their questions, you may want to provide some of the information from THE BIBLE LESSON in *Baptists Today*.

When the students have had an opportunity to share their initial thoughts, continue the discussion by facilitating a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) What images of God does this psalm present to the reader? Which ones resonate most with you?

- 2) We hear “holy” throughout this psalm. What does “holy” mean to you? What do you think it meant to the Israelites? How does their understanding of holy, alter your hearing of this psalm?
- 3) Why is Jacob an interesting choice to relate the justice of God?
- 4) How does the psalmist show how long God has been blessing the people?
- 5) What was God’s gift to the people of Israel? How does this give the people even more freedom?

If your group would like to continue their discussion on this passage, share some of the insights provided in “Digging Deeper” (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide). You may want to use some questions like the following to facilitate your discussion:

- 1) Why do you believe the psalms to be so popular?
- 2) Why do you think the psalms emphasize a different aspect of God?
- 3) Where else in the Old Testament do the writers speak to social justice?

You may also want your group to discuss “The Hardest Question” (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide): In what way was God an “avenger” to Moses, Aaron, and Samuel?

Transformation

The psalmist lists Jacob, Moses, Aaron, and Samuel as people from the past that the people of Israel should hold up as people that followed the will of God. Challenge your students to list five people in their life that they look up to. When they have created their list, have them brainstorm the attributes that they value about each of these individuals and write them notes of thanks for the impact that they have had on their lives.

Close with a prayer thanking God for the law and the freedom that it gives us to live the life that Jesus has called us to live; that we might promote justice in the world around us.