

lesson 18

BIG IDEA Satan used many methods to stop the spread of the gospel and the church, but God had much bigger and better plans. KEY VERSES Matthew 16:18	MEMORY VERSE Matthew 16:18 "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
PREPARATION 8	MATERIALS •
 BIBLE LESSON Cast: Narrator only Props: six wooden blocks or bricks, three balls of clay or play dough 	 GAME Straws (one per child) Objects such as torn paper, cotton, pieces of cardboard
 CRAFT Yarn of various colors Plastic or cardboard circles pre-cut 6" diameter with 1" circle in center (two per child, see photo) Wiggly craft eyes Scraps of felt Glue Pipe Cleaners 	WORKSHEETS • Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)

BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

TIPS

Through the object less you will be stacking the bricks, three on the bottom, then two on the second level, with one on top forming a six brick pyramid. You may want to pre-mold some of the figures used in the lesson.

LESSON

Read Matthew 16:13-18. Repeat verse 18 as you place three bricks solidly in a horizontal line. "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall hot prevail against it."

Pick up a ball of dough and begin to mold a figure of a demon. As you mold the figure tell the story of how Satan tried to tempt Jesus in the wilderness (Matthew 4). Place the demon figure on the crack between two of the bricks you just placed. Take another brick and slam it down on the demon, "We all know that Jesus came to build his church, and the gates of hell can not stand against it.

Take another ball of dough and begin to mold a figure of a man. Tell the story of Judas betraying Jesus (John 13: 26-27). Explain that Satan often works with the sinful desires in our own lives to oppose the purposes of God. Place Judas on the second crack between the lower bricks, "Jesus betrayal of did result in the death of Jesus on the cross, but Jesus rose from the grave defeating sin and death. Remember, Jesus said, 'I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.'" Slam the fifth brick down on the Judas figure. You should now have a short wall of three foundation bricks and two brick in the second row.

Take another ball of dough and begin to mold a figure of a man. Tell the story of how Saul sought to stop the church by killing the Christians (Acts 22:3-17). Place the Saul figure on the crack between the top two bricks. "Saul tried to stop the building of the church, but Jesus knocked him down on the road to Damascus, blinding him. Remember, Jesus said, 'I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Pick up the sixth brick, peal the dough off and begin to remold the Saul figure. "But God did not kill Saul, he redeemed him. Jesus revealed himself to Saul and Saul understood and believed. The God called him to join the big job of building the church by spreading the news of Jesus to the world." Place the Paul figure up at the top of the pyramid of bricks.

BIBLE OBJECT LESSON (CONT.)

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"We are all sinners. Each of us is an enemy of Jesus because our sin fights against the purposes of God. But God does not want to smash us with a brick and leave us in our sin. He wants to redeem us like Saul and work in us and through us. Don't let sin win in your life, let God take over instead."

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How did Satan try to stop Jesus in the wilderness?
- 2. Did Satan win?
- 3. How did Satan use Judas to try to stop Jesus?
- 4. Jesus died, so did Satan win?
- 5. How did Satan use Saul to try to stop the spread of the gospel?
- 6. Saul killed a whole bunch of Christians, so did Satan win?
- 7. How does Satan try to stop God's work today?
- 8. Will Satan win?

SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- Limit the object lesson to the story about Saul/Paul.
- Squish clay between hands rather than using bricks.
- Ask 2-3 of the simpler discussion questions.

CRAFT & GAME

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• CRAFT •	
OBJECTIVE: POM POM ANIMALS Kids will make pom poms out of yarn and turn them into colorful animals.	MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM Scissors, hole punches, staplers MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM
 DIRECTIONS Place two circles together, wrap yarn around the circle until it goes around the entire ring Wrap a second color around the ring (optional) Slip scissors between the two circles on the outside and carefully cut the yarn all the way around the circle Take two 6" pieces of yarn, slip them between the circles and around the yarn in the middle. Tie together securely. Slip yarn out of circle and roll between hands to fluff into a round pompom Add eyes, ears, etc 	 Yarn of various colors Plastic or cardboard circles pre-cut 6" diameter with 1" circle in center (two per child, see photo) Wiggly craft eyes Scraps of felt Glue Pipe Cleaners

EXAMPLE





SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Use pre-made or purchased pompoms
- Pre-cut a variety of ear and nose shapes

CRAFT & GAME

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• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: TRANSPORT ITEMS USING STRAWS

Teams race to transport objects using only a straw and suction.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Straws (one per child)
- Objects such as torn paper, cotton, pieces of cardboard

INSTRUCTIONS

- Separate children into equal 2 teams. Line them up at one end of the play area.
- Place small objects in a pile across the room
- Kids race one at a time to retrieve an object using only a straw and suction from their mouths. They must bring the object back to their team before the next player can go.
- First team to send each player to retrieve an object wins.



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