



May 10th Elementary Family Lesson



Bible Story: What Not to Do (Matthew 23:1-3; 25-28)

Today's Takeaway: I want my heart to match what I say and do.

Series Verse: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." (James 1:2-3 NIV)

Weekly Verse: "God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God." (Matthew 5:8 NLT)

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be blessed?
(If you have a personal relationship with Jesus, you are forgiven of your sins and God's divine favor and protection cover you. You have hope no matter what happens because God will always be with you, and one day you will live with Him forever where no more bad or sad things will impact you.)
2. What does it mean to be pure of heart? *(It means that our thoughts and the intentions of our heart match what people see on the outside. It's not enough for us to do good things and seem like good people. God judges us by what's in our hearts, not by what can be seen with the human eye.)*
3. Do you sometimes do the right thing, but with the wrong attitude? How does that make you feel?
4. When you think about God seeing what's on the inside, does it make you want to change the way you think?
5. Have kids look up these verses and discuss them as a family.

1 Samuel 16:7, Psalm 51:10, Hebrews 10:22

Activity Ideas on Next Page:

1. Optical Illusions

What You Need:

- Optical Illusion Pictures (found after “Family Prayer” in this document)

What You Do:

- Look at each optical illusion together one at a time.
- Talk about what you see.
- Check the answers at the end.
- Talk about how the Pharisees that Jesus describe in Matthew 23 were like these optical illusions because they were not as they seemed.
- Then discuss that God does not want us to be like the optical illusions, but rather He wants who we are on the outside to match who we are on the inside. He knows that is what is best for us. He created us, so He knows what will bring us the most fulfillment and satisfaction. He knows that He created us for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When we look to Him and ask for His forgiveness and help, He fills us with those traits. He gives us a pure heart that can see Him clearly. When we let bad attitudes and actions (talk about the opposites of the fruit of the Spirit listed above...like hate, anger, sadness, confusion, etc.) come into our heads and hearts, we get weighed down and can't for the glory of God like He designed us to do.

2. Get the Junk Out

What You Need:

- Two bins or bowls or buckets of the same size that are filled an equal amount with rice or sand or beans or pebbles or salt or flour, etc.
- 5-10 Marbles or beans or pebbles or little pieces of paper or something like that (you could use little candies or cereal pieces or Goldfish and allow the kids to eat them in the end if you want) to mix into each bin to represent the sin or impurities that can get in our hearts and lives
- Two spoons or sets of chopsticks or tweezers or tongs

What You Do:

- Make sure you have the same amount of “impurities” in each bin of rice or whatever you chose.
- Have two participants play at a time.
- Have each participant stand/ sit in front of one of the bins, and give each one a spoon or whatever you chose to use.
- Talk about how God wants our hearts to be clean and pure because that means they are healthy. A healthy heart can love and enjoy God and others, but a dirty / unhealthy heart cannot. It is too weighed down and full of junk to live the full life that God desires for us.
- Tell the kids that the bin represents our hearts and that the spoon represents God's loving hands that are willingly to dig into our hearts and help us clean out the mess.
- When you say, “go” the participants should use their spoons to get all the impurities out of their bins as fast as they can. (Make sure to tell them how many impurities they need to get out).
- Whoever does it the fastest, WINS!

***If you want to talk a little deeper with your kids, discuss how sometimes when God is digging around in our hearts to remove sin or wrong attitudes, it can hurt or be uncomfortable, and sometimes it takes a while. God only acts in love towards us though, so we can trust that any pain or suffering He allows us to go through will lead to freedom and good if we keep our heart open to Him as He works. ***

***If you want to add more movement to this activity, set each bin about 10 feet away from each participant and have them run/ hop/ etc. to the bin, get out 1 impurity, run it back to their starting line, and then head back to the bin to get the next impurity. Continue like that until they have gotten all the impurities back at their starting line one at a time. ***

Family Prayer:

- Take a few minutes to pray as a family to wrap up your time together.

Optical Illusions



1. What do you see?

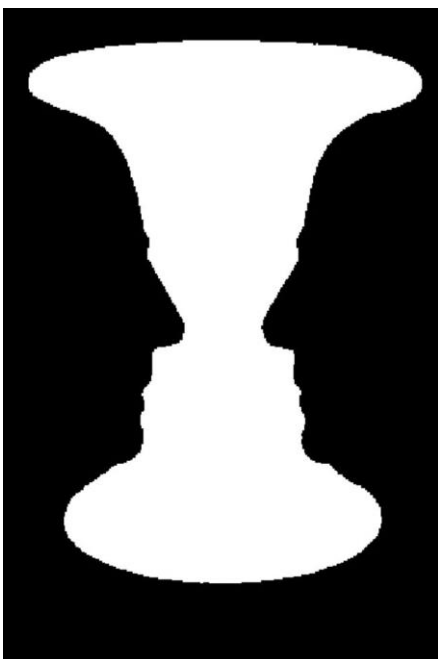
2. What do you see?



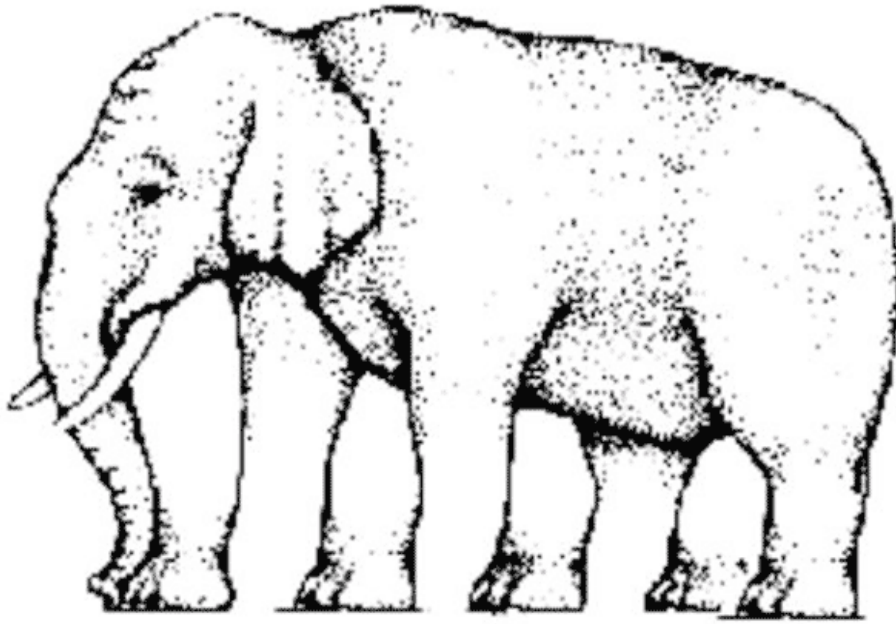
**CAN YOU FIND
THE MITSAKE HERE?**

1 2 3 4 5 6

3.

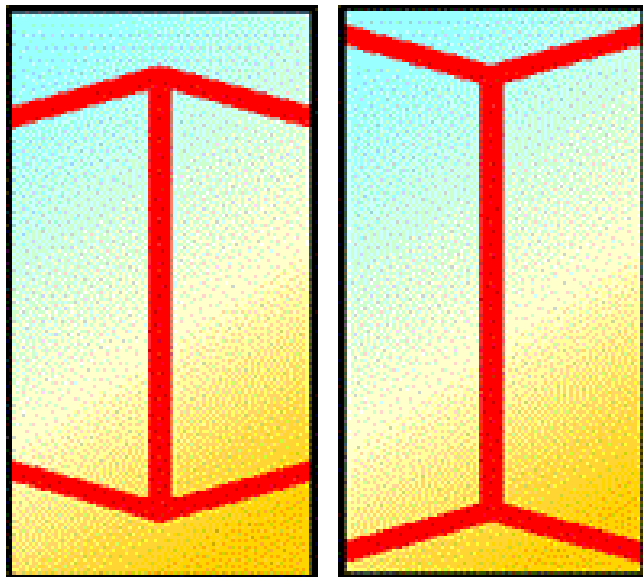


4. What do you see?



How many legs does
this elephant have?

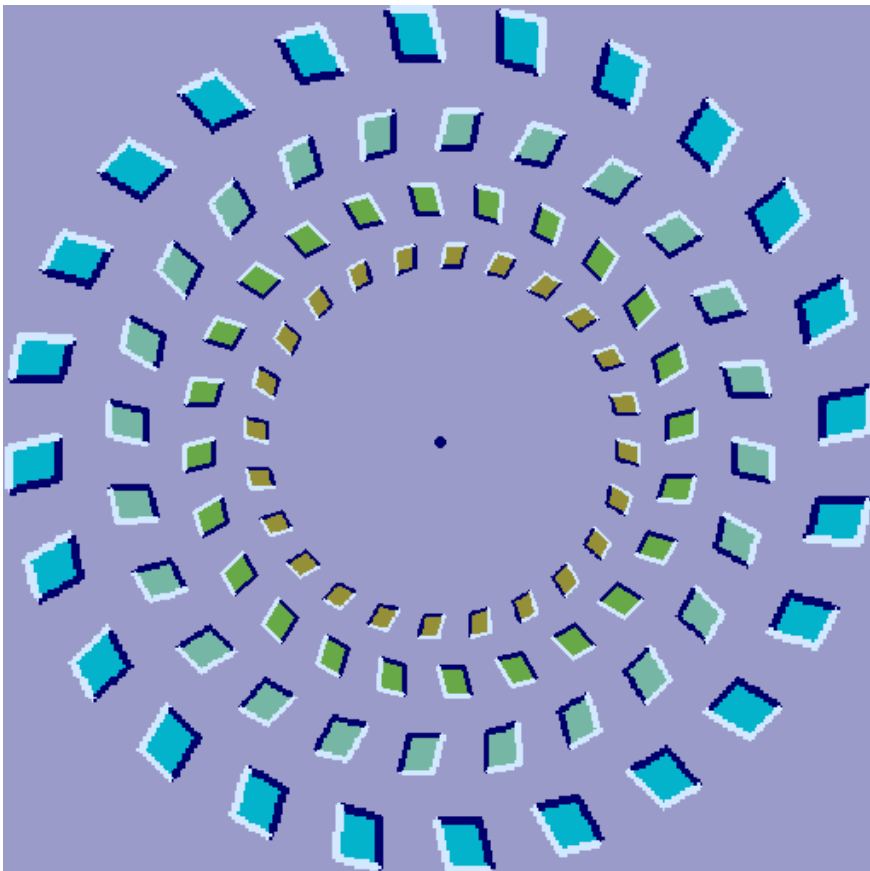
5.



6. Does one of the vertical lines look longer than the other?



7. What animal do you see?



8. Look at the dot in the middle. Then move your head forward and backward several times.



9. Stare at the 4 dots in the middle of this picture for 20 to 30 seconds. Then look at a blank wall. Who do you see?

Can you see "The Word"?

The answer is ...



Just look at "The Light", not the dark.

10.

Answers:

1. A young woman and an old lady 2. A musician and a ladies face 3. MITSAKE = MISTAKE 4. A vase or trophy and two men's profiles facing each other 5. Just 4 6. The vertical lines are the same length – use a ruler to measure them 7. Duck and a rabbit 8. Looks like the objects in the outside circles are moving 9. JESUS! 10. JESUS!

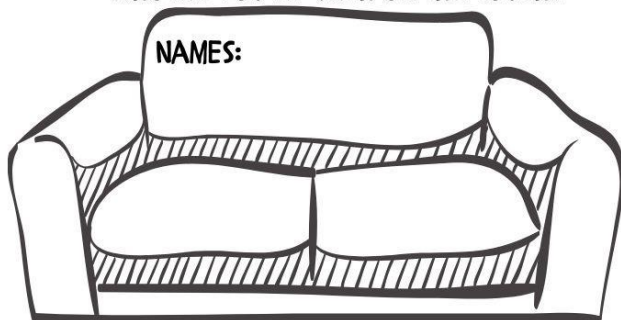
**** If you have a printer, the next page is for your kids to take notes while watching the online service... ****

• MONTH _____
 • DAY _____
 • YEAR _____

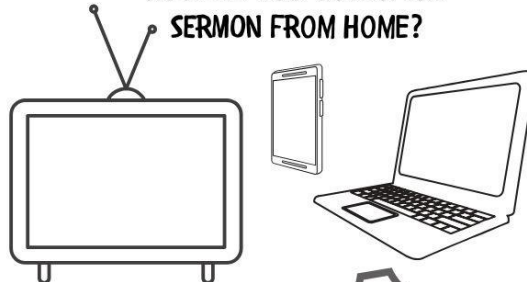
Sermon Notes From Home



WHO DID YOU SIT WITH ON THE COUCH?



HOW DID YOU WATCH THE
SERMON FROM HOME?



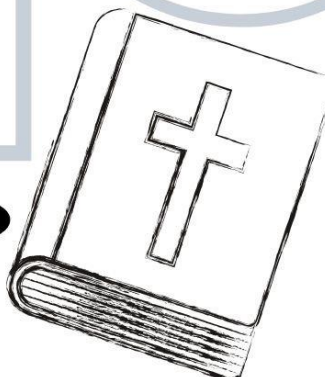
WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT CHURCH AT CHURCH?

IF YOU DIDN'T SIT ON THE COUCH, DRAW A PICTURE
OF HOW YOU VIEWED TODAY'S SERMON OR DRAW
A PICTURE OF WHO YOU WATCHED THE SERMON
WITH:

ARE YOU IN YOUR
JAMMIES OR CLOTHES??
DRAW A PICTURE:



TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE:



3 BIG
THINKS
FROM
TODAY'S
SERMON YOU
CAN ASK GOD
TO USE TO
GROW YOU
CLOSER TO
HIM:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

SOMETHING
SPECIFIC
THAT WAS
PRAYED FOR:

SOMETHING
SPECIFIC YOU
ARE PRAYING
FOR:

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT
CHURCH AT HOME?