Through the Bible Series: 
Esslesiastes

Book of Esslesiastes

Items Needed

✓ Bible with marked scripture
✓ Crayons/Pencils/Markers
✓ Copies of Word Trace
✓ Copies of Coloring Sheet
✓ Copies of Take Home Overview
Books of the Bible Series: Ecclesiastes

Objective of Lesson

The objective of this lesson and every lesson in this series is for our children to become familiar with the structure and order of the books of the Bible and point out how each book is written to specifically picture the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Scripture Reference

*Book of Ecclesiastes*

Lesson Instructions

1. For the last few weeks we have been learning the books of the Bible and what they are about. Can any of you name the books we have learned so far? *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms and Proverbs.* Today we are going to learn the twenty-first book of the Bible. That book is called Ecclesiastes. Can you find the very first chapter and verse and point to it for me?

2. The last lesson we learned about a book of the Bible called the Proverbs. You may remember that book was written by the wisest and smartest king who ever lived on the earth, and his name was King Solomon. Well, this is another
book that the wise King Solomon wrote. The last book was all about wisdom and we learned, that in the end, Christ is our wisdom. We don't need to worry about what we know because Christ knows everything and takes care of and provides all things for the salvation of His children.

3. This book of Ecclesiastes teaches us the difference between things that are “vain” and things that are not “vain.” Have you ever heard somebody use the word “vain” or “vanity”? In order to understand this book we first need to know what the word “vain” or “vanity” means. When something is described as “vain” or “vanity” means it does not have any worth. It is meaningless; it doesn't have anything of worth for you. It means the act or word or deed was useless and will not give any worthy result. It was a foolish or silly act and does not give you the outcome you wanted. When something is vain or vanity, it means that thing is not important and has no value.

4. Let's do a demonstration. Let's pretend someone is in the middle of a pool and they are in real trouble; they are drowning. (Have someone get in the middle of the room). Now I want everybody on the side to wave your arms at that person. Is what you are doing helping our drowning person? No, we are waving our arms in VAIN. Waving your arms at a drowning person doesn't really help them. It is of no value to them, because you aren’t really doing anything to help them.

5. What is the opposite of vain? It is something that IS valuable - something that does have meaning and does give you a worthy result and DOES give you the outcome you wanted. In the situation of our drowning swimmer, what would be something that would help them? What would be something that you could do that would NOT be vain? Throw them a life jacket? If you can swim you could jump in and get them, but just waving your arms at them is vanity! It doesn’t do anything for them.

6. Let's think about another demonstration. Let’s name off some of the things you all have on your wish list... Car? Doll? Sweets? Money? Pretty dresses?
Big house? To be famous? Whatever you wish for, let’s pretend you got it. Then one day the Lord says it is time for you to leave the earth and you die. All that stuff that you wished for, where does it go? Can you take it with you when you die? Can those things save your soul? No, only Christ can save your soul. We know that. All that wishing and working and hoping for all those things you wanted only exist in this world! Does that make them worthless? Yes, because IN the end when the Lord required your spirit, those things were useless. It was a foolish pursuit and ended up not being important at all!!!!

7. That is exactly the lesson this book teaches us. ALL things, everything you can see and wish for on this earth, are vanity. It is worthless. In the end it will not save your soul and it will not pay for your sins against the almighty and sovereign God, in whom you have to stand in front of one day and give account for everything you have done.

8. What is the opposite of vanity? CHRIST! How is Christ the opposite of vanity? This book tells us...According to Ecclesiastes 3:17, God judges those that are good and those that are wicked, and the good ones are only those for whom Christ died. If you rely on and strive to have and to know Christ, is this vain? NO! It is the opposite of vain! It is the only thing that is NOT vain! All things in this world are going to pass away but Christ and what He did and the people He died for will stand together with Christ forever, and it will never go away.

9. This book teaches us that trying to get the things you find in this world - the money, the fame, the toys... is not only vanity, because it does not really make you happy in the end, but it all disappears! Christ is forever!! This world is full of disappointments and heartache, but all of those examples of disappointments and vain things described in Ecclesiastes have their remedy in Christ. He is the only thing that is opposite of vain.

10. NOTHING Christ does is vain. Did Christ die for a people who are not really saved? No, because that would make Christ’s death in vain. That means His
death didn’t really give His people salvation from their sins! Remember vanity is something that is done and ends up being worthless and of no value. Christ and His work in saving His people is not vanity! All those for whom Christ died SHALL be saved! (1 Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Galatians 2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.)

11. One last thing, I want you to read. Can any of you read this verse to me? (If not read it out loud) This verse right here sums up this WHOLE book. See if you can find Ecclesiastes 12:13: “Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” What is God’s commandment to men? Believe on His Son Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. (Matthew 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also;...)

Lesson Activities

• Coloring Sheet
• Word Trace Sheet

Truth For Children: Through the Bible Series: Ecclesiastes © 2012
Take Home Lesson Overview

Through the Bible Series: Ecclesiastes

Scripture Reference:

*Book of Ecclesiastes*

Lesson Overview:

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make you happy in the end, and because it all disappears! Christ is forever!! This world is full of disappointments and heartache, but all of those disappointments and vain things described in Ecclesiastes that are of this world have their remedy in Christ. He is the only thing that is opposite of vanity. NOTHING Christ does is vain. Did Christ die for people who are not really saved? No, because that would make Christ’s death in vain. That means His death didn’t really give His people salvation from their sins! Remember if something is done and it does not have worth, then it is called “Vain”. Christ and His work in saving His people is not vanity! All those for whom Christ died SHALL be saved! (1 Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Galatians 2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.)