

THE GOD WHO SEES

“You are the God Who sees”.
Genesis 16:13

by Dalene Russell

Summary:

“If I cannot see God, how can He see me?” Many children do not know the answer to this question. The Biblical story of Hagar is a great illustration to point out that God looks from heaven and sees every little detail about our lives. This lesson shows that God sees us: He is indeed the Light of the world! His light removes all darkness.

- We are building a core belief that God is everywhere and sees everything; that He is and wants to be intimately involved in our lives.

Topics:

- God is aware of our every move.
- He watches over us.
- His love will always find us.

What you need:

Bibles for the story of Hagar.

Card boxes. (Pre-cut one sections 3”x9”, the other section 3”X12”. Overlay sections on the second 3” square; staple or glue together like a big cross.

One larger box made of see-through hard plastic.

Two sets of smaller cards (1”X2” and 1’X3”)

Pens or crayons

A flash light

TEACHING

Introduction:

When things don't go the way we want them to go, we often feel alone and full of fear. We imagine the worst and say things like, "Nobody loves me and nobody cares".

- *Ask the children if they have ever been in this kind of a situation; ask if anyone would want to share an experience. Explain how such an experience can grow into a wrong perception of who God is and who He wants to be for them.*

Many people live like they are in Hagar's desert; they live without having an expectation that someone sees them or hears them.

- *Show pictures of remote deserts. Ask the children if they can imagine what it must have felt like for Hagar to be there.*
 - *Liken this desert to a dark remote place.*
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MEMORY VERSE:

- *Display Genesis 16:13.*
- *In your own words, tell the story of Hagar from Genesis 16:1-14.*
- *This is the story of a frightened young woman who thought she was going to die and then discovered that God was watching over her.*

BIBLE LESSON:

Highlight the main sections:

Hagar was not in a position to choose her home.

- *Explain that we cannot choose where we live, God puts us in the places of His choosing which always sees the bigger picture. Sketch the picture of Abram's wealth and Hagar's favor with Sarai.*

She made a bad choice

- *She forgot who she was and who she belonged to.*

Our actions have consequences

- *Our choices have consequences. It is nice to blame others when things go wrong but we are in charge of our emotions and our actions.*
- *Take two glasses of clean water, with a dropper with a dark fluid in the one. Remind the children that is what happens when we make bad choices; we become dark on the inside.*
- *Fear, bitterness, envy, anger, accepting lies about who we are are examples of darkness on the inside.*

God's love will always find you

- *It is God's desire that we experience His comfort, nearness and His love.*
- *His love is like a light beam that shines in the darkest corners to find the treasures, and we are those treasures.*
- *Demonstrate with a light beam how you can see into hidden places.*

God demonstrated His love by giving her an assignment

- *We want God to do everything but He wants to partner WITH us.*
- *We grow into strong children of God when we learn to do what He says.*

ACTIVITY:

Today we are going to make a little dark and lonely place and imagine living in it.

- *Assist the children to make boxes from the cut-outs, let them guess what we are going to put inside it.*
- *When done, give each a smaller card to write their names on.*
- *Place these names in the box, seal with tape.*

Ask if anyone has ever "lived" inside this box.

Explain that it was never God's desire for us to be in this place. Use the story of creation and the beautiful garden to illustrate that God wanted to be with His children in a beautiful place.

- *Ask them if they are ready to "break" these lonely dark places.*
- *Using their hands, let them break the boxes, then throw them away.*

Jesus said, *"I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"*. (John 8:12)

- *Ask the children to write their names on the bigger piece of card.*

- *Bring out the transparent box and let them put their names in the box.*
- *Explain that no matter where you are, God can “see them” in the box, the place where they live.*

APPLICATION:

- *Explain that our Father in heaven sees us all the time. Hagar’s moment of truth came when she discovered that God sees her.*
- *Display Proverbs 15:3 – “The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch over all of us”.*