

*Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School: Lessons for Preschool – Kindergarten*

**Lesson 2.26: SAMSON — Judges 14:5-6**

**TEACHER PREPARATION**

Read over Judges 14: 5-6.

**WORSHIP CIRCLE**

**STORY AND DISCUSSION**

When a group of people called the Children of Israel went into the land of Canaan they did not conquer all their enemies. But as long as the Israelites obeyed the Lord and lived good lives, their enemies had no power over them. They lived at peace. But when they did evil their enemies became strong and harassed them, destroying their peace.

The Israelites needed a leader. So the Lord sent an angel to tell the woman who was to be his mother that Samson would be born. She was very happy. This child should be a Nazirite promised to the Lord. He should never have his hair cut, nor should he ever drink wine, nor eat any unclean thing or he would lose his power.

Samson was born. As he grew up his hair was never cut and it became very long. He became one of the strongest men that ever lived. When he was grown up he could do things that no one else could possibly do. The Lord gave him this great strength so he could fight the Philistines and deliver Israel.

One day he fell in love with a Philistine woman. On his way to see her he was walking along without any weapons when suddenly a young lion roared and sprang out at him. Now most people would turn and run away. They would be afraid of the lion. But Samson was filled with the Spirit of the Lord. He rushed at the lion and caught it with his bare hands. He tore it so that it was killed and could not hurt him at all.

Several days later he found some bees had swarmed and made a hive in the lion that he had killed. He looked at it, and reached in, and found some honey there. He ate some, and took some to his mother and father. As they ate and talked he made a riddle of this thing that had happened to him. This is the riddle: 'out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet.' They tried to figure it out. Finally, his wife tricked him and he told her what it meant so she told the bad people what it meant (the Philistines). Samson was very angry because he was tricked. The spirit of the Lord filled him so he went down to fight against these people.

The Lord teaches us many things in the story of the Word, and He wants us to learn something very important through this riddle. Not everyone can find out the answer to its real meaning, but it has an important meaning for men and women of today. If we think from the Lord, and try to understand what He wants us to know, then we can find out what he meant.

Sometimes our evils come up against us as strong as a lion—just as the lion came up against Samson. They want to overcome us and tear us apart. Sometimes we must face the lion of stealing, or of lying, or of disobeying. These things come up and fight against us in our minds. Sometimes they seem powerful like a lion, and we want to run away from them. If we fight from the Lord, then the Spirit of the Lord fills us and we can overcome the lion of selfishness by doing what the Lord tells us to do. Then the Lord is happy that we did what was right, and the angels are happy.

### PROJECT: LION PUPPET

#### Materials:

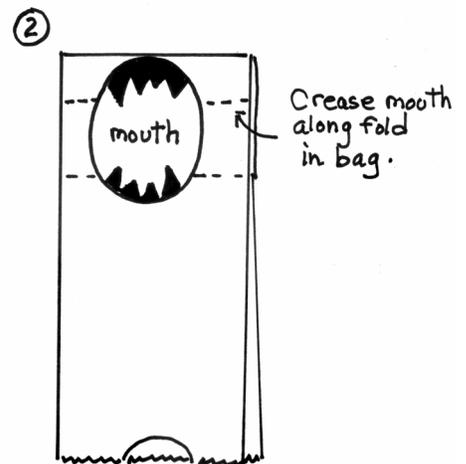
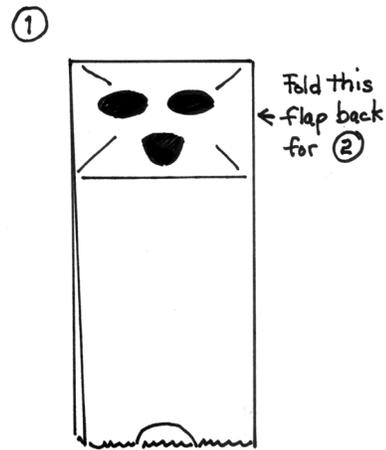
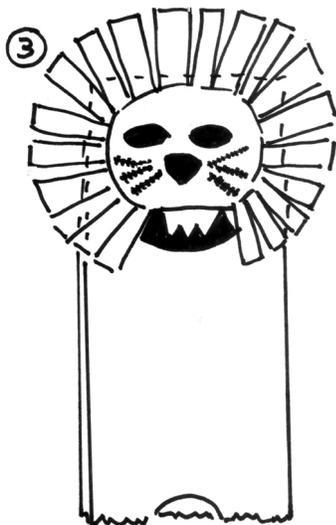
Small paper bag  
Black, orange, and pink construction paper  
Pipe cleaners  
Tape  
Crayons

#### Before class (for each puppet):

1. Cut out eyes and nose from black paper, mouth from pink
2. Cut pipe cleaners into whiskers
3. Cut the mane shape out from the orange paper (leave fringe for the children)

#### Doing the project:

1. Children tape eyes, nose, and mouth to paper bag, as shown.
2. Tape on mouth.
3. Then crease the mouth along the same crease of the paper bag so the children can open and close the mouth easily.



4. Tape on whiskers.
5. Children cut a fringe on the mane and then tape mane on bag.
6. Draw teeth on mouth.