Bible Story: Naboth's Vineyard • 1 Kings 21:1-29
Teaching Focus: Let go of distractions and follow God's mission.
Weekly Verse: *"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."* • John 3:16 NIRV

1. Opening & Prayer

"Have you ever wanted something that belonged to someone else? Today we'll meet a king who already had a lot, but he still wanted one more thing. As you watch, notice what King Ahab wanted and how that desire distracted him from being the king God wanted him to be."

Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You for loving us and giving us Jesus. Help us be thankful for what we have, trust You when we do not get what we want, and keep our hearts focused on the mission You have for us. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen."

2. Video Lesson on Jellyfin

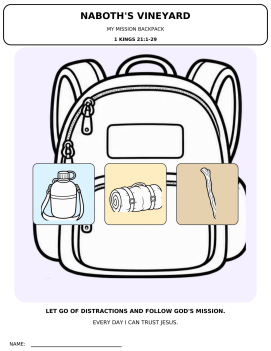
3. Discussion

"Let's talk about what we learned in today's Bible Story. King Ahab already had many good things, but he wanted Naboth's vineyard. Wanting what belonged to someone else distracted Ahab from being the king God wanted him to be."

- "The video host asked, 'What kind of stuff makes you act a little like King Ahab?' Think about friends' games, clothes, toys, shoes, houses, or something else."
  (Let the children share without shame. Wanting what someone else has can make us jealous, unkind, or so focused on getting more that we forget what matters most.)
- "Our Weekly Verse from John 3:16 NIRV says, 'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.' What does this verse remind us we already have in Jesus, and how can that help when we want what someone else has?"
  (God loves us and gave us His Son. Jesus is our greatest treasure, so we can be thankful, trust Him, and let go of jealousy or the need to have more.)

  "Ahab let wanting more pull his attention away from his mission. Jesus did the opposite. He gave up everything to save us and bring us close to God. When jealousy or wanting more starts to distract us, we can remember God's love, thank Him for what we have, and trust Jesus. Remember our ***[Teaching Focus] Let go of distractions and follow God's mission."***

4. Mission Backpack Craft



What You Need:

- ☐ "Mission Backpack Craft" printable (both pages), one set per child
- ☐ White cardstock
- ☐ Crayons or markers
- ☐ Child-safe scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

• Print both craft pages on white cardstock, one set per child.

• Make one completed sample with the water canteen, sleeping bag, and hiking stick glued onto the backpack.

• Pre-cut the three journey items for children who need support with scissors or fine-motor tasks.

During the Activity:

• Give each child both craft pages. Have the children write their names on the backpack page.

• Invite the children to color the backpack and the seven item cards.

• Name each item together. Ask which three items would help on a camping journey: the water canteen, sleeping bag, and hiking stick.

• Have the children cut out those three journey cards along the dashed outlines. Leave the extra items on the second page or cut them out and set them aside.

• Glue the three helpful journey cards onto the dashed spaces on the backpack.

After the Activity:

• Compare the helpful journey items with the extra items. Explain that more things are not always better, because extra things can slow us down or distract us.

• Connect the craft to the ***[Teaching Focus] Let go of distractions and follow God's mission.***

What You Say:

Before the Activity:

> "In the video, Pastor Andrew packed a backpack for a mission. He chose a sleeping bag, a water canteen, and a hiking stick. Then more and more extra things were added, and all that stuff would slow him down. We're going to make a mission backpack that reminds us to carry what helps and let go of distractions."

During the Activity:

> "Look at every item on your page. Would a water canteen help on the journey? (Pause.) Yes. What about a sleeping bag and a hiking stick? (Pause.) Yes. A trophy, tennis racket, globe, or chair might be good things in another place, but they are extra for this journey. More is not always better. Choose the three helpful items and glue them onto your backpack."

After the Activity:

"King Ahab had so much, but wanting Naboth's vineyard distracted him from what mattered. Our Weekly Verse reminds us that God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus. Jesus is our greatest treasure. We can trust Him, be thankful, and keep following the mission God gives us. Remember our ***[Teaching Focus] Let go of distractions and follow God's mission."***

EveryChild Pro-Tips

- Offer the three journey cards pre-cut for children who find cutting difficult.
- Let a child point to the helpful items while a leader or buddy helps with cutting and gluing.
- Use the completed sample as a visual guide for children who benefit from seeing the finished steps.
- Invite early finishers to name one thing that can distract them and one way they can refocus on Jesus.

5. Pack It or Leave It! (Optional, if time allows)

What You Need:

☐ No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Clear a safe area where children can stand and move in place.
- Teach the three responses: Pack It, pretend to place an item in a backpack. Leave It, hold both palms out and say, 'Leave it!' Trust Jesus, place both hands over your heart and say, 'Every day I can trust Jesus!'
- Explain that no one is eliminated. If the group chooses the wrong action, practice the correct response together and keep playing.

During the Activity:

- Round One: Call the three helpful journey items one at a time: water canteen, sleeping bag, and hiking stick. Children respond with Pack It.
- Round Two: Mix in the extra items from the craft: trophy, tennis racket, globe, and chair. Children respond with Leave It.
- Round Three: Call the items in a quicker mixed order. Add 'Trust Jesus' between several items so the children use the hands-over-heart response.
- Round Four: Invite one or two children to call a short sequence for the group. Help them choose from the same item list.

After the Activity:

- Ask, 'Why did we leave some things out of the mission backpack?'
- Say together, 'Jesus is my greatest treasure. Every day I can trust Jesus!'

What You Say:

"You had to decide what would help on the journey and what would only add extra weight. King Ahab kept wanting more, and that distracted him from the mission God had given him. When we want what someone else has, we can stop, remember how much God loves us, and trust Jesus. Remember our ***[Teaching Focus] Let go of distractions and follow God's mission."***

EveryChild Pro-Tips

- Let children perform every response while seated if standing or moving is difficult.
- Hold up the finished craft pictures as visual cues for children who benefit from extra processing support.
- Keep the pace predictable and repeat each item when children need more time.
- Let a child point to the backpack or the leave-it side instead of doing the full motion.