

Holiday Lesson Series

Veterans Day

Bible Verse:

Psalm 118:24

This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Why We Celebrate This Holiday:

Veterans Day is a day in which Americans recognize and honor their military veterans of war. This is a federal and a state holiday and is celebrated the Monday of the week of November 11. This holiday was first called Armistice Day and was proclaimed on November 11, 1919 by President Wilson. Later, on November 8, 1954, this day became known as Veterans Day. This is a day where we should pause and consider the sacrifices made by those serving in the U.S. military. Ceremonies and celebrations are held across the United States to make this recognition. While there is, of course, nothing in the bible that talks about this day, children can learn that we should be happy and rejoice in those that made our lives better by serving for our country.

Lesson Ideas:

1. Patriotism: there are many lessons in the bible about patriotism and standing up for your beliefs. Use these lessons to reinforce the ideas of Veterans Day. Those that served in the military believed in their country and made a stand to make the United States a better place.
2. Sacrifices: Those in the military often make the ultimate sacrifices in order to protect the country. Talk about those in the bible that did the same thing.
3. Joyfulness: We should be joyful that we have brave people looking out for our country. Talk about what it means to be joyful.

Decorations:

1. Hang red, white and blue streamers around the room.
2. Have a vase full of red, white and blue flowers and allow the children to take a couple home after the party to give to veterans that they know or that worship in the church.
3. Make a veteran's wall banner. Several weeks before, ask your child to bring a picture of veterans that they know. You can also take pictures of veterans in the church. Attach them to a large banner and hang on the wall.

Craft:

Red, White and Blue Mobile:

Cut several red, white and blue stars from craft foam. Make sure that they are in graduated sizes. Punch a hole through the middle of each one. Cut a white straw into 1 inch pieces. Tie a knot at the end of piece of yarn and string the stars onto the yarn starting with the smallest. String a piece of straw in between each star. End with the largest star. Tie a knot at the top and hang from the ceiling.

Snacks:

1. Decorate sugar cookies or cupcakes with white frosting and red, white and blue sprinkles.
2. Serve strawberry and blueberry muffins.
3. Make blue or red punch or Kool-aid.

Game:**Red, White and Blue Obstacle Course**

Set up a small obstacle course in the room or outside. Use a tunnel to crawl through, hula hoops to jump through or over or any other combination of courses. Have red, white and blue flags, beanbags or other items that the children must collect as they go through the course.

Gift Idea:

Paint small clay pots in red, white and blue stripes using acrylic paint. Fill with patriotic colored candies (look for red, white and blue jelly beans or M & Ms). Give each child a pot to help them remember Veterans Day.