



God Rocks!

By Deborah Wassenberg

Introducing Professor Igneous Rubble, the eminent geologist, to teach the children about 'God our rock'. They'll learn about some of God's characteristics that make Him so identifiable. If they're scared or troubled God is their dependable, safe place!

You Tube Song Selections:

- Rock Solid (Tammy Tolman Resources)
- My Strength (Crossroad Kids)
- God My Rock (Paul Baloche – Lyric video)

Bible Lesson: Rock Identification!

Dress up as a geologist. You'll need a broad brimmed hat, maybe a vest with lots of pockets, and wear shorts, long socks and boots. You might like to carry a little plastic hammer or a camping shovel. You'll also need a knapsack or bucket to hold your rock samples. Put together a small collection of rocks. Ask around your congregation...someone may have a collection you can borrow (or they may even visit your Kid's Ministry and talk about rock identification). Another option is to dress up as the geologist and use PowerPoint slides to talk about rocks and their characteristics together with the visuals listed below.

Visuals:

1. Picture of rock
2. Picture of rock fortress, castle or tower
3. Samples of rocks and discuss characteristics
4. Words: God is Wise
5. Words: God is Infinite
6. Words: God is Sovereign
7. Words: God is Omniscient
8. Words: God is Omnipotent
9. Words: God is Omnipresent
10. Words: God is Faithful
11. Words: God is Love
12. Words: God is Just
13. Words: God is Merciful
14. Words: God is Good
15. Picture of rock fortress as used in picture 2 or another example

Words:

1. G'day! Professor Igneous Rubble here.
I'm a geologist and I love rock.
(Pretends to air guitar)
Just kidding! Not that kind of rock.
I'm talking about the solid mineral material forming part of the surface of the earth,
either exposed or under the soil.
2. Have you ever heard the expression 'solid as a rock'?
Rocks are strong and firm.
Rocks are permanent and enduring.
You try moving Uluru!
Did you know rocks can give you protection?
In fact, people used to build fortresses out of rock because it's so strong.
Whenever they were scared or in trouble, they ran to the rock fortress, tower or castle,
because it was a place of safety and shelter.
3. I've brought a few rock samples along today.
Every rock has characteristics.
That means it has a feature or quality so it can be identified.
Here's a few of the characteristics I look at...
*(Go through a few easy samples such as chalk, sandstone, slate, marble and flint.
Or get your rock collector to talk about his collection. Keep it simple!)*
 - hardness (resistance to being scratched)
 - lustre (the reflection of light off the surface - metallic or non-metallic)
 - colour
 - crystal structure (the arrangement of chemical units under a microscope)
 - streak (the colour powder the mineral leaves after being scratched)
 - cleavage and fracture (how it breaks)So you see, to understand rocks, I've had to become familiar with how they are identified.
Did you know when we look at God in the Bible we see the characteristics that identify Him? I've a few of them here.
4. God is WISE: God has all wisdom and knowledge. He is perfect and makes no mistakes.
(Romans 11:33)
5. God is INFINITE: He lives outside of time and is not limited by time and space.
(Revelation 1:8)

6. God is SOVEREIGN: God rules and is in control of everything that happens. (*Colossians 1:16&17*)
7. God is OMISCIENT: God is all-knowing. There is nothing He has to learn. (*Psalms 147:4&5*)
8. God is OMNIPOTENT: God is all-powerful. There is nothing He cannot do. (*Matthew 19:26; Psalm 115:3*)
9. God is OMNIPRESENT: God is everywhere. He has no boundaries. (*Proverbs 15:3; Psalm 139:7-10*)
10. God is FAITHFUL: God does not lie. Everything He says is true. He keeps every promise He makes. (*Hebrews 6:18; Proverbs 30:5-9*)
11. God is LOVE: God is the perfect example of love. Everything He does is loving. (*1 Corinthians 13:4-8a; 1 John 3:1*)
12. God is JUST: God is fair with everyone. He has no favourites. (*Psalms 89:14; Acts 10:34*)
13. God is MERCIFUL: God is compassionate. He withholds punishment even when we deserve it because Jesus took our place. (*Ephesians 2:4-5; James 2:13*)
14. God is GOOD: God always does what is right. There is no evil in Him. (*Luke 18:19; 1 John 1:5*) That's why, when God created the Earth, He said, '...it was very good.' (*Genesis 1:31*)
15. Next time you look at a rock I want you to remember God is **your** rock.
Think about His characteristics.
Remember He is strong and dependable.
Run to Him when you are afraid or in trouble
because He will protect you and keep you safe!
Well, this is Professor Igneous Rubble saying...
'Don't take life for granite!'
(*Plays air guitar again*)

Ministry to the Children:

Of course, God is greater than the rocks in any collection. He is the one who created rocks and minerals. And even the biggest of rocks on earth will wear down or crack over time. But not our God! David cried out, 'Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.' (*Psalms 61:1-3*) God as a rock is used as a picture to help us. (*Prayer for children facing fear or trouble.*)

The Bible says God is the 'rock of Salvation.' (*Deuteronomy 32:15; 2 Samuel 22:47; Psalm 89:26; 95:1*). God had a plan to save us from sin and punishment. He sent His Son Jesus to the earth. Even though Jesus was perfect and never sinned, He willingly chose to take our punishment, and die in our place. God brought Him back to life. Ask God to forgive you for sinning and ask Him to be in charge of your life. Run to your safe place today. (*Salvation Call*)

Memory Verse: Psalm 62:6

Truly He is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

Hopscotch

- 1: Type or write the Memory Verse on to paper and laminate so it is durable. Tape the words inside the hopscotch squares in the following order:

1st square: Truly He is
2nd square: my rock
3rd square: and my salvation;
4th & 5th squares: He is my fortress,
6th square: I will not
7th & 8th squares: be shaken
Finish: Psalm 62:6



- 2: Draw or masking tape the hopscotch pattern on the floor.
- 3: Note: you will not need a marker (or flat stone called a tor) to throw unless the children want to play after Kid's Church
- 4: Every child has a turn at hopping through the hopscotch pattern, saying the verse aloud as they go.
- 5: When all the children have had a turn or two (depending on your numbers) remove words a square at a time and ask for volunteers to hop through saying the verse.

Game: Guard the Fort

One team stands in a circle facing outward with their left hand on the right shoulder of their neighbour and they must keep it there. They are the fort. The team leader stands inside the fort. The other team spreads out around the outside of the fort. They are the attackers. The soccer ball becomes the cannon ball. The attackers kick the cannon ball through holes in the fort (between the legs or between bodies) or kick it over the top of the fort. The fort team use their bodies or right hand to deflect the cannon ball. If the cannon ball touches the ground

inside the fort the fort explodes. But if the team leader inside the fort can catch the cannon ball, he or she can throw it back. Swap sides if the fort explodes or if a set time is up.

Craft: Painted Rock Paper Weight

You will need:

- Clean rocks
- Puffy paints (3D paints)
- Toothpicks

What to do:

- Squeeze globs of puff paint on the top side of the rock
- Use the toothpick to swirl colours together
- Or dot the paint over the rock
- Allow to dry

You might like to give every child a copy of the Memory Verse for the painted rock to sit on.