



Jesus Rocks!

By Deborah Wassenberg

Professor Igneous Rubble, the eminent geologist, is back! Today he's teaching children to be confident in Jesus the rock who is strong and dependable. When they act on His words they will be able to weather any storm.

You Tube Song Suggestions:

- Standing on the Solid Rock (Jana Alayra)
- The Lord is My Rock (Youth Worship)
- The Wise and Foolish Man (Traditional)

Bible Lesson: The House on the Rock

Bible Reference: Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:47-49

As with the lesson 'God Rocks' dress up as a geologist. You'll need a broad brimmed hat, perhaps a vest with lots of pockets. Wear boots and carry a toy hammer. The character can teach today's story using PowerPoint or Flashcards as visual aids. I've provided some copyright free pictures of mountains to help. Bible story illustrations are available at Free Bible Images. See the story on The Beatitudes (for a picture of Jesus preaching on the mountain) and The House on the Rock.

Visuals:

- 1:
 - a) Picture of Uluru
 - b) Picture of Rockies
 - c) Picture of Mt Fuji
- 2: Jesus preaching 'The Sermon on the Mount'
- 3: Wise man building on the rock
- 4: Rains, flood and wind but house stands firm
- 5: Foolish man building on the sand
- 6: Rains, flood and wind and house falls
- 7: Pictures of 'storms of life'
- 8: Kid standing reading Bible and praying
- 9: Kid falling
- 10: Kid standing on a rock

Words:

Intro: G'day! Professor Igneous Rubble here
to talk to you again about rock.

(Pretends to play air guitar)

No, not that kind of rock.

I mean the solid mineral material forming part of the surface of the earth,
either exposed or under the soil.

1. Speaking of exposed rock just look at these beauties.
This is Uluru in Central Australia.
Here's the Rocky Mountains in Canada.
How about this mountain?
It's Mt Fuji in Japan and it's a volcano!
2. Mountains are spectacular.
Did you know Jesus sat on a mountain to teach people?
Now that's my kind of Church!
Everyone could see Him and His voice travelled so everyone could hear.
Jesus had been preaching His Sermon on the Mount and it was
crammed full of great teaching: love your enemies, go the extra mile.
How to pray. Do not worry.
The people were amazed at the things Jesus was teaching them
and how He spoke with authority. He knew what He was talking about!
Jesus ended His sermon with an interesting parable and it's my personal favourite!
3. Jesus said, 'Whoever hears these teachings of mine and obeys them is like a wise man
who built his house on rock.'
Jesus is talking about building your life on a rock solid foundation.
What is a foundation?
A foundation is the base for something.
It supports something else.
4. It rained hard, the floods came.
And the winds blew and beat against that house.
But it did not fall because it was built on rock.
Rock is the strongest foundation material.
5. Then Jesus told the crowd, 'Whoever hears these teachings of mine and does not obey
them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.'
Sand is made up of fine grains and hard minerals but has no cohesion.
It doesn't stick together.
A house built on sand is risky!
There's no stability.

6. The storm hit the house built on the sand.
Jesus told the crowd, 'It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. And it fell with a loud crash.'

7. Jesus used the story to tell the people,
'Don't just listen to my words, obey them!'
Life can be stormy.
Everyone, no matter who you are or how old you are, will have storms in their life.
 - School
 - Relationships with people
 - Sickness
 - Disappointment
 - Grief after a person or a pet dies

8. Storms like that can make you feel like you've hit rock bottom.
That's when you feel you're so low you can't get any lower.
But if Jesus is your foundation you can withstand anything.
Listening to Him, and doing what He says, will keep you steady until the storm is over.

9. If you only do what your feelings tell you to do.
If you only do what your friends tell you to do.
If you hear a Bible lesson just like this and shrug, 'Whatever', and do nothing about it, when the storms of life come the sand will shift under your feet.
You will fall.

10. It's because Jesus loves us that He teaches us these important things!
He wants us to live our lives with confidence.
Knowing you can rely on Him.
Knowing that He is strong and dependable.
I hope you've enjoyed my talk on rock foundations.
It's time for me to relax.
How does a geologist relax?
In my **rocking** chair of course!

Ministry to the Children:

Who do you rely on? As you grow up you will make more and more decisions for yourself. When you become an adult you will make all the decisions! You don't need to worry or be scared. Jesus, your rock, won't move. He won't budge! He will keep you standing in any

storm. If you train yourself to hear and obey His words **now** you will be building on a rock solid foundation for the rest of your life. Read your Bible as much as you can!

Jesus is our rock and our Salvation. He is our Saviour. We all need saving because we have all done things wrong. Those wrong things are called sin. The Bible says 'all have sinned and come short of the glory of God'. (*Romans 6:26*) That sin keeps us away from God because He is Holy and Perfect. So God sent us His Son Jesus to take away the sins of the world. Jesus took all our sin on Himself and died on the Cross. God raised Him from the dead. You can be free from sin by telling Jesus you are sorry, asking Him to forgive you and to come into your life. Put your faith in Him as your rock and your salvation! (Altar call)

Story Revision through Song:

- You Tube clip learning Matthew 7:24 (JumpStart 3)
- The Wise and Foolish Builders (Traditional)
- Sandyland (Debby Kerner & Ernie Terrino)

Memory Verse: James 1:22(NIV)

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Stepping Stones:

Make stepping stones by cutting out 'stone' shapes from cardboard, one for each word and the Scripture reference. Write the words on the stones. Put the stones down on a floor at different distances and slightly different directions. (You might need to use double sided tape to keep the 'stone' from slipping.) One by one, children step from stone to stone, saying the words of the Memory Verse aloud. Once everyone has had a turn, repeat and go faster.

Game: Hot Lava

Children pretend the ground is hot lava so must stay off it or they're out. Create safe spots using boards, stepping stones or rocks, patches of artificial grass, tyres and hula hoops. Anything you have to hand. Children must jump from safe spot to safe spot without falling into the lava. You may like to add a time limit to add to the challenge.

Craft: House on the Rock Memento

This is a lovely craft for the children to keep as a reminder of today's lesson. You'll have to allow drying time. You might like to start Kid's Church by gluing the picture of Jesus on the rock first, then follow with the house after the lesson, so you're not giving too much away.

You will need:

- One rock per child
- Pre-cut pictures of houses: magazines, fabric, wrapping paper, stickers or second hand story books with pictures of houses
- Pre-cut pictures of Jesus: stickers are ideal
- Decoupage glue or clear varnish
- Brushes
- Permanent ink pen (to write child's name)

What to do:

- Ask the children to write their name or initial somewhere on their rock
- Put glue on the one side of the rock
- Put the house picture on top of the glue
- Use fingers to smooth out air bubbles
- Varnish so the picture is protected and allow to dry
- Add the picture of Jesus to the other side of the rock and repeat the process















