



Daylight Saving!

By Deborah Wassenberg

Introduction:

Whether you live in a place where there is daylight saving or not, this lesson leaves no doubt that God is all-powerful and will keep every promise He makes.

Bible Lesson: The Sun Stands Still

Bible Reference: Joshua 10:1-15

Visuals You Will Need:

1. Clock and summer activities
2. WWI & WWII munitions
3. The fall of Jericho
4. Gibeonites surrender
5. 5 Canaanite Kings (or 5 crowns)
6. Gibeonites plead for help
7. Joshua praying
8. Hailstones
9. Sun and moon
10. Child praying

Words:

1. Do you have 'daylight saving' where you live?
Clocks are moved one hour forward in the spring and one hour back in the autumn.
Daylight saving time (DST) shifts daylight from the evening to the morning, allowing people to make better use of natural daylight during warmer months. Living with daylight saving time can take some adjustment, but most people enjoy the longer summer days filled with all the activities that can be enjoyed in hot weather.

2. Daylight saving began during World War I, when people in England had a smart idea to help their country.
They wanted to save fuel like oil and coal, which were used to make electricity, run machines, and keep homes warm and bright.
So, they decided to change the clocks in summer.
They moved the time forward by one hour and called it daylight saving time.
That meant people woke up one hour earlier and went to bed one hour earlier too.
Because the sun rises earlier in summer, it was already bright outside when they got up.
And by going to bed earlier, they didn't need to use as many lights or heaters.
This helped save fuel, which could then be used to help soldiers and win the war.
So, daylight saving time was like giving everyone an extra hour of sunshine to help their country during a hard time.
Supernatural daylight saving is going to win a war in today's Bible lesson!
3. God had led His people, the Israelites, into the Promised Land with Joshua as their leader.
It was the land He had promised to Abraham in Genesis.
It was the land Moses had led the Israelites to when he led them out of slavery in Egypt.
But the land had been inhabited by Israel's enemies, the Canaanites, who were fierce fighters.
God supernaturally destroyed the city of Jericho as a sign to His people that He would lead them to victory, and as a sign to the Canaanites that they could not win against His chosen people.
4. After the battle of Jericho and the battle of Ai, the great Canaanite city of Gibeon, despite its mighty fighting men, surrendered to the Israelites.
Joshua's victories and the Gibeonites' surrender caused other Canaanite kings to worry.
5. So Adoni-Zedek, the king of the city of Jerusalem, sent to four other kings.
Hoham, the king of the city of Hebron.
Piram, the king of the city of Jarmuth.
Japhia, the king of the city of Lachish.
And Debir, the king of the city of Eglon.
King Adoni-Zedek said, 'Come and help me attack the Gibeonites, because they have made peace with Joshua and with the Israelites'.
The five kings and all their troops gathered together and advanced on the Gibeonites.

6. The men of Gibeon sent this message to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal,
'Do not abandon your subjects!
Come up here quickly and rescue us!
Help us!
For all the kings are attacking us.'
7. So Joshua and his whole army marched up from Gilgal.
The Lord told Joshua, 'Don't be afraid of them, for I am handing them over to you.
Not one of them can stand against you.'
8. Assured by God's promise, Joshua initiated a counterattack!
He and his men marched for eight to ten hours through the night.
They fought against the Canaanite army of the five kings and killed many.
The Canaanite army retreated, but the Israelites chased them.
As the Canaanite army ran away, God hurled large hailstones from the sky onto them, and many more enemy soldiers were killed from the hailstones than from the Israelite's swords.
9. The enemy was weakened, but Joshua needed to destroy the Canaanite army so his people and their allies could live in peace.
But there was a problem.
They were running out of daylight.
Joshua prayed for the sun and the moon to stand still.
This would extend the daylight and give Joshua and his army time to win a complete victory over the Canaanites.
'O sun, stand still over Gibeon;
O moon, over the Valley of Aijalon!'
The sun stood still and motionless while Joshua and his men defeated the enemy.
Joshua recorded: 'There has not been a day like it before or since.
The Lord listened to a human being; for the Lord fought for Israel!'
10. Our God is powerful and He can do anything, even stop the sun and the moon.
We must trust His promises and do whatever He asks.
And we can be bold and pray 'big' prayers and He will listen and answer!

Ministry to the Children:

God gave us time so our lives could be organised but He is timeless. Time does not affect Him. He knows what has happened to you yesterday, what will happen to you today, and what will happen to you tomorrow. He saw you before you were born and knows the number of your days. (*Psalms 139:16*) In other words He knows how long you will live, the exact years, days, hours and seconds. It is so important that you are ready to meet Him so that when your time here on earth is over, you will be with Him in Heaven. To enter Heaven and to be close to God you must have no sin. The only way

to have your sin removed is by believing in God's Son, Jesus Christ. God knew sin was a problem, so when the time was right, He sent His Son, Jesus into the world. Jesus lived His life without sinning once. When Jesus was crucified on the Cross, He did that to take the sins of everyone on Himself. God raised Him from the dead. All you need to do is to believe in Jesus, ask for His forgiveness, receive Him into your life, and live for Him. And when your time comes, whenever that may be, you know you will spend eternity with God in Heaven.

Memory Verse: Psalm 31:14 -15

Snap It!

But as for me, I trust in You, Lord.
I say, 'You are my God.'
My times are in Your hand;
Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.

Words:

Action:

But as

snap, snap

For me

point to chest

I trust

clap, clap

In You

point to heaven

Lord!

jump up and say loudly

I say

stomp, stomp

You are

point to heaven

My God

clap, clap

My times

check and tap wrist watch

Are in

snap, snap

Your hand

point to heaven

Rescue me from the hand
of my enemies and from those
who persecute me!

Run around in circles with arms up in the air

Game 1: Sun, Moon, Earth

You will need:

- A big play space
- Three cones (sun, moon, earth)
- Starting line

What to do:

- Set up the three cones with a distance between
- Spread children out along the starting line
- On 'GO', the leader will call out either 'Sun!', 'Moon!' or 'Earth!'
- Children must:
 - Run to the sun cone
 - Hop to the moon cone
 - Walk to the Earth cone
- If children make a mistake, they must do 5 star jumps and then re-join the game!

Game 2: Sally Go Round the Sun

'Sally go round the sun,
Sally go round the moon,
Sally go round the Children's Church
On a Sunday afternoon.'

- Everyone sits in a circle with a small space in between each person.
- Choose one child to be the sun and one to be the moon, and they sit in the middle of the ring.
- Choose another child to be 'Sally' but substitute each child's name in turn as everyone has their go.
- Sally gets up, goes round the 'sun' and the 'moon' and then weaves in and out of the seated children until she gets back to her original place.
- Repeat the game until everyone has had a go.

Crafts:

Here are some suggestions for you to search on the internet.

- Paper plate sundial
- Tissue paper sun catchers
- Paddle-pop stick sun for weaving