

Trouble

Ask: Have you ever wanted something really badly and begged until you finally got it?

Say: I remember someone at a church lunch having a piece of cake and then asking someone else for and another and another until they'd had four pieces of cake. Then a bit later they were rolling around on the floor groaning "my stomach hurts!"

Ask: Have you ever done something like that, maybe eaten too much because it was yummy?

Say: Today we are learning about something that the Israelites wanted. And even though God said it wasn't a good idea, they still wanted it.

Bible Story

Ask: What is the difference between a need and a want?

Say: In Philippians 4:19, God promises that He will supply all our needs.

Say: When Jesus was on earth He taught the disciples to pray that "God's will would be done on earth." If we pray for God's will, then we will know that the things that God gives us will be the best things.

Sing Songs

Return to tables

Memory Verse: Fill in the blanks and then say the memory verse on the colouring page.

Ask: What did the Israelites want? (A King)

Look: At the big pictures. Talk about what the children wanted and what the adults said, and why the adults said, and what happened.

Craft Option 1: Decorate the crowns with stickers (spots, stars)

- Add some pictures of the children.
- **Draw** a cross on the children who are not making good choices.

Craft Option 2: Colour in the King

- Draw a face on him
- Roll the king into a cone shape and staple at the back
- **Say:** This king is to remind you that the Israelites begged for a king, but they didn't ask God what His will was.
- **Say:** You can also hang this king on your Christmas tree to remind you of the wise men who came to see Baby Jesus. We should be wise, like the wise men and not foolish like the Israelites were.

Craft Option 3: Prayer Card

- Fold the card in half.
- Trace around your hand – with the thumb against the folded edge.
- Cut out the card.
- Use the stamps or stencils to write "God's will be done" on the front.
- Put a stick of Philippians 4:19 on the inside.
- Draw a picture of something you have prayed for on the other inside.
- Decorate the card.

Discuss the following depending on age, interest and time:

Discuss the difference between needs and wants.

Discuss John 15:7 (If you abide in me... ask whatever you wish) If we love Jesus will we want something that will hurt us or hurt someone else? We might not realise that what we are asking for will hurt someone, but God will say no to us, then we should trust that God knows best but if we keep asking he might give us what we want and then we will find out what is wrong later. The more we get to know Jesus, the more like Him we will be, and we will want the things that He would want for us anyway...

Talk about praying "God's will be done" - When Jesus was on earth He taught the disciples to pray that "God's will would be done on earth." Just before Jesus was arrested and taken to die, He prayed to His Father in the garden, and He finished His prayer by saying "your will be done." If Jesus hadn't followed God's will, we would never have been saved.

Discuss the 6th Commandment – we do not need to steal because God will provide our needs. Ask: How does stealing hurt people?

Prayer at Tables: As a group pray that God will help us to pray that His will be done. If there is time have each child pray quietly for something they want and finish with "Your will be done"