

Psalm 118:1-4

The purpose of this lesson is primarily to provide tools for memorizing Psalm 118:1-4. We began with me reading (or actually singing) the Bible portion. I wrote the verse on the dry board with the portion alternating colors:

Give thanks to the LORD for He is good (black)

His mercy endures forever (blue)

Oh, let Israel say, (black)

His mercy endures forever (blue)

Oh, let the house of Aaron say, (black)

His mercy endures forever (blue)

Oh, let them that fear the LORD say, (black)

His mercy endures forever (blue)

Then, we sang the song with me singing the words in black and the kids answering by singing the words in blue.

I use a puppet named Collin to help teach some of these lessons. Collin asked the kids to choose a puppet. Then, we sang the song again—this time substituting the various puppets (lion, pig, bear, beetle). For example, “Oh, let the lions say,” and then the child with that puppet would sing the response.

Then, we created craft stick puppets using pictures I had taken of the kids for a previous lesson. I printed these out on round Avery 8293 labels and had them put their pictures on the front and back of the craft stick. Even our two-year-old was able to successfully complete this craft. This example is the craft stick puppet I made using a picture of Collin.



After singing the song a few times, we created a flap book to help illustrate these verses.



I cut 8 ½ X 11 inch cardstock in half widthwise.

Out of each half, I folded it again to create a card.

On the outside of the front of the card I drew three lines so that there were four equal-sized spaces.



We wrote the portion of the verses that I had written in black on the front—a portion in each of the four spaces.

Then we decorated them with markers, crayons, or colored pencils.

We cut along the black lines to create 4 flaps.



Then, we drew people saying the alternating portion of the verses. (The part I had written in blue on the board.) I also had printed some of these on “call out” stickers I happened to have had on hand, because some of our kids are too young to do much writing—especially in small areas.

Below is the inside completed on the left. I let them also use some smiley face stickers for the heads of some of the people.

Then, we wrote on the back “Oh, let _____ say”, (inserting the child’s name) and put another picture on the back with a bubble “His mercy endures forever”



We talked about the authors of the Psalms and about how some of circumstances surrounding them weren't always pleasant. In particular, we briefly acted out David running from Saul and hiding out with the Philistines. I chose this story because some of the words in Psalm 118 are the same as Psalm 56, which is documented with this event in David's life. The point I made with the kids is that the reality of God's truth abounds even when things going on around us don't look like it.

I got the idea for the flap book from www.homeschoolhelperonline.com

You can hear the melody we used for Psalm 118:1-4 here on our website in "Kids' Songs".