

Provider

Main Idea

• God meets the needs of His creation.

Memory Verse

...he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. —Acts 17:25b

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Genesis 3:7, 21
- 2) Genesis 6
- 3) Exodus 16:13-15
- 4) Exodus 17:5-6
- 5) 2 Kings 4:1-7
- 6) Psalm 103:1-5
- 7) Luke 16:19-24
- 8) Acts 10:43b
- 9) Acts 17:25b



LESSON SUMMARY

All of creation is totally dependent on God for every moment of its existence and all of its daily needs. And God, in His bountiful goodness, graciously provides for His creatures. Every breath and every heartbeat is a wonderful provision from God.

In this lesson, we helped the children to understand that God alone ultimately meets all of our needs—whether material, emotional, or spiritual. We began by focusing on material provision, since it is most concrete in the minds of children, and then expanded this to help them see that our needs go far beyond food, clothing, shelter, and family. Life is about needing God Himself and His provision of a Savior, Jesus.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...



- that God would give understanding for your child to truly comprehend his or her utter dependency on God, and then humbly and thankfully call out to Him for every need.
- for a heart response increasingly characterized by genuine thanksgiving for all of God's provision

As You Walk By The Way

- Explain the difference between true needs and wants. (e.g., We need food in order to stay alive. We may want that food to be ice cream. We do not need the food to be ice cream.) What kinds of things do you usually ask God for? Does God always provide us with the kinds of things we want, when we want them? Why not? Why is it a good thing to trust God in deciding what it is we really need? Recall that God is also sovereign. He has the right (authority) and perfect wisdom to decide what we truly need and what is best to provide for us. We sometimes want things that are not best for us.
- Review Acts 17:25b and make a list of some examples of the "everything" that God has provided. Quickly write these on a large piece of paper. Because God is such a wonderful provider, how should we act toward Him? Read and discuss Psalm 103:1-5. Have a time of prayer, encouraging your child to give thanks to God for the many things He has provided.



Growing in Faith Together

 In the lesson, we learned that some needs are more important than others. Why would forgiveness of sin be our greatest need? [We need forgiveness in order to be given eternal life in heaven with God. That is the only provision that will bring us true and lasting happiness. If a Christian were to starve to death and breathe his last breath, he would go to heaven and live with Jesus. You may briefly want to share the story from Luke 16:19-24 to illustrate this concept.]

ACTION STEP

Write out a simple "Thank You" note to God. On the card, include pictures and/or write out examples of the many things that God has provided for you.

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Use the special code to find the missing words in the memory verse.



