

# SABBATH SCHOOL

## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 1 • Unit 3 • Week 3

### CLEAN AND UNCLEAN MEATS

#### OBJECTIVE:

To show that God created certain animals for us to eat. We'll define clean and unclean meats and the characteristics of clean animals, water creatures and birds.

#### ATTENTION GETTER:

Materials:

Paper plate with miscellaneous items glued on it (clothes pins, paper clips, rocks, grass)  
Chalkboard  
Chalk  
Crayons

Prepare before class time: Glue items on a paper plate that an infant might try to eat (clothes pins, paper clips, rocks, grass). Print the following characteristics God gave for land animals, water creatures and birds on the chalkboard:

Land Animals:	Split Hoof Chews the cud
Water Creatures:	Fins and scales
Birds:	Six characteristics

Ask: How many ate breakfast or lunch today?

Say: Good for you, you needed it.

Ask: What did you eat?

- Do: Hold up the paper plate with miscellaneous items glued on it that a baby might try to eat. While holding the plate ask:
- Ask: Would you say this looks like a plate of good things to eat? How many of you have a baby brother or sister?
- Say: Babies will put anything in their mouths. They must be taught what to eat and what not to eat. Adults and perhaps some of you go by what looks or tastes good.
- Ask: How many of you have refused to try a certain food because it didn't look good? Later you tried it and found it tasted pretty good after all—or maybe it didn't.
- Ask: How many of you came to church in a car or truck? What does a car use for food? What makes it go?
- Say: Gasoline, of course! You can't put just anything into a car to make it go.
- Ask: What would happen if we put water in the tank? [It wouldn't run!]
- Say: Our bodies work the same way. Just as a car doesn't run very well on water or a tank full of frogs, our bodies need good food to run well. Good food provides us energy and good health.

#### **BIBLE LESSON:**

- Say: God created every animal for a purpose, but not all animals were created for food.
- Ask: Besides food, what could be some other reasons why animals, fish, birds and insects were created? (Answer: Food for other animals, to keep the earth clean, clothing, furs, to make things we need and use, for work, etc.)
- Ask: What is the definition of "clean" and "unclean"? If we wash anything really, really well and make sure there is not dirt on it, will that make it "clean" and fit to eat?
- Say: "Clean meat" means good for human food.  
"Unclean meat" means not good for human food.  
Let's say that together.
- Ask: Why does God have to tell us which animals to eat? (Answer: God created everything and knows what is good and what isn't, He wants us to be in good health, Man doesn't always know what is right, etc.)
- Read: Short story entitled, "Can We Eat Frogs, Dogs and Hogs?" Point to the characteristics printed on the chalkboard as they come up in the story.

## **CAN WE EAT FROGS, DOGS, AND HOGS?**

**BY JAN CREED**

"Hi Mom!" Julie said as she walked into the kitchen. Her mother was making chocolate chip cookies.

"How was your visit with your friend Cindy?" asked Julie's mom.

"I had a great time. We had pizza for lunch. Her mom made one cheese and one ham pizza. Mom, tell me again why we don't eat pork and why we eat some meats and not others," said Julie as she poured herself a cold glass of milk and helped herself to a cookie.

"That's a good question Julie. God wants us to be healthy. Since God created all the animals, He knows which animals are clean and good to eat and which ones are unclean," Julie's mom began.

Julie interrupted, "But Mom, couldn't we just wash it more so it would be clean?"

"Food that is unclean doesn't mean it wasn't washed well. When God says that an animal is unclean, He doesn't mean that it is dirty. 'Clean' means that it is fit for human food and 'unclean' means it is unfit for human food," explained mom.

"God made some animals to be eaten for food and other animals were created for other purposes, such as to keep the earth clean. God tells us in the Bible which ones are which. Land animals that are good to eat must have a parted hoof and chew the cud," stated Julie's mom.

"Chew the what?" exclaimed Julie.

Mom laughed a little and then explained, "Cows and some other animals eat their food without taking time to chew it enough so they bring it back up to chew it later. This is called chewing the cud."

"Hey that's cool!" shouted Richard, Julie's younger brother, as he grabbed a cookie from the plate on the kitchen counter and ran out the back door carrying his bat and ball.

"So that's why we don't eat pork. Pigs have a split hoof but they don't chew the cud. What about fish?" Julie asked.

"The Bible tells us that fish should have both fins and scales to be considered clean," answered Julie's mom.

"Wow, that's easy," exclaimed Julie. "Fish need fins and scales and animals must have a split hoof and chew the cud. So how do we know what birds are clean?" asked Julie.

"Well Julie, a clean bird has six characteristics. It has a craw, a gizzard, doesn't eat other birds, doesn't eat while flying and the last two have to do with its toes being a certain way. Can you think of some birds that are clean to eat?" Asked mom.

"Let's see, chicken, turkey, duck, goose," said Julie.

"Very good," praised mom. "I have a great idea," said Julie's mom. "Let's play a game [invite the readers to join in]. I'll say the name of an animal, fish or bird. If it is clean, I want you to smile and shout 'clean.' If it is unclean, raise your hand high and softly say 'unclean.' Are you ready?"

"I'm ready," smiled Julie.

Cow	clean
Rabbit	unclean
Bear	unclean
Squirrel	unclean
Tuna	clean
Deer	clean
Shark	unclean
Whale	unclean
Elk	clean
Dog	unclean
Mouse	unclean
Moose	clean
Duck	clean
Turkey	clean
Frog	unclean
Vulture	unclean
Eagle	unclean
Chicken	clean
Trout	clean
Walleye	clean

### TEACHER'S NOTE:

After the student says "clean" or "unclean," reinforce the characteristics of clean and unclean by saying "That's right, a cow is clean because it has a split hoof and chews the cud," or "yes, a vulture is unclean because it does not have all six characteristic to be considered clean," or "correct, a walleye is clean because it has both fins and scales," etc. It is not necessary to say all of the above. Use as time permits.

"Remember Julie, God never does anything without a good reason. God made some animals for food, some for beauty, some for work and some for keeping the earth clean. God gave us these laws so we would be healthy."

**LESSON APPLICATION:**

Make an Animal Memory game for the class to play together. Then let students make their own game to take home.

**Supplies Needed:**

- 2 copies of each animal per student
- 24 3 x 3 inch construction paper squares per student
- Plastic sandwich bags to store parts for each game
- Glue

**Prepare in Advance:**

- Cut construction paper into 3 x 3 inch squares (a 9 x 12 inch sheet will yield 12 squares).
- Cut apart the photocopied sheets of animals, so that each animal is by itself.
- Put the game parts for each student (2 each of 12 animals and 24 construction paper squares) into a plastic bag.
- Make one game set for the students to play in class—glue animals onto construction paper squares.

Animal Memory is played as follows: All 24 cards (two of each animal) are turned face down and mixed up. They can then be lined up in rows if desired. The first player turns over two cards, one at a time. If there's a match, the player must say whether the animal is clean or unclean to eat and then can keep those two cards and have another turn. If the cards are not a match, the cards are turned back over and it is the next player's turn. Play continues until all cards have been matched.

Let students make their own Animal Memory game to play at home. If time permits, students can glue the animal squares onto the construction paper squares in class. Otherwise, give students parts in a plastic bag for them to assemble later.

**MUSIC:**

None today.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Genesis 1:31 "God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good."

Do: Rehearse the memory verse a few times with the children repeating it. Form a circle. Take a small beanbag or balloon and toss it to one of the children. Have them try to say the verse or as much of the verse as they can and then toss the bag to someone else. Give everyone a turn.

# *family activity*

## **THE POINT:**

To show that God created certain animals for us to eat. We defined clean and unclean meats and the characteristics of clean animals, water creatures and birds.

## **ASK ME...**

What do land animals need to have to be clean?

What two things do fish need to be considered clean?

How many characteristics identify clean birds?

## **FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

Play Animal Memory together. When you get a match, remember to say whether the animal is clean or unclean.

Visit a zoo and talk about which animals are clean or unclean and why.

Create a book of animals by cutting pictures from magazines, sorting and gluing them on pages as clean or unclean.

Read the story of Noah and the ark and discuss why Noah took seven pairs of clean animals and only one pair of unclean animals.

Instructions: Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

-----cut along dotted line-----

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)

