

Be Prepared

Lesson learnt:

The Bible teaches us to be prepared for Jesus to come at any moment. Are we ready for when Jesus returns? Are we telling people about Jesus so that they are prepared for His arrival too?

Leaders should be able to teach a lesson on being prepared for when Jesus comes back after the children have just seen a visual representation of what it looks like being unprepared. They should also help children get prepared for what God has planned for them by teaching them about preparing their hearts by reading the word and speaking to God.

When we have the word cemented in our hearts - we are ready to face whatever situations we may encounter!

The story of the Ten Virgins (*Matthew 25*) is a suitable Bible story you could follow this object lesson with.

Items needed:

- 2 bags
- 2 lists of camping items to pack
- Some clothes
- Torch with batteries
- 1 umbrella
- 1 raincoat
- A phone
- 2 buckets of water and a ground sheet or a basin for the leaders to stand in if you are doing the lesson inside.

Link to video demonstration: <https://youtu.be/vles7W6FIB8>

Two leaders enter super excited about their camping trip and decide that they better go and pack. Have each leader take turns to tell the children what they are packing.

Leader 1	Phew it's almost time for us to go camping. I'd better get prepared and start packing. Let me see what the LIST says to pack: -some clothes -and a torch with batteries -Oh, they say it might rain so wear a raincoat-and bring an umbrella. Great! I'm prepared and ready to go!
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Leader 2	Phew it's almost time for us to go camping. I really should get ready and prepared. They gave me this list so I would know what to pack... ag but I'm sure there will be plenty of time... <i>(Leader gets distracted and starts playing on phone)</i>
Leader 3	LET'S GO EVERYONE! IT'S TIME FOR OUR CAMPING TRIP!
Leader 2	Oh NO I'm not prepared! Where's that list! It says it might rain –Oh I'm sure I'll be fine. Ag who needs a list anyway <i>(crumple and throw away the list)</i>
The two leaders pretend to be at the camp. It starts to get dark, and they hear thunder. Get some of the kids to help. Some can make the sound of the thunder by waving big sheets of cardboard. Others can pretend to be trees.	
Leader 1	Is that thunder I hear? I had better get my raincoat on and my umbrella out! <i>(Put the raincoat on and open the umbrella)</i>
Leader 2	Oh no, I'm not prepared for rain! <i>(Start to panic)</i>
Leader 3	<i>(Comes out with a bucket of water with a big rain cloud stuck to it and asks the children teasingly while nodding)</i> Children, do you think it is going to rain?
Leader 2	Are you SURE it's going to rain!?!? Do you have a raincoat I could borrow?
Have 2 other leaders tip the buckets of water over leader 1 and 2. If you are unable to do this object lesson outside have the leaders stand in a basin and tip the "rain" over them	
Leader 1	I am sure glad I was prepared! Oh, dear look at you leader 2.
Leader 2	<i>(Drenched)</i> I sure wish I had been more prepared!

