

Asking for Directions

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 **Lesson 12****Focus:**

Don't forget to ask
God for help.

Lesson 12**Bible Basis:**

Joshua 9:1-27

Lesson 12**Memory Verse:**

Blessed are those who keep his
statutes and seek him with all their
heart. —Psalm 119:2

In order to get them thinking about what can happen when we don't ask for help, students will watch a funny video clip about young children making big messes.

Materials:

- Internet access

➤ **Tell about a time when you did something without asking your parents and regretted it later.** (Students may talk about participating in an event, cooking a recipe or doing a project at home, eating food that was meant to be saved, staying up all night, etc.)

Sometimes we just can't see the whole picture of how something will turn out. But asking someone older and wiser before you take action can save you from getting into a big mess. Let's watch a video of some kids who didn't ask and got themselves into trouble!

Share this video [2:09]:

Funny Messy Kids and Pets Video Compilation 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Cz2EN95nVM>

Imagine how much less messy these situations would have been if the children asked for help cleaning up as soon as things got messy! The children in the video opened up ingredients, powder, and paint, and used them in ways that made a big mess that their parents had to clean up. But there are more ways for things to go wrong than just by making a big mess.

While you're all old enough to know not to make a big mess in your house, you still have to make decisions at home and school where it may be wise to ask someone for help.

➤ **What are some situations in your life where asking an adult for help would be a good idea?** (Answers will vary. Students may talk about situations with schoolwork, friends, and extracurricular activities. If possible, tell a story from your own childhood where you forgot to ask for help and got into trouble.)

Sometimes we don't want to ask for help because of our pride—we think we can handle it on our own. Other times we may just forget to ask for help. One time, Joshua, a leader of Israel, forgot to ask God for help when he had an important decision to make. Let's find out what happened.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 12 / November 20, 2022

Asking for Directions

for use as
STEP 4 

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Materials:

- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)
- Optional: Internet access, envelopes

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring paper and pens/pencils to class.

While your students are working on their Step 3 activities, write the following on your whiteboard (or screenshared document):

- God, I need Your wisdom with a friendship.
- God, I need Your help with a difficult family situation.
- God, I need Your help with which activities I should spend time on.
- God, I need Your help with the negative way I think about myself.

Joshua got into trouble because he trusted his own judgment and forgot to ask God for help. God always knows what we should do, and He is always available to us. We can come to Him in prayer to seek wisdom on big and small decisions.

Ask a volunteer to read today's memory verse (Psalm 119:2). **This verse tells us we will be happiest when we obey what God tells us to do in Scripture such as caring about other people and putting Him first. Seeking Him with all our heart means remembering to ask Him for help. God is loving and powerful. He wants us to come to Him instead of trying to do things our own way.**

Hand each child a sheet of paper and a pen/pencil. Tell students they will be writing a prayer letter to God, asking Him for help in an area of their lives. They may write about help they need in any area but point out the prompts you wrote on the whiteboard if they get stuck.

God is so wise and powerful! We can talk to Him about anything and He promises to hear us and answer.

Optional: If you feel comfortable, you can play this song in the background as your preteens write, [7:26]:

God I Look to You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KP1QKueGK-o>

Give students a few moments to work on their letters and sign their names; if you opted to provide envelopes, hand those out at this time. **Put this prayer letter to God in your Bible and pray it every day this week. Remember that as new situations arise, you can always write a new letter. And don't forget to write down how God answers you. When things are going wrong in our lives, God is always ready to help.**

Close in prayer.

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