

Lesson 87 - The Unhappy Princess

Aims

- * To learn that God is happy when we share with others
- * To learn that we are happy when we have friends to play with

Materials

- * Story - “The Unhappy Princess” by Tim Atkinson
- * Cardboard cut outs of the characters to tell the story
- * Pictures of the king and princess to colour in
- * Pictures of toys from a toy magazine
- * Toys brought in by children

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction
2. Story & Discussion
3. Activities - make a happy or sad princess, colour a picture, play with your toys
4. Review the aims
5. Prayer

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1) Introduction

*Talk about toys and the games children play. Ask the children about the toys they brought in.

- Which toys did you bring?
- Which is your favourite toy?
- How many toys do you have?
- What games do you like to play?
- Which is your favourite game?
- Who do you like to play with?

* Today’s story is about a Princess who had lots of toys, but she wasn’t happy.

2) Story & Discussion

Read “The Unhappy Princess.” As you tell it, use the cardboard cut-outs and pictures of toys.

- * How many toys did the princess have?
 - *Her room was full of them*
- * What things did the King give the princess to make her happy?
 - *a beautiful dress,*
 - *a big doll’s house,*

- *a real pony*

* What did the king's advisors say she needed?

- *more sleep*

- *more food*

- *to read more.*

What did the princess notice about the children outside?

- *they were laughing*

- *they were poor*

- *they had no toys*

- *they were happy and having lots of fun*

* What made the princess happy?

- *having friends to share her toys with*

- *She felt happy in her heart*

* Would you like more toys? How many?

* Is it more fun to play by yourself or with others?

* What can we learn from this story?

3) Activities

* Make a happy or sad princess - Make this to remind the children what made the princess happy. Cut out the princess's happy face. Attach it loosely over the sad face, so they can be switched.

* Colour the picture of King Alfred or Princess Amelia.

* Play with toys - Children play with the toys that they brought (hopefully together)

4) Review the aims

* To learn that God is happy when we share with others

* To learn that we are happy when we have friends to play with.

5) Prayer

Thank you Heavenly Father for all the toys we have. Thank you that we can share our toys and have friends to play with

The Unhappy Princess

By Tim Atkinson



Once there was a king. His name was Alfred and he had a daughter whose name was Amelia. They lived in big castle. The king loved his daughter very much and to make her happy, he bought many new toys for her. She had so many toys, her room was full of them. Yet what was strange was the princess wasn't happy.

The king decided to buy her a beautiful dress with many rosettes, but still she was unhappy. Then he bought her a big doll's house for her dolls. He even bought a real pony that she could ride in the courtyard. But nothing helped. The more gifts Amelia received the sadder she became. She couldn't smile anymore. The only time you could see her teeth was when she brushed them. The king became worried. What could he do? He went to his council to get some advice.

"What must I do to make my daughter happy again?" he asked.

"Your majesty, she needs more sleep," said one.

"Your majesty, she needs to eat more," suggested another.

"Your majesty, she needs to read more," said a third.

The king tried everything, but nothing helped. Soon he also became sad and the castle became sad castle.

One day Princess Amelia looked out of the window and heard children laughing. They looked very poor. They had no toys like the princess, but they were happy and having lots of fun.

"Maybe they can be my friends," she thought. She raced down the castle stairs and asked them, "Can you be my friends?"

"Yes, we want to be your friends, but we are so poor and hungry. Can you give us a piece of bread?"

"Come with me," said the princess, "And you can have bread and cream cakes and other wonderful things." Amelia started to smile and then to laugh. When the king heard his daughter's laughter he was overjoyed.

"Come to my play room and play with my toys," the princess told the poor children. "I have so many and I don't need them all for myself."

From that day Princess Amelia always had a smile on her face, because she had friends to share her toys with and she felt happy in her heart.

Make cardboard cut outs of the characters to tell the story

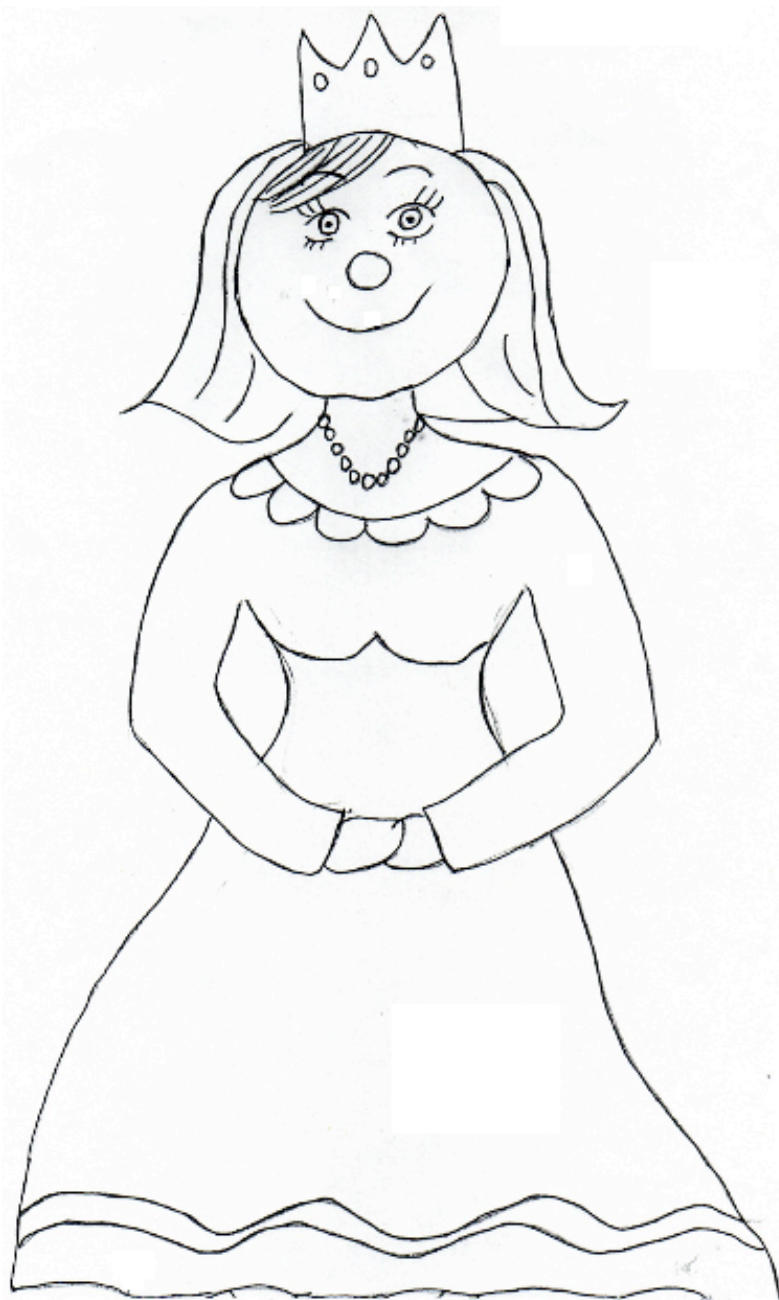




King Alfred



Princess Amelia



Princess Amelia



