

The Attributes of God: Self-Sufficient

Elementary Lesson January 26, 2020



Vintage Elementary

January 26

God is Self-Sufficient: He doesn't NEED anything!

Exodus 16:13-21

Verse to Memorize: Psalm 86:8 There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

Catechism Question: What is God? God is the creator of everyone and everything.

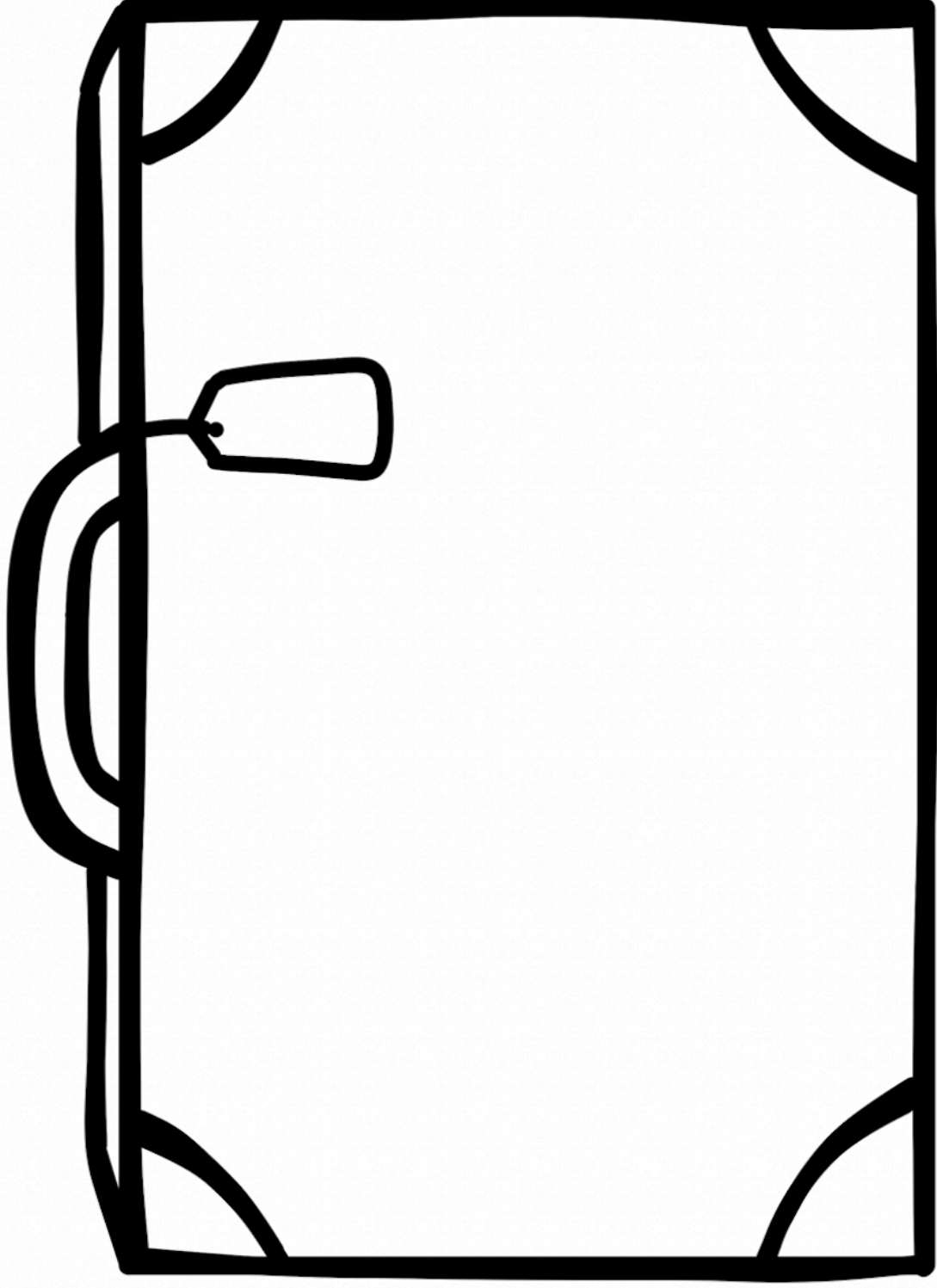
Session	Activity	Materials Needed
Welcome and Greeting	Greet students and discuss their week. Spend time building relationships.	
Music	"Our God is an Awesome God"	Spotify or Apple Music
Memory Verse Game	<p>Review the memory verse with students and what that verse means. This week we are going to take time to practice saying the verse but also to reflect on what it means in relation to our lives.</p> <p>Allow students to partner up and practice saying their memory verse. As they work with their partner, prompt them to think about the following question: What are some things we have learned about God so far that show that he is like no one else and that there are no works like his? Refer back to the attributes already covered and allow those to help in conversation (incomprehensible, immutable, self-existent, and this week we will learn self-sufficient)</p> <p>Bring students back together to say the memory verse as a class and discuss together the ways that God is like no other. Remember that this verse is guiding our lessons during this series so we will keep coming back to it!</p>	

<p>Catechism and Lesson</p>	<p>Review with students that we are on week 4 of our 8 weeks of learning the answer to the question: What is God? God is the creator of everyone and everything. Review that God is the creator of everyone and everything so He has special parts of himself that we do not have. Review the attributes we have already learned: Incomprehensible, Immutable, and Self Existent, and go over the motions for each of those attributes.</p> <p>This week we will learn a fourth part of God’s character- that he is self-sufficient. (Show the motion by making two thumbs and pointing at yourself) Self Sufficient means that God doesn’t need anything, He is everything he needs!</p> <p>Don’t take my word for it! Let’s learn about how God is self sufficient (do motion) by reading from His word. We want to hear about how He is never in need!</p> <p>Open your bible to Exodus 16:13-21 to show students where to find the story of God creating something out of nothing in the story the Israelites. Read the following child friendly version.</p> <p>When the Israelites were traveling in the desert they were hungry. That evening quail flew in and covered the camp and in the morning there was a layer of dew all over the camp. When the layer of dew had lifted, there on the wilderness ground was a fine flaky something, fine as frost on the ground. The Israelites took one look and said to one another, <i>What is it?</i> They had no idea what it was.</p> <p>So Moses told them, “It’s the bread God has given you to eat. And these are God’s instructions: ‘Gather enough for each person, about two quarts per person; gather enough for everyone in your tent.’”</p> <p>The People of Israel went to work and started gathering, some more, some less, but when they measured out what they had gathered, those who gathered more had no extra and those who gathered less weren’t short—each person had gathered as much as was needed.</p> <p>Moses said to them, “Don’t leave any of it until morning.”</p>	
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	<p>But they didn't listen to Moses. A few of the men kept back some of it until morning. It got wormy and smelled bad. And Moses lost his temper with them.</p> <p>They gathered it every morning, each person according to need. Then the sun heated up and it melted.</p> <p>When the Israelites were wandering in the desert, they were hungry and began to grumble about where they were going to get their food from. They could not survive on their own, could not even get enough food to eat for themselves. So, what did God do? (Discuss the miracle of God providing Manna and how out of nothing God provided food for every day, and enough food to sustain or keep the people alive.) We as people have things we need to survive- like the Israelites needed food. God can provide those needs. He is Self-Sufficient. He himself has no needs.</p>	
<p>Small Groups and Prayer</p>	<p>Split into small groups of 3 or 4. In each small group allow students to discuss the following:</p> <p>Share about a time in your life when you felt like the Israelites. You had something you REALLY needed but didn't feel like you could do it for yourself. Think about help with school or homework, sports teams, even making dinner or getting clothes you need.</p> <p>As students share, walk around the room and encourage discussion. Share times when you have had a need.</p> <p>Bring students back together to discuss who helped them with their needs. Why couldn't you complete everything by yourself? You are not self-sufficient like God, and that is ok. That is what makes this characteristic or attribute so important. Even though we have needs God doesn't. That means he will always be there to meet our needs in every way we can imagine.</p>	
<p>Missional Moment</p>	<p>Discuss how each week we will have a missional moment where we discuss a way our church is on mission for Jesus in our city or in the world! We will talk about the same group for a whole month, learning about them throughout that month and praying for them. This month we are learning about Vintage's new church plant: Vintage West!</p>	<p>Update from Vintage West</p>

	<p>Use the pictures included if needed to review our missional moment of the month: West.</p> <p>With this being our last week learning about Vintage West, we want to hear an update on how Vintage West is doing and some exciting things going on!</p> <p>Read the note from Vintage West and share what is encouraging about hearing from our church plant. Share ways that you will continue to pray for Vintage West.</p>	
Activity	<p>What do you need?</p> <p>Give students a suitcase paper and tell them to draw or write everything they would need to survive for a week. As students draw and write ask questions to help them think of other things they need- what will you eat? What will you wear? What will you do for fun? What will you do if it rains?</p> <p>Share suitcases and all of the items we need in just one week of our lives. Now put a suitcase in the middle of the table and tell students to think about what would go in God’s suitcase. What does he NEED? Allow students to debate the things God NEEDS. Push back on the idea that he needs anything.</p> <p>God doesn’t NEED anything. He is perfect in himself. He doesn’t need food or water or shelter. He doesn’t even need us. He does love us and sent Jesus for us even though he didn’t need us.</p>	<p>“What is in Your Suitcase?” Printable</p>
Closing and Pick Up	<p>Allow students to continue working on activities from the day or free play until parents arrive. Give a five minute timer for pickup before the end of service. This is a great time to play the spotify playlist of worship music.</p>	

Resources:



What is in your suitcase?

