**Bible Story 109**  
The Floating Ax Head  
2 Kings 6:1-7

**OPENING ACTIVITIES**

- **Float and Sink Experiment**
  - Give each child a bowl with water and 5 small objects
  - Give each child a chart on which to record which objects sink or float
  - Give them aluminum foil to make boats that will float their sinking objects

**WORSHIP**

**PRAYER**

**STORY**  
2 Kings 6:1-7

- Introduce the story by offering to allow the children to borrow an object that is important to you and that you use frequently. Ask them how they would feel if they were using it to help someone and they broke it
- **Use props to tell the story**
  - When you describe verse 5, show the children an ax
  - As you discuss the end of verse 5 through verse 6, display a large clear bowl with water in it. Drop a metal nail in and watch it sink to the bottom. Put a stick in and ask if the stick by itself will make the nail float to the top
- God, by His power, made the ax head float when Elisha took a step of faith and obedience to throw in the stick. The man also had to take a step of faith and obedience to reach out and receive the ax head

**MEMORY VERSE**  
2 Kings 6:5

“But as one was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, ‘Alas, master! For it was borrowed.’”

- Practice the verse by acting
  - As you say the verse together as a class, have all the children pretend to be the sons of the prophets swinging axes at the trees
  - Choose one child to pretend his ax head fell into the water. When the class says, “the iron ax head fell into the water,” he stops swinging and puts his hands on his face as if in great surprise
  - After the class says, “and he cried out and said,” your volunteer says, “Alas, master! For it was borrowed.”
  - Repeat several times with various children pretending to be the man who loses the ax head
ACTIVITIES

• Color
  o Color the picture with the memory verse on it

• Application
  o It was God’s power that made the ax head float to the top of the river. God solved the man’s problem, but the man still had to reach out to receive the solution to his problem. It wouldn’t have helped him if he left the ax head floating in the river.
  o The biggest problem any person has is that we are separated from God forever because of our sin. Jesus solved that problem for us through His death on the cross. Yet, like this man, we have to receive what Jesus has done for us.
  o Display the large clear bowl of water from the story with nothing in it.
  o Set a rock with a face drawn on it in the bottom of the bowl because we are drowning in our sins.
  o Float a wooden cross on the top of the water.
  o Explain that Jesus’ death on the cross paid the penalty for all our sins, but we don’t get the benefit of forgiveness unless we receive Jesus as our personal Savior.
  o Show the children how people can pray to ask Jesus into their hearts.
  o Reach out to receive the cross from the water and rescue the rock from the bottom too.
  o Give the children the opportunity to receive Jesus as their Savior if they have not previously done so.

• Object Lesson
  o Have each child share a concern that they have, even if it seems small.
  o Write it on a piece of aluminum foil with permanent marker.
  o Put the aluminum foil on the bottom of the pool, and talk about the fact that even little things can bother us a lot and make us feel like we’re underwater.
  o Encourage the children that God cared about this man’s ax head. He cares about the things that concern us as well.
  o Pray about the concerns that are written on the aluminum foil and shape the foil into a boat that can float.
  o All of our concerns are in Jesus’ hands. We don't need to let them make us sad. He made iron float, and He'll take care of our problems too.

MATERIALS

- Coloring paper with memory verse on it (Print the coloring page from http://www.calvaryknoxville.org/OTTableOfContents.pdf)
- Aluminum foil
- Crayons
- Ax
- Large clear bowl of water
- Metal nail
- Small stick
- Permanent marker
- Towels
- Bowl of water for each child
- 5 small waterproof objects for each child
- Float and sink chart for each child
- Object of importance to you
- Rock with a face drawn on it with permanent marker
- Small wooden cross
- Towels