

# KIDStory<sup>®</sup>

A PROGRAM OF KIDS AROUND THE WORLD

## YEAR B

"Generation after generation stands in awe of (God's) work; each one tells stories of your mighty acts." Psalm 145:4 (MSG)



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[katw.net](http://katw.net)

# Welcome to KIDStory & KIDStory Clubs

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*Generation after generation stands in awe of (God's) work;  
each one tells stories of Your mighty acts.* Psalm 145:4 (MSG)

We are so glad you have decided to reach and disciple children in your community. The materials and lessons in this manual are part of a strategy called KIDStory which equips leaders to create environments where more more kids can encounter the love of Jesus. We believe what you will discover here will revolutionize the way you teach from the Bible, and through His Word and Spirit, your life will be transformed as well. Children will become eye-witnesses and active participants in God's Story and not just be distant observers. KIDStory relies on Jesus' method of teaching: telling stories, interactive experiences and meaningful discussions.

These strategies are fun to learn, and they are easy to use and share with others. Leaders are taught to listen rather than lecture ... listen to the Holy Spirit and the responses of the children, then encourage the children to also listen and be obedient to God's voice. The questions and interactions posed by the leaders are not just to learn information, but to facilitate Holy Spirit transformation of the heart and mind. KIDStory is about God transforming a life, a family and ultimately a community through His Story and His Spirit.

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## CORE ESSENTIALS

There are certain things you will find in every aspect of KIDStory, whether you are training leaders or leading a group of children. We want to create environments where children learn: who God is, who they are (their purpose and value) and how to have a relationship with Jesus that is real and personal. We believe these things will happen when the following core essentials are practiced:

- **Bible Centered:** The core of every lesson, both in teaching children and training leaders, is the Bible Story. Everything continually keeps coming back to the story and discovering who God is and how to follow Him.
- **Fun:** We want these truths to stick and become a part of a child's everyday life. In order for this to happen and to engage a child, it needs to be fun. When there is fun and laughter, children will want to be involved, come back and bring their friends with them.
- **Reproducing:** KIDStory is simple and practical. Leaders can show others how to use this strategy and the kids can retell the Bible Stories to family and friends.
- **Relational:** Of all the things that draw children closest to Jesus, significant relationships are by far the most critical thing needed. It's not just about teaching a lesson, but it's getting to know the children and what is stirring in their hearts and souls.
- **Spirit-led:** Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be the One to reveal all the things that Jesus taught. The Holy Spirit is the One who transforms a life. We need to be listening and moving in directions the Holy Spirit leads us in.

# KIDStory Clubs

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*... are environments where more kids are walking in the love of Jesus.*

**A KIDStory Club is a place where** children have fun and are free to share what they are learning and experiencing; a place where God's presence is very real and evident. Jesus created this kind of environment by welcoming, loving and blessing the children. It's here that children are not just learning from a book, but through relationships. It's where they feel safe and are known and accepted and do likewise for others. KIDStory Clubs are also a safe place for parents and leaders to learn and grow in how to lead children spiritually – a place where people are consistently equipped and encouraged.

**A KIDStory Club can meet** wherever and whenever is most convenient and leaders can even give it their own name. What makes a KIDStory Club unique is the application of the 5 Core Essentials. In a KIDStory Club, the stories of the Bible are told in fun, creative ways, while being Biblically accurate. As important as it is to tell God's story, it is not enough. It's also about listening – listening to the Spirit and listening to a child reveal how the Spirit is stirring their heart.

**The methods used to tell and retell God's story are** coupled with engaging questions that allow the Holy Spirit to operate in the hearts of kids. It capitalizes on what children have heard and learned so that it becomes a discovery process, bringing about true life change. The questions posed by leaders are not just for retention but for transformation of the heart and mind, leading to real life application. Fostering this kind of environment provides leaders the opportunity to follow up on the things the Holy Spirit is teaching and revealing.

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Before we get to the actual lessons, we want to briefly let you know the different elements of a KIDStory lesson and a KIDStory Club. The next 3 pages were created to outline and describe these different components - each one has a distinct purpose to engage the children in the Bible, with one another and with God Himself.

For more information about Kids Around the World, go to [katw.net](http://katw.net)

For more information specifically about KIDStory, go to [katw.net/kidstory](http://katw.net/kidstory)

So, Welcome!! We pray the Lord opens up many doors for you to impact children with God's transforming hope through the telling of His Story and the working of His Spirit.

# Lesson Format for KIDStory

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## Opening:

- Choose a question or activity where children can share a personal story.
- The answer should generate an emotion from the children.
- Ask a question that needs an answer more than “Yes” or “No.”

## Background:

- Define words or explain geographical locations and cultural differences the children may not know.
- Explain important events that happened before today’s story.
- Review important concepts from the previous story if applicable.

## Tell the Story:

- Break down story into 4 or 5 “chapters.”
- Involve the children in the story.
- Use dramatic elements that would make the story more engaging and interactive. Use visual objects to show the group if possible.
- Keep the length of the story appropriate for the children to learn so they can tell others.

## Retell:

- Have children use their Bibles to read and retell the story.
- Choose a game or activity to engage the children.

## Discover & Response Questions:

- Pray about this lesson regarding where the Holy Spirit might lead the discussion.
- Use questions that engage the heart and not just the head.

The Opening doesn’t have to be directly tied to the Bible story but gets the children thinking in that direction.

You don’t want to stop during the story to explain words so make sure to go over them all in the Background time.

Tell the story just as it is in the Bible. Don’t add your own words or interpretations. Make it memorable but stay true to God’s Word. It is crucial that the children know that the story comes from the Bible and that it is true.

Make sure the children are being Biblically accurate when retelling the story.

Move the children from remembering facts in the story to what God is doing in their hearts and lives. We want the Spirit to speak to each person for the implication that will be for them specifically.

# Ideas for KIDStory Lessons

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## **Tell the Story:**

- Use costumes or objects.
- Have children make sound effects (rubbing hands to make the sound of rain).
- Move around the room. Use lots of facial expressions.
- Tell the story in First Person (as though you were one of the characters in the story).

## **Retell:**

- Game: Musical Chairs. Person standing without a chair tells first part of story. Repeat until story is done.
- Art: Billboard. Design a roadside billboard to tell the story.
- Drama: Give children an object and see how many ways they can use it to tell the story.
- Music: Create a rap of the main events in the story.
- Writing: What's Next. Have the children write out what God wants them to do with what they heard in the story.

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## **Discover & Response Questions:**

### **Head Questions (Facts)**

- What stood out in the story?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear/see/smell/feel?
- What is Jesus/God teaching them in this story?
- How did God/Jesus respond when...
- What have we learned about what God/Jesus is like?
- How are the characters alike or different in the story?

### **Hand Questions (Action)**

- What did you hear today that makes you think you ought to change your life?
- After hearing the story, how will you live differently?
- Who can you share this story with this week?
- How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?

### **Heart Questions (Feelings)**

- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- What do you think was going on in \_\_\_\_\_'s heart and mind in this story?
- How do you feel about God/Jesus now?
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?

# Sample Format for KIDStory Clubs

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## Welcome:

- Greet children and create an environment where they are welcomed
- Formal opening to the club time
- Prayer

## Games:

- Have fun!
- Children and leaders are engaged, where relationships are being built.
- Choose games where all the children can be involved.

## Large Group:

- *KidConnect*: Children gather in small groups with their leaders to share stories from the week which includes following up on previous decisions from answering the Hand Questions. The **Opening** could be done here or in the large group.
- Worship: Connecting with God.
- **Background** and creative **telling of the Bible story**.
- Story Review and possibly one **Retell** activity.

## Small Group:

- **Retell** the Bible Story using a variety of activities each week.
- **Ask head, heart and hand questions**.
- Close in prayer and give a blessing.

## Closing:

- Volunteer to retell the Bible story.
- Closing words, announcements, prayer.
- Greet parents.

The Welcome is a time to gather the children together, have them feel welcomed and get connected with the leader and their friends.

You want to create a safe environment where children are having fun, everyone is involved and want to invite their friends.

Discipleship continues as personal interaction can happen with the KidConnect time and following up on previous answers to Hand Questions. The Bible story is told in ways that children can imagine being there. There is community through small group interaction and connecting with God through worship and His Word.

This is a time to show love and care while discipling the children with God's Word and in response to the Spirit's leading.

Bring the club meeting to a close, creating enthusiasm to return with testimonies and friends.

# KIDStory

## Bible Story Outlines – Year B

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1. **God Gives Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden –**  
Genesis 1:27-30; 2:8-9, 15-17
2. **Adam and Eve Feel Shame –** Genesis 3:7-13
3. **Abraham: God’s Covenant –** Genesis 17:1-8
4. **Abraham’s Son Isaac is Born –** Genesis 21:2-7
5. **Abraham Sends Away Hagar and Ishmael –** Genesis 21:14 -20
6. **Abraham Gives Up Isaac –** Genesis 22:9-18
7. **Moses Tells Pharaoh: “Let my People Go” –**  
Exodus 5:1-2, 4, 9; 7:3-4, 7:14-11:10 (summarized)
8. **Moses: The Passover –** Exodus 12:21-30
9. **Moses: God Provides Water in the Wilderness –** Exodus 17:1-6
10. **Daniel is Faithful to God –** Daniel 1:11-20
11. **Daniel’s Friends Saved in the Furnace –** Daniel 3:13-28
12. **Daniel in the Lion’s Den –** Daniel 6:10-23
13. **Elijah and the False Prophets –** 1 Kings 18:25-39
14. **Jesus’ Birth: Shepherds Visit Him –** Luke 2:8-20
15. **Jesus is Baptized –** Matthew 3:13-17
16. **Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet –** John 13:3-15
17. **Jesus Teaches on Treasures –** Matthew 13:44-46
18. **Jesus Stops the Raging Storm –** Mark 4:35-41
19. **Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus –** Mark 10:46-52
20. **Jesus Blesses the Children –** Mark 10:13-16
21. **Jesus is Crucified –** Mark 15:33-39
22. **God Releases the Holy Spirit on Pentecost –** Acts 2:1-12
23. **Paul’s Jailer Becomes a Follower of Christ –** Acts 16:25-34
24. **Paul in Corinth –** Acts 18:4-11





# God Gives Adam & Eve the Garden of Eden (1)

## Genesis 1:27-30; 2:8-9, 15-17

### ① REVIEW

- This might be the first week with your group in the new year. Discover some things about each child. You might start by sharing some things about yourself. If you have time prior to this first class, put some objects in a box or bag that would help you tell your story; things that tell what you like and memories of when you were a child.

### ② OPENING

If you could live anywhere, where would you like to be?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Drawing:** If you have the materials, have the children draw what they saw or what they liked best as the story was being told. Have each child share their pictures with the rest of the group. If there are different scenes from the story, have the children put them in the order that they occurred.

### BACKGROUND

God has created everything: sky, moon, stars, plants, animals, birds, fish, a man and a woman. I wonder where God would have them live.

### BIBLE STORY

So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said:

“Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth and be its master. Rule over the fish in the sea and over the birds in the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

God said, “Look, I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds and all the trees whose fruits have seeds in them. They will be food for you. I have given all the green plants as food for every wild animal, every bird of the air, and every small crawling animal.” And it happened.

Then the LORD God planted a garden in the east, in a place called Eden, and put the man he had formed into it.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters or groups of characters in the story?
- What did God say to them?
- How does God relate to the people in the story? What does this show us?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- How do you feel about taking care of God's creation?
- What has God given you to take care of? What is good and bad about taking care of things?
- What is the most interesting thing you heard today?
- What does this story tell us about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Just like God talked to Adam and Eve, what do you sense God is saying to you today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The LORD God caused every beautiful tree and every tree that was good for food to grow out of the ground. In the middle of the garden, God put the tree that gives life and also the tree that gives the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God put the man in the Garden of Eden to care for it and work it. The LORD God commanded him, "You may eat the fruit from any tree in the garden, but you must not eat the fruit from the tree which gives the knowledge of good and evil. If you ever eat fruit from that tree, you will die!"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child to see what that You have created and give You all the praise and glory.



# God Gives Adam & Eve the Garden of Eden (2)

## Genesis 1:27-30; 2:8-9, 15-17

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell the Creation Story.
- Who retold the story to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from last week?

### ② OPENING

What food do you like the most? Which ones do you like the least?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Story Parts:** Give each child a certain scene of the story for them to draw. Have the children put the story in order by the drawings that have been made. The children can then retell the story by using the pictures they have drawn.

### BACKGROUND

God created a world that would provide the best for His ultimate creation: Adam and Eve. He would also provide the best place for them to live. Let's hear about it in today's Bible Story ...

### BIBLE STORY

So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said:

“Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth and be its master. Rule over the fish in the sea and over the birds in the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

God said, “Look, I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds and all the trees whose fruits have seeds in them. They will be food for you. I have given all the green plants as food for every wild animal, every bird of the air, and every small crawling animal.” And it happened.

Then the LORD God planted a garden in the east, in a place called Eden, and put the man he had formed into it.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- How do you think our world is the same today as it was when God created it? I wonder how it is different.
- What were you imagining as the story was being told?
- What do you think it was like for Adam and Eve?
- If I was Adam or if I was Eve, I would have \_\_\_\_\_.
- What is something that God has given you to take care of? What happens when you take care of it? What about when you don't?
- What does this story tell us about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- God had Adam and Eve take care of His creation. What do you sense God wants you to do to take care of His creation? In what ways do you sense God is wanting you to take care of people you know and even yourself?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The LORD God caused every beautiful tree and every tree that was good for food to grow out of the ground. In the middle of the garden, God put the tree that gives life and also the tree that gives the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God put the man in the Garden of Eden to care for it and work it. The LORD God commanded him, "You may eat the fruit from any tree in the garden, but you must not eat the fruit from the tree which gives the knowledge of good and evil. If you ever eat fruit from that tree, you will die!"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Thank you Lord for how You created each child so wonderfully. Bless each child with the understanding of how they have been created in Your image.



# Adam and Eve Feel Shame (1)

## Genesis 3:7-13

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell the Creation story.
- Who retold this story to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If you could make all the decisions for a day, what is one rule that you would make sure was followed?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

### BACKGROUND

Last week we talked about God creating everything. The last thing He created was Adam and Eve. Sometime before Adam and Eve, God made angels who were to help God. The most handsome and strongest one was called Lucifer or later was called Satan.

Satan fought against God and got kicked out of Heaven, the place where God lives. Satan was angry and has gone about trying to destroy all the good that God created. Now back to Adam and Eve. God only had one rule for them to obey.

They were not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Except for that one rule, they could completely enjoy all that He had created for them. Adam and Eve were tempted and they ate from the tree. They disobeyed God. What would they do? How would they feel? What is God going to do?

### BIBLE STORY

Then, it was as if their eyes were opened. They realized they were naked, so they sewed fig leaves together and made something to cover themselves.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What were you thinking about as the story was being told today? What did you hear and see?
- What choices did Adam and Eve make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What do you think God was feeling throughout the story?
- What do you think was going on in Adam's heart and mind in this story?
- When we disobey God, it is called sin. How did Adam and Eve respond when they disobeyed and sinned against God?
- The Bible tells us that we all sin. How do you feel when you do something that dishonors God?
- What do you think upsets God the most when we sin against Him?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What did this story tell us about God?
- From what you learned today, what do you feel God might be saying to you?
- Because of today's story how might you live differently?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then they heard the LORD God walking in the garden during the cool part of the day, and the man and his wife hid from the LORD God among the trees in the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said, "Where are you?"

The man answered, "I heard you walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid." God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat fruit from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

The man said, "You gave this woman to me and she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "How could you have done such a thing?"

She answered, "The snake tricked me, so I ate the fruit."

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a desire to know you more and to learn how to follow you.



# Adam and Eve Feel Shame (2)

## Genesis 3:7-13

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell the Creation story.
- Who retold the Creation story to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Temptation is when we have this huge feeling and want to do something. I wish I was not tempted to ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Rope Game:** Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

### BACKGROUND

Adam and Eve have disobeyed God – they ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Satan lied to them and they dishonored God. How would they feel? How would God feel? What would He do?

### BIBLE STORY

Then, it was as if their eyes were opened. They realized they were naked, so they sewed fig leaves together and made something to cover themselves.

Then they heard the LORD God walking in the garden during the cool part of the day, and the man and his wife hid from the LORD God among the trees in the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said, "Where are you?"

The man answered, "I heard you walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid." God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat fruit from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters in today's story?
- How does God respond to the people in the story? This tells me that \_\_\_\_\_.
- How did Adam and Eve respond?
- What choices did they make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What do you feel is really important to God? What was important to Adam?
- What do you think God was feeling? How does this story make you feel?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you think God wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The man said, "You gave this woman to me and she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "How could you have done such a thing?"

She answered, "The snake tricked me, so I ate the fruit."

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, we thank you that you are kind and forgiving. Bless each child with a heart to be close to Yours.





# Abraham: God's Covenant (1)

## Genesis 17:1-8

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

One day I want to ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Hand Motions:** Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

People continue to disobey and not follow after God. God calls out to one man, Abram. God asks him to move away from his home country and He will make a great nation from Abram's family to follow after Him. You will hear us use the word descendant. These are the sons and daughters that continue to have families. You are a descendant of your parents. Your parents are descendants of your grandparents. When you have children, they will be your descendants.

### BIBLE STORY

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty. Obey me and do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, and I will make you the ancestor of many people."

Then Abram bowed face down on the ground. God said to him, "I am making my agreement with you: I will make you the father of many nations. I am changing your name from Abram to Abraham because I am making you a father of many nations.

I will give you many descendants. New nations will be born from you, and kings will come from you. And I will make an agreement between me and you and all your descendants from now on: I will be your God and the God of all your descendants.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What might God have been teaching or showing Abram in this story?
- What was Abram risking in order to follow God?
- What do you think Abram was thinking about when God came to him?
- What do you feel is really important to God? What was important to Abram?
- Is there something God may want you to do that would be risky like Abram? If so, what is stopping you?
- What is something you learned today about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- From what you learned in today's story, how might you live differently?
- Who can you share this story with?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

You live in the land of Canaan now as a stranger, but I will give you and your descendants all this land forever. And I will be the God of your descendants.”

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, thank you for your promises. Bless these children to hear your voice like Abram did and to know that you keep your promises.



# Abraham: God's Covenant (2)

## Genesis 17:1-8

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

I can expect God to ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

### BACKGROUND

God has chosen Abraham to make a great nation from him and a son that God will give him. God promises Abraham that he will have more children than the stars in the sky.

God makes a great promise to Abraham that He will never break.

Descendants are children who the mom and dad will have and then those children will have children and it keeps going. You are a descendant of your grandparents and parents.

### BIBLE STORY

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty. Obey me and do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, and I will make you the ancestor of many people."

Then Abram bowed face down on the ground. God said to him, "I am making my agreement with you: I will make you the father of many nations. I am changing your name from Abram to Abraham because I am making you a father of many nations.

I will give you many descendants. New nations will be born from you, and kings will come from you.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- How did the story describe God's relationship with Abram?
- Do you have a relationship with God? If so, how did it start?
- I wonder what it was like for Abraham to hear from God.
- How do you respond to God ?
- What would you like God to say to you?
- If God were to change your name, what would you want it to be? Why did you pick that name? How might it change your life?
- What did you notice about God from the story?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What does God want you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

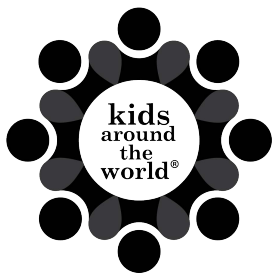
And I will make an agreement between me and you and all your descendants from now on: I will be your God and the God of all your descendants.

You live in the land of Canaan now as a stranger, but I will give you and your descendants all this land forever. And I will be the God of your descendants.”

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with a vision for how you can do great and wonderful things through them like you did with Abram.



# Abraham's Son Isaac is Born (1) Genesis 21:2-7

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Something or someone that makes me laugh a lot is ...

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Tingo Tingo Tango:** Have the children get into a circle. Pass an object around as you are saying "Tingo, Tingo, Tango." When you get to "Tango," whoever has the ball has to say the next part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so the children do not know who will be next.

## BACKGROUND

In previous weeks we have talked about Abraham receiving a promise that he would be the father of a great nation though he did not have any children. He got impatient and had a son with Hagar.

But God is faithful and does not forget His promises. Three men visited with Abraham when he was 99 and told him that in one year they would return and Sarah would have a son.

## BIBLE STORY

Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age.

Everything happened at the time God had said it would. Abraham named his son Isaac, the son Sarah gave birth to. He circumcised Isaac when he was eight days old as God had commanded.

Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born. And Sarah said, "God has made me laugh. Everyone who hears about this will laugh with me. No one thought that I would be able to have Abraham's child, but even though Abraham is old I have given him a son."

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters in the story?
- I wonder what it was like for them to be part of God's story?
- What do you think of Sarah laughing after receiving God's promise?
- What do you think was going on in Abraham's and Sarah's heart and mind in this story?
- Why do you suppose God waited so long?
- What is something your family has been waiting a long time for? How do you feel when you have to wait a long time for something you really want?
- What promise from God have you been waiting for a long time?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- From what you learned today, what do you feel the Holy Spirit might be saying to you?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with patience for You to fulfill your promises. May you make Your Presence known to them as they wait for you to answer them.



# Abraham's Son Isaac is Born (2) Genesis 21:2-7

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Have you ever held a new born baby? What was that like?

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Hand Motions:** Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

## BACKGROUND

When the three men came to visit with Abraham and Sarah to let them know that she would have a baby, Sarah laughed. The Lord said: "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

## BIBLE STORY

The Lord cared for Sarah as He had said and did for her what He had promised. Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age.

Everything happened at the time God had said it would. Abraham named his son Isaac, the son Sarah gave birth to. He circumcised Isaac when he was eight days old as God had commanded.

Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born. And Sarah said, "God has made me laugh. Everyone who hears about this will laugh with me. No one thought that I would be able to have Abraham's child, but even though Abraham is old I have given him a son."

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible story?
- What did you learn about Sarah's relationship with God from this story?
- How did Sarah respond? I wonder how people in her village responded when Sarah had a baby at 90 years old.
- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What makes you laugh?
- How do you feel God is taking care of you right now?
- Has God ever done a miracle for you or your family? When that happened, I felt \_\_\_\_\_.
- How does this make you feel about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with Your loving kindness and grace. May they see You as a God who truly cares about all the things they care about.





# Abraham Sends Away Hagar and Ishmael (1)

## Genesis 21:14 -20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you were really thirsty or hungry.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Dice:** Each small group has one dice. The first person rolls the dice. If they get a "1" or "2" they can pass the dice to the next person and do not have to tell any part of the story. If they roll a "3" or "4" they have to tell the next part of the story. If they roll a "5" or "6" the dice goes back in reverse to the person who just had the dice and they have to tell the next part of the story.

### BACKGROUND

Abraham and his wife, Sarah, have waited many years to have the child that God has promised. They got impatient and so Abraham had a son with Sarah's maid, Hagar.

They named him Ishmael. Thirteen years later, Abraham and Sarah, when they are over 90 years old, finally have the promised son and name him, Isaac. Hagar and Ishmael are making fun of Isaac which upsets Sarah and she has Abraham throw them out into the wilderness.

### BIBLE STORY

Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a leather bag full of water. He gave them to Hagar and sent her away. Carrying these things and her son, Hagar went and wandered in the desert of Beersheba.

Later, when all the water was gone from the bag, Hagar put her son under a bush. Then she went away a short distance and sat down. She thought, "My son will die, and I cannot watch this happen." She sat there and began to cry.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?
- What choices did Abraham make? What else could he have done? What happened because of the choices Abraham made?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story? How would you have felt if you were Ishmael? Are there people now who are pushing you away? What do you think God wants to show you because of this?
- Because of today's story, how might you live differently?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

God heard the boy crying, and God's angel called to Hagar from heaven. He said, "What is wrong, Hagar? Don't be afraid! God has heard the boy crying there. Help him up and take him by the hand. I will make his descendants into a great nation."

Then God showed Hagar a well of water. So she went to the well and filled her bag with water and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy as he grew up. Ishmael lived in the desert and became an archer.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with the gift of hospitality that everyone would feel welcome when they are with them.



# Abraham Sends Away Hagar and Ishmael (2)

## Genesis 21:14 -20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you were sad.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Group Poster:** If you have the materials, have the children work together on making a poster that can tell the Bible Story. Allow the children to retell the story by using what they drew on the poster.

### BACKGROUND

Sarah has finally had her long awaited, promised son, Isaac. But she discovers that Hagar and Hagar's son, Ishmael are making fun of Isaac.

Sarah gets very upset and has Abraham throw Hagar and Ishmael out of the house and into the wilderness. Abraham is upset but God said it was okay and that he would make a great nation from Ishmael and the families after him.

### BIBLE STORY

Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a leather bag full of water. He gave them to Hagar and sent her away. Carrying these things and her son, Hagar went and wandered in the desert of Beersheba.

Later, when all the water was gone from the bag, Hagar put her son under a bush. Then she went away a short distance and sat down. She thought, "My son will die, and I cannot watch this happen." She sat there and began to cry.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters in the story?
- How did God respond when Hagar was crying out?
- What did you learn about what God is like?
- What did you like about the story?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- If you knew God was listening to you, what would you be crying out for?
- How do you feel about God now?
- What is a situation you are facing now where you need to hear God say, "Do not be afraid."

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- In what ways is your situation like Ishmael's?
- Who can you share this story with this week?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

God heard the boy crying, and God's angel called to Hagar from heaven. He said, "What is wrong, Hagar? Don't be afraid! God has heard the boy crying there. Help him up and take him by the hand. I will make his descendants into a great nation."

Then God showed Hagar a well of water. So she went to the well and filled her bag with water and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy as he grew up. Ishmael lived in the desert and became an archer.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, you do not give us a spirit of fear but of love, power and a sound mind. Bless these children with these things.



# Abraham Gives Up Isaac (1)

## Genesis 22:9-18

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Something that would be really hard for me to give away is ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Musical Chairs:** Put enough chairs in a circle for each person in your group except one. The chairs should be facing out. Everyone gets to sit in the chair except the one person remaining. When the music starts, the children start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone needs to find a chair. The person remaining has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

Abraham loves his son, Isaac. He is the one promised by God to make a great nation. God tests Abraham's faith and trust in Him. God asks Abraham to take Isaac and sacrifice or give him back to the Lord. Abraham got everything ready: wood, knife and fire.

They travelled three days to get to the place God told him to go. Isaac looked around and asked where the lamb was that is normally given for the sacrifice. Abraham told Isaac that God would provide it.

### BIBLE STORY

Abraham came to the place God had told him about and he built an altar there. He laid the wood on it and then tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the wood on the altar.

Then Abraham took his knife and was about to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham! Abraham!" Abraham answered, "Yes."

The angel said, "Don't kill your son or hurt him in any way. Now I can see that you trust God and that you have not kept your son, your only son, from me."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you find interesting in today's story?
- I wonder what God might have been teaching Abraham and Isaac in this story.
- What did you learn about Abraham's relationship with God from this story?
- What choices did the Abraham and Isaac make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- Go through each segment of the story and talk about what Abraham and Isaac must have been feeling.
- What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
- What might be something really hard to give up to show God that He is more important to you?
- What is something you learned today about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then Abraham looked up and saw a male sheep caught in a bush by its horns.

So Abraham went and took the sheep and killed it. He offered it as a whole burnt offering to God, and his son was saved. So Abraham named that place The LORD Provides. Even today people say, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "The LORD says, 'Because you did not keep back your son, your only son, from me, I make you this promise by my own name: I will surely bless you and give you many descendants.

They will be as many as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, and they will capture the cities of their enemies. Through your descendants all the nations on the earth will be blessed, because you obeyed me.'"

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with strength and courage to keep following you no matter what.



# Abraham Gives Up Isaac (2)

Genesis 22:9-18

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Share a time when you were surprised by something you found.

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Act it Out:** Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

## BACKGROUND

God tests Abraham's faith and asks Abraham to give Isaac back to the Lord. Abraham does what the Lord asks and though a sacrifice means the person needs to die, Abraham is confident and tells his servants that they are going to worship the Lord and they will be back.

He tells Isaac that although they don't have a lamb, God will provide it.

## BIBLE STORY

Abraham came to the place God had told him about and he built an altar there. He laid the wood on it and then tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the wood on the altar.

Then Abraham took his knife and was about to kill his son.

But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham! Abraham!" Abraham answered, "Yes."

The angel said, "Don't kill your son or hurt him in any way. Now I can see that you trust God and that you have not kept your son, your only son, from me."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- I wonder what God wanted to show Abraham and Isaac? How about the servants that went with them?
- How does God respond to the people in the story? I wonder what that means for how God responds to you and me?
- What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
- Could you imagine being there?
- What do you think it was like for Isaac?
- How would you have responded?
- Is there something God might ask you to give up that is more important to you than God Himself?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- Who can you share this story with this week?
- What do you think God wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then Abraham looked up and saw a male sheep caught in a bush by its horns.

So Abraham went and took the sheep and killed it. He offered it as a whole burnt offering to God, and his son was saved. So Abraham named that place The LORD Provides. Even today people say, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "The LORD says, 'Because you did not keep back your son, your only son, from me, I make you this promise by my own name: I will surely bless you and give you many descendants.

They will be as many as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, and they will capture the cities of their enemies. Through your descendants all the nations on the earth will be blessed, because you obeyed me.'"

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, help these children keep you number 1 in their lives; that nothing would be more important to them than You.





# Moses: “Let My People Go” (1)

Exodus 5-7 summarized

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit’s leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Who gives the most orders in your house?  
What happens when you don’t follow them?

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Group Poster:** If you have the materials, have the children work together on making a poster that can tell the Bible Story. Allow the children to retell the story by using what they drew on the poster.

## BACKGROUND

From the time he was a baby, God has had a special purpose for a man named Moses.

Though he was a Hebrew boy, he was rescued by the daughter of the Pharaoh of Egypt and raised in the Pharaoh’s home.

Moses eventually becomes a shepherd until he is visited by the Lord. He tells Moses that He has heard the cries of the Hebrew people and will now use Moses to save them. God sends Moses back to Egypt to confront the Pharaoh.

## BIBLE STORY

Moses and his brother Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “The Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go! I want them to worship me.’”

“Why should I listen to you and your god?” Pharaoh asked. “Stop being lazy and get back to work!” Pharaoh was very stubborn and would not listen.

He made the Israelites work harder than ever. So God sent a series of warnings, called plagues. This is what God did:

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- Who were the different people in the Bible story? I wonder what it was like for them to be part of God's story.
- As you were listening to the story, and you imagined being there, what did you hear? What did you see?
- In what ways did Moses trust God? How would you describe Pharaoh's heart towards God?
- Do you know of people who are trusting God? How are they doing it? How are you trusting God?
- I wonder how God was feeling when Moses was obeying Him and when Pharaoh refused to listen.
- Share a time this week when you felt like you obeyed God. How did it feel?
- I learned today that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

- The water in the Nile River turned into blood. All of the fish died and it smelled terrible. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Then, there were frogs hopping everywhere! (Let my people go! NO!)
- Next, gnats and flies swarmed them. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Their cows caught diseases. (Let my people go! NO!)
- They got sores on their bodies. (Let my people go! NO!)
- And strong hailstorms and locusts destroyed their crops. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Then, it was dark outside for 3 entire days. (Let my people go! NO!)

So Moses warned Pharaoh about a final plague: "If you don't let us leave, every firstborn son will die, including your own. Then all your servants will beg us to leave Egypt." But Pharaoh still would not listen. (Let my people go! NO!)

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with a heart and a desire to worship You.



# Moses: “Let My People Go” (2)

Exodus 5-7 summarized

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Who gives the most orders in your house?  
What happens when you don't follow them?

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Line Up:** Have the children get in line from shortest to tallest or youngest to oldest. The first person starts by sharing the first incident of the story. The second person tells the next thing that happened and so on till the story is retold.

## BACKGROUND

From the time he was a baby, God has had a special purpose for a man named Moses. Though he was a Hebrew boy, he was rescued by the daughter of the Pharaoh of Egypt and raised in the Pharaoh's home.

Moses eventually becomes a shepherd until he is visited by the Lord. He tells Moses that He has heard the cries of the Hebrew people and will now use Moses to save them. God sends Moses back to Egypt to confront the Pharaoh.

## BIBLE STORY

Moses and his brother Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “The Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go! I want them to worship me.’”

“Why should I listen to you and your god?” Pharaoh asked. “Stop being lazy and get back to work!” Pharaoh was very stubborn and would not listen.

He made the Israelites work harder than ever. So God sent a series of warnings, called plagues. This is what God did:

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters in the story?
- How did God respond when Moses obeyed? Pharaoh disobeyed?
- What stood out to you in the story?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- How would you have felt if you were Moses?
- What would you be thinking if you saw the plagues happening to the Egyptians but not to you?
- What is something you learned today about following God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- How did this story challenge or encourage you?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

- The water in the Nile River turned into blood. All of the fish died and it smelled terrible. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Then, there were frogs hopping everywhere! (Let my people go! NO!)
- Next, gnats and flies swarmed them. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Their cows caught diseases. (Let my people go! NO!)
- They got sores on their bodies. (Let my people go! NO!)
- And strong hailstorms and locusts destroyed their crops. (Let my people go! NO!)
- Then, it was dark outside for 3 entire days. (Let my people go! NO!)

So Moses warned Pharaoh about a final plague: “If you don’t let us leave, every firstborn son will die, including your own. Then all your servants will beg us to leave Egypt.” But Pharaoh still would not listen. (Let my people go! NO!)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, sometimes it is hard to hear You. Sometimes it is hard to obey. Bless each child with ears to hear You and a heart to serve You.



# Moses: The Passover <sup>(1)</sup> Exodus 12:21-30

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

When was a time that you felt really special to someone?

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Ball Game:** Several different games can be played with a ball. Have the children get in a circle. When you say "GO," or start playing the music, the children pass the ball around the circle until you say "STOP" or stop the music. When that happens, the person who has the ball has to say the next part of the story. When you say "GO" or start the music, the children start passing the ball till you say "STOP."

## BACKGROUND

See how many of the plagues the children remember from last week. Up to this point, Moses has gone back to Pharaoh nine times and terrible things have happened because Pharaoh refuses to let the people go to worship the Lord.

There is one last plague. God tells Moses how to prepare the Jewish people so they don't have the same thing happen to them. They are to find a perfect male lamb which is only one year old. God tells them how to place the blood of the lamb on the doorposts of their home so the firstborn animal and child will be saved and not have to die.

## BIBLE STORY

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel together and told them, "Get the animals for your families and kill the lamb for the Passover. Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the door frames. No one may leave that house until morning.

When the LORD goes through Egypt to punish the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the sides and tops of the door frames, and he will pass over that house.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What stood out to you in the story?
- What did you like or not like in the story?
- What might God have been teaching or showing the characters in this story?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- The people worshipped God - why would you worship God?
- I need to make better choices when \_\_\_\_\_.
- Today I learned that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- How would you want God to protect you right now?
- What did the people do to have God protect them?
- What is God asking of you after hearing today's story?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

He will not let the one who brings death come into your houses and punish you.

“You must keep this command as a law for you and your descendants from now on. Do this when you go to the land the LORD has promised to give you. When your children ask you, ‘Why are we doing these things?’ you will say, ‘This is the Passover sacrifice to honor the LORD.’

When we were in Egypt, the LORD passed over the houses of Israel, and when he punished the Egyptians, he saved our homes.”

Then the people bowed down and worshiped the LORD. They did just as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

At midnight the LORD killed all the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt—from the firstborn of the king who sat on the throne to the firstborn of the prisoner in jail. Also, all the firstborn farm animals died. The king, his officers, and all the Egyptians got up during the night because someone had died in every house.

So there was a loud outcry everywhere in Egypt.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord bless these children with a heart of love and obedience. May they know of your protection when they obey Your Word.



# Moses: The Passover (2) Exodus 12:21-30

## ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

## ② OPENING

Some ways in which I obey right away are \_\_\_\_\_.

## ③ BACKGROUND →

## ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

## ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Art Attack:** Use paper and coloring markers that are available. if the paper is big enough, have the children work on a poster that tells the story. if you only have single sheets, have each child draw a different part of the story or their favorite part of the story and share it with the class.

## BACKGROUND

There is one last plague. God tells Moses how to prepare the Jewish people so they don't have the same thing happen to them. They are to find a perfect male lamb which is only one year old. God tells them how to place the blood of the lamb on the doorposts of their home so the firstborn animal and child will be saved and not have to die. Even today, when Jewish families celebrate the Passover Feast, they each eat a piece of parsley to remind them of the hyssop branch that was used to place the blood on the doorposts.

They dip the parsley in salt water to remember the suffering and tears of the Jewish people when they were slaves and of the Egyptians when they lost their firstborn children.

## BIBLE STORY

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel together and told them, "Get the animals for your families and kill the lamb for the Passover. Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the door frames. No one may leave that house until morning.

When the LORD goes through Egypt to punish the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the sides and tops of the door frames, and he will pass over that house.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What amazed you about today's story?
- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- I wonder what was the most important part of today's story.
- What do you think you would have done if you were there? What emotions would you have felt?
- What is something you learned today about God?
- What does the story tell you about how to follow God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- How does this story challenge you or encourage you?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

He will not let the one who brings death come into your houses and punish you.

“You must keep this command as a law for you and your descendants from now on. Do this when you go to the land the LORD has promised to give you. When your children ask you, ‘Why are we doing these things?’ you will say, ‘This is the Passover sacrifice to honor the LORD.

When we were in Egypt, the LORD passed over the houses of Israel, and when he punished the Egyptians, he saved our homes.”

Then the people bowed down and worshiped the LORD. They did just as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

At midnight the LORD killed all the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt—from the firstborn of the king who sat on the throne to the firstborn of the prisoner in jail. Also, all the firstborn farm animals died. The king, his officers, and all the Egyptians got up during the night because someone had died in every house.

So there was a loud outcry everywhere in Egypt.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a willing heart - a heart to love and serve others.





# Moses: God Provides Water <sup>(1)</sup>

## Exodus 17:1-6

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

I am really thankful for ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Rope Game:** Rope Game: Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

### BACKGROUND

Pharaoh finally lets the people go. Though the people complain a lot, God continues to provide what the people need. He gives exactly the right amount of bread that each family could eat every day. He gave them quail to eat as their meat. The people are traveling through the land in freedom.

### BIBLE STORY

All of God's people left the desert and traveled from place to place, as the LORD commanded. They camped at one place, but there was no water there for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why are you testing the LORD?"

But the people were very thirsty for water, so they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Was it to kill us, our children, and our farm animals with thirst?"

So Moses cried to the LORD, "What can I do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me to death."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- How does God respond to the people in the story? What does this show us about God?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What did you notice about Moses from the last few stories?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- Why do you suppose God had Moses get water this way?
- Have you ever felt like God wanted you to do something that seemed unusual? What did you do?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- In what ways do you need to be obedient to what God is saying to you?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The LORD said to Moses, “Go ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you. Carry with you the walking stick that you used to strike the Nile River. Now go! I will stand in front of you on a rock at Mount Sinai.

Hit that rock with the stick, and water will come out of it so that the people can drink.” Moses did these things as the elders of Israel watched.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with the courage of Moses to follow and obey all that you ask of them.



# Moses: God Provides Water (2)

## Exodus 17:1-6

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

I get really thirsty when ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Partners:** Have the children get into smaller groups of 2 to 3 children. Each child will take a turn retelling the story. If someone gets stuck and can't remember the next part, the others in the group can help them.

### BACKGROUND

After the Lord miraculously lets the Jewish people leave Egypt, God continues to provide the things they need. God still loves them though the people are continually complaining about the things He provides. God still loves them.

### BIBLE STORY

All of God's people left the desert and traveled from place to place, as the LORD commanded. They camped at one place, but there was no water there for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why are you testing the LORD?"

But the people were very thirsty for water, so they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Was it to kill us, our children, and our farm animals with thirst?"

So Moses cried to the LORD, "What can I do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me to death."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear and see as the story was told?
- What might God have been teaching or showing Moses and the other people in this story?
- How does God respond to the needs of the people? What needs do you and your family have now? How might God meet those needs?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What kinds of emotions do you think Moses had? When was a recent time that you felt like that?
- How does God provide for you and your family? What can you tell Him about that?
- How might God use you like He used Moses?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The LORD said to Moses, “Go ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you. Carry with you the walking stick that you used to strike the Nile River. Now go! I will stand in front of you on a rock at Mount Sinai.

Hit that rock with the stick, and water will come out of it so that the people can drink.” Moses did these things as the elders of Israel watched.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless this children with the understanding that you love them deeply and will take care of all the things they need.



# Daniel is Faithful to God (1)

## Daniel 1:11-20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

One thing God has asked me to do through these lessons is ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Hand Motions:** Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

Hundreds of years have passed since God provided all that the people needed. Though God always shows His love to His people and He will provide everything they need, they continue to complain and turn their hearts away from Him.

God gives them the Promise Land but the people continue to rebel and so God allows the Babylonians to take them away from their land and bring them to Babylon. Daniel was a young man who loved God and was taken to Babylon as a slave.

### BIBLE STORY

A ruler of Babylon ordered a guard to watch Daniel and his 3 friends. Daniel said to the guard, "Please give us this test for ten days: Don't give us anything but vegetables to eat and water to drink. After ten days compare how we look with how the other young men look who eat the king's food. See for yourself and then decide how you want to treat us, your servants."

So the guard agreed to test them for ten days. After ten days they looked healthier and better fed than all the young men who ate the king's food. So the guard took away the king's special food and wine, feeding them vegetables instead.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Who were the different characters in the story?
- I wonder what God may have been wanting to teach them?
- How did people respond when Daniel and his friends obeyed God?
- What stood out to you in the story?
- What did you wonder about when the story was being told?
- In what ways do you have to do things differently if you are following God? How does that make you feel?
- Have you ever stood up for something that you knew was right in God's eyes but not everyone agreed with you? How did you feel?
- For you, what does this story tell you about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What does this story tell you about following God and having a part in His story?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

God gave these four young men wisdom and the ability to learn many things that people had written and studied. Daniel could also understand visions and dreams.

At the end of the time set for them, all the young men were brought before the King. The king talked to them and found that none of the young men were as good as Daniel and his three friends.

So those four young men became the king's servants. Every time the king asked them about something important, they showed much wisdom and understanding. They were ten times better than all the fortune-tellers and magicians in his kingdom!

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless each child with opportunities to share with others why they don't do the things they do but choose to honor you.



# Daniel is Faithful to God (2)

## Daniel 1:11-20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What is something you always wanted to do?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Comic Strip:** Give each child a sheet of paper. Have them fold it in half, then fold that half again and then a third time. When you open the paper, there should be 8 boxes on the paper. For each scene or action in the Bible story, have each child draw a simple picture or object in each box in the order that it happens in the story. Let the children retell the story to a partner by using their comic strips.

### BACKGROUND

The king of Babylon wants the best of the slaves to be trained for three years so they could serve in the royal palace and become advisors to the king. Part of the training was to eat certain foods that God had told His people not to. Daniel loved the Lord and would not disobey Him.

### BIBLE STORY

A ruler of Babylon ordered a guard to watch Daniel and his 3 friends. Daniel said to the guard, "Please give us this test for ten days: Don't give us anything but vegetables to eat and water to drink. After ten days compare how we look with how the other young men look who eat the king's food. See for yourself and then decide how you want to treat us, your servants."

So the guard agreed to test them for ten days. After ten days they looked healthier and better fed than all the young men who ate the king's food. So the guard took away the king's special food and wine, feeding them vegetables instead.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?
- What did you learn about Daniels's relationship with God?
- What choices did Daniel make? What else could he have done? What happened because of the choices Daniel made?
- Did you hear anything that reminded you of previous stories?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- What would you have done if you were Daniel or one of his friends?
- Is there a situation right now in your life where you feel like these guys?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- After hearing the story today, how do you think God wants you to stand up for Him?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

God gave these four young men wisdom and the ability to learn many things that people had written and studied. Daniel could also understand visions and dreams.

At the end of the time set for them, all the young men were brought before the King. The king talked to them and found that none of the young men were as good as Daniel and his three friends.

So those four young men became the king's servants. Every time the king asked them about something important, they showed much wisdom and understanding. They were ten times better than all the fortune-tellers and magicians in his kingdom!

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each each person here with the wisdom and courage you gave Daniel and his friends.





# Daniel's Friends Saved in the Furnace (1)

## Daniel 3:13-28

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you did the right thing though it would have been easier not to.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Hand Motions:** Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon made a huge gold statute that was 90-feet high. He then commanded everyone to bow down before the statute when they heard the sound of the instruments. Anyone who refused to bow before it would be thrown into the fiery furnace. Remember how we talked about Daniel loving God and only obeying His commands? Daniel has three friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who also love the Lord, and will only bow down to Him. King Nebuchadnezzar finds out that these three men refused to bow down to the statute and he is furious.

### BIBLE STORY

Nebuchadnezzar became very angry and called for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. When they were brought to the king, Nebuchadnezzar said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, is it true that you do not serve my gods nor worship the gold statue I have set up? In a moment you will again hear the sound of the musical instruments. If you bow down and worship the statue I made, that will be good. But if you do not worship it, you will immediately be thrown into the blazing furnace. What god will be able to save you from my power then?" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, saying, "Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves to you. If you throw us into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from the furnace. He will save us from your power, O king. But even if God does not save us, we want you, O king, to know this: We will not serve your gods

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- I wonder what God might have been teaching the characters in this story?
- What did you notice about what it takes to follow God?
- What do you think the three men were feeling throughout the story? How did it make you feel?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What might be a situation you will face where everyone feels different than you?
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- Why do you suppose the King worshipped God at the end of the story?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who might you tell this story to this week?

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with confidence and courage to do what is pleasing to you. May they not bow down and worship anything but You.

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

or worship the gold statue you have set up.” Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and he changed his mind. He ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual. Then he commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were tied up and thrown into the blazing furnace while still wearing their robes, trousers, turbans, and other clothes. The king's command was very strict, and the furnace was made so hot that the flames killed the strong soldiers who threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the furnace. Firmly tied, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego fell into the blazing furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was so surprised that he jumped to his feet. He asked the men who advised him, “Didn't we tie up only three men and throw them into the fire?” They answered, “Yes, O king.” The king said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire. They are not tied up, and they are not burned. The fourth man looks like a son of the gods.” Then Nebuchadnezzar went to the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, come out! Servants of the Most High God, come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire. When they came out, the leaders crowded around them and saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies. Their hair was not burned, their robes were not burned, and they didn't even smell like smoke! Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Their God has sent his angel and saved his servants from the fire! These three men trusted their God and refused to obey my command. They were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god other than their own.



# Daniel's Friends Saved in the Furnace (2)

## Daniel 3:13-28

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What is the hottest thing you have ever touched?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Musical Chairs:** Put enough chairs in a circle for each person in your group except one. The chairs should be facing out. Everyone gets to sit in the chair except the one person remaining. When the music starts, the children start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone needs to find a chair. The person remaining has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

The Bible tells us that we should only worship God and that we should not make any objects or idols to worship. Worshiping God means bowing our knee and submitting ourselves to God. King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue that was 90-foot high. He had a special ceremony where he wanted everyone to bow before this idol. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego loved the Lord and would not bow down to it. This made the King very mad.

### BIBLE STORY

Nebuchadnezzar became very angry and called for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. When they were brought to the king, Nebuchadnezzar said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, is it true that you do not serve my gods nor worship the gold statue I have set up? In a moment you will again hear the sound of the musical instruments. If you bow down and worship the statue I made, that will be good. But if you do not worship it, you will immediately be thrown into the blazing furnace. What god will be able to save you from my power then?" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, saying, "Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves to you. If you throw us into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from the furnace. He will save us from your power, O king. But even if God does not save us, we want you, O king, to know this: We will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What were different emotions that people had throughout the story?
- What changes did you see happen in the King throughout the story?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story? How would you have felt if you were one of those men?
- What do you think motivated the men to do what they did?
- What is something you learned today about God?
- Is there something happening right now in your life where you need God's help?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Is there someone you know who needs to hear this story?

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless each child with a heart to only worship You.

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

set up.” Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and he changed his mind. He ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual. Then he commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were tied up and thrown into the blazing furnace while still wearing their robes, trousers, turbans, and other clothes. The king's command was very strict, and the furnace was made so hot that the flames killed the strong soldiers who threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the furnace. Firmly tied, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego fell into the blazing furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was so surprised that he jumped to his feet. He asked the men who advised him, “Didn't we tie up only three men and throw them into the fire?” They answered, “Yes, O king.” The king said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire. They are not tied up, and they are not burned. The fourth man looks like a son of the gods.” Then Nebuchadnezzar went to the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, come out! Servants of the Most High God, come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire. When they came out, the leaders crowded around them and saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies. Their hair was not burned, their robes were not burned, and they didn't even smell like smoke! Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Their God has sent his angel and saved his servants from the fire! These three men trusted their God and refused to obey my command. They were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god other than their own.



# Daniel in the Lions' Den (1)

## Daniel 6:10-23

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you were really brave.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Tingo Tingo Tango:** Have the children get into a circle. Pass an object around as you are saying "Tingo, Tingo, Tango." When you get to "Tango," whoever has the ball has to say the next part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so the children do not know who will be next.

### BACKGROUND

Daniel was committed to serving and honoring God in everything. The king of Babylon placed Daniel in a very high position in the government. The other leaders were jealous of how the king treated Daniel and so they schemed to get Daniel in trouble. They had the king sign an order that everyone must only pray to him. But, Daniel refused. These other leaders caught Daniel praying to God just like he always did and they reported his disobedience to the king. The punishment for disobeying was being thrown into the lion's den.

### BIBLE STORY

Even though Daniel knew that the new law had been written, he went to pray in an upstairs room in his house, which had windows that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day Daniel would kneel down to pray and thank God, just as he always had done.

Then those men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. So they went to the king and talked to him about the law he had made. They said, "Didn't you sign a law that says no one may pray to any god or human except you, O king?"

Doesn't it say that anyone who disobeys during the next 30 days will be thrown into the lions' den? The king became very upset when he heard this. He wanted to save Daniel, and he worked hard until sunset trying to think of a way to save him.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you learn about Daniel's relationship with God? I wonder what it would take for us to have that kind of relationship with God.
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What feelings did you have as you heard the story?
- What do you think was going on in Daniel's heart and mind in this story?
- How would you have felt if you were Daniel?
- Would you be willing to go to the lion's den if it meant standing up for God?
- What did you learn about God from today's story?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- What is the first thing you can do to obey what God is asking of you?
- Who can share this story with?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Then those men went as a group to the king. They said, "Remember, O king, no law or command given by the king can be changed." So King Darius gave the order, and Daniel was brought in and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May the God you serve all the time save you!" A big stone was brought and placed over the opening of the lions' den. Then the king used his signet ring and the rings of his royal officers to put special seals on the rock. This ensured that no one would move the rock and bring Daniel out. Then King Darius went back to his palace. He did not eat that night, he did not have any entertainment brought to him, and he could not sleep. The next morning King Darius got up at dawn and hurried to the lions' den. As he came near the den, he was worried. He called out to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Has your God that you always worship been able to save you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! My God sent his angel to close the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me, because my God knows I am innocent. I never did anything wrong to you, O king." King Darius was very happy and told his servants to lift Daniel out of the lions' den. So they lifted him out and did not find any injury on him, because Daniel had trusted in his God.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a heart and passion to serve You and not do anything that would bring shame to Your name.



# Daniel in the Lions' Den (2)

## Daniel 6:10-23

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when God answered one of your prayers.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

### BACKGROUND

Daniel was a man who truly loved God. Even though he lived in a different country than the rest of his family, he was still committed to keep God first in his life and only worship Him. God was with Daniel and soon Daniel was to be promoted to rule over the region in which he lived. Some other officials were jealous and decided to find Daniel doing something wrong. They convinced the King to make a law that everyone should only pray to him, the King. Daniel could not do that. He still prayed to God three times each day right where everyone could see him. Though the King liked Daniel very much, he had to follow through on the punishment, which was to throw the person into the lion's den.

### BIBLE STORY

Even though Daniel knew that the new law had been written, he went to pray in an upstairs room in his house, which had windows that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day Daniel would kneel down to pray and thank God, just as he always had done.

Then those men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. So they went to the king and talked to him about the law he had made. They said, "Didn't you sign a law that says no one may pray to any god or human except you, O king? Doesn't it say that anyone who disobeys during the next 30 days will be thrown into the lions' den?"

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What do you think the people in this story learned about life? About God?
- What were some things that were special about Daniel's relationship with the Lord?
- How does God respond to the people in the story? What does this tell us about God?
- What did you wonder about when the story was being told?
- What do you think was the most important part of the story?
- What do you think it was like for Daniel in the different parts of the story? Would you have responded like Daniel did?
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
- What does this story tell you about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What did you learn about being a follower of God from this story?
- How could you be like Daniel this week?
- Who can share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The king became very upset when he heard this. He wanted to save Daniel, and he worked hard until sunset trying to think of a way to save him. Then those men went as a group to the king. They said, "Remember, O king, no law or command given by the king can be changed." So King Darius gave the order, and Daniel was brought in and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May the God you serve all the time save you!" A big stone was brought and placed over the opening of the lions' den. Then the king used his signet ring and the rings of his royal officers to put special seals on the rock. This ensured that no one would move the rock and bring Daniel out. Then King Darius went back to his palace. He did not eat that night, he did not have any entertainment brought to him, and he could not sleep.

The next morning King Darius got up at dawn and hurried to the lions' den. As he came near the den, he was worried. He called out to Daniel,  
"Daniel, servant of the living God! Has your God that you always worship been able to save you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! My God sent his angel to close the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me, because my God knows I am innocent. I never did anything wrong to you, O king." King Darius was very happy and told his servants to lift Daniel out of the lions' den. So they lifted him out and did not find any injury on him, because Daniel had trusted in his God.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with confidence and courage; that they will only bow their knee to You!





# Elijah & the False Prophets (1)

## 1 Kings 18:25-39

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If you could be on a professional sport team, which one would you pick?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Story Parts:** Give each child a certain scene of the story for them to draw. Have the children put the story in order by the drawings that have been made. The children can then retell the story by using the pictures they have drawn.

### BACKGROUND

A prophet is someone whom God uses to speak to His people. Elijah was one of those people. King Ahab did not like Elijah because God was speaking things against Ahab because he was following other gods. God was about to show King Ahab, and everyone else, that He was the one true God. You will hear about Baal who was a false god people worshipped.

### BIBLE STORY

Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "There are many of you, so you go first. Choose a bull and prepare it. Pray to your god, but don't start the fire." So they took the bull that was given to them and prepared it. They prayed to Baal from morning until noon, shouting "Baal, answer us!" But there was no sound, and no one answered. They danced around the altar they had built. At noon Elijah began to make fun of them. "Pray louder!" he said. "If Baal really is a god, maybe he is thinking, or busy, or traveling! Maybe he is sleeping so you will have to wake him!" The prophets prayed louder, cutting themselves with swords and spears until their blood flowed, which was the way they worshipped. The afternoon passed, and the prophets continued to act like this until it was time for the evening sacrifice.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?
- How does God respond to the people in the story?
- What was Elijah risking in order to follow God? What would you have to risk - what makes it hard - for you to follow God?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What different feelings do you think Elijah was experiencing in our story?
- How would you have felt if you were Elijah? When have you made a decision to worship God even though others are not?
- In what ways do you have to stand alone for God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What is something you learned today about God and about following Him?
- What is God asking of you to follow Him?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

But no voice was heard; Baal did not answer, and no one paid attention. Then Elijah said to all the people, "Now come to me". So they gathered around him, and Elijah rebuilt the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. He took twelve stones, one stone for each of the twelve tribes, the number of Jacob's sons. Elijah used these stones to rebuild the altar in honor of the LORD. Then he dug a ditch around the altar that was big enough to hold about thirteen quarts of seed.

Elijah put the wood on the altar, cut the bull into pieces, and laid the pieces on the wood. Then he said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the meat and on the wood." Then Elijah said, "Do it again," and they did it again. Then he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it the third time. So the water ran off the altar and filled the ditch. At the time for the evening sacrifice, the prophet Elijah went near the altar.

"LORD, you are the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob," he prayed. "Prove that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant. Show these people that you commanded me to do all these things. LORD, answer my prayer so these people will know that you, LORD, are God and that you will change their minds."

Then fire from the LORD came down and burned the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and the ground around the altar. It also dried up the water in the ditch. When all the people saw this, they fell down to the ground, crying, "The LORD is God! The LORD is God!"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, give us the strength to stand strong for You and to let others know that You are the one true God.



# Elijah & the False Prophets (2)

## 1 Kings 18:25-39

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you felt really lonely.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Ball Game:** Several different games can be played with a ball. Have the children get in a circle. When you say "GO," or start playing the music, the children pass the ball around the circle until you say "STOP" or stop the music. When that happens, the person who has the ball has to say the next part of the story. When you say "GO" or start the music, the children start passing the ball till you say "STOP."

### BACKGROUND

Elijah was a man that spoke for God. Because of that he was called a prophet. Since King Ahab was not following God, he did not like what Elijah had to say. Elijah is about to come to the King and his false prophets who worshipped Baal and prove who was the true God to be worshipped.

### BIBLE STORY

Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "There are many of you, so you go first. Choose a bull and prepare it. Pray to your god, but don't start the fire." So they took the bull that was given to them and prepared it. They prayed to Baal from morning until noon, shouting "Baal, answer us!" But there was no sound, and no one answered. They danced around the altar they had built.

At noon Elijah began to make fun of them. "Pray louder!" he said. "If Baal really is a god, maybe he is thinking, or busy, or traveling! Maybe he is sleeping so you will have to wake him!" The prophets prayed louder, cutting themselves with swords and spears until their blood flowed, which was the way they worshiped.

The afternoon passed, and the prophets continued to act like this until it was time for the evening sacrifice. But no voice was heard; Baal did not answer, and no one paid attention. Then Elijah said to all the people, "Now come to me".

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- What stood out to you in the story?
- What do you think it was like for Elijah? The prophets of Baal?
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- To worship means to "bow the knee" or make more important than anything else. What do people in your community worship?
- I wonder why God wants us to only worship Him? How do you worship God?
- Today I learned that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- From what you learned today, what do you feel God might be saying to you?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

So they gathered around him, and Elijah rebuilt the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. He took twelve stones, one stone for each of the twelve tribes, the number of Jacob's sons. Elijah used these stones to rebuild the altar in honor of the LORD. Then he dug a ditch around the altar that was big enough to hold about thirteen quarts of seed.

Elijah put the wood on the altar, cut the bull into pieces, and laid the pieces on the wood. Then he said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the meat and on the wood." Then Elijah said, "Do it again," and they did it again. Then he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it the third time. So the water ran off the altar and filled the ditch. At the time for the evening sacrifice, the prophet Elijah went near the altar.

"LORD, you are the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob," he prayed. "Prove that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant. Show these people that you commanded me to do all these things. LORD, answer my prayer so these people will know that you, LORD, are God and that you will change their minds."

Then fire from the LORD came down and burned the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and the ground around the altar. It also dried up the water in the ditch. When all the people saw this, they fell down to the ground, crying, "The LORD is God! The LORD is God!"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a desire to serve You and to see You do miraculous things because they have followed You.



# Jesus' Birth: The Shepherds Visit Him (1)

## Luke 2:8-20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

A time when I was really surprised was when ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Act it Out:** Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.

### BACKGROUND

The prophets, those people who speak for God, continue to tell the people to trust and follow the Lord. The people start to but then they stop. God decides to be silent for 400 years. Then an angel appears to a young lady named Mary, who is engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. God tells Mary that she is going to have a baby – a baby from God Himself. They are to name him Jesus. Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem just when it was time for the baby to be born.

### BIBLE STORY

That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and they became very frightened. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people.

Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box."

Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel, praising God and saying: "Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace among the people who please God."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible Story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?
- How did the shepherds respond when the angels came? How did Mary respond when the shepherds came to her and Joseph? What do you think was going on in her heart and mind?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- Has God ever surprised you with something?
- What is some good news that you would like God to tell you?
- What can you thank God for?
- This story tells me that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a feeding trough. When they had seen him, they told what the angels had said about this child. Everyone was amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

But Mary treasured these things and continued to think about them. Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It had been just as the angel had told them.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

God, bless these children with a heart like Mary who treasures Your Word and Your promises.



# Jesus' Birth: The Shepherds Visit Him (2)

## Luke 2:8-20

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Something I would want the world to know is ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Book Cover Design:** Children design and draw their own book cover with words and pictures that best capture the different parts of the Bible story.

### BACKGROUND

People have been waiting for thousands of years for God to send a Savior, the one who would free them from their sins. They kept waiting not knowing exactly when that time would come. They just knew they needed to be ready. Angels are appearing to Mary and Joseph and Mary is about to have a baby from God Himself. They needed to go to Bethlehem for an official counting by the government. There was no place to have the baby but in a stable where the animals were kept.

### BIBLE STORY

That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and they became very frightened.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people. Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box." Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel, praising God and saying: "Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace among the people who please God."

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- What stood out to you in the story?
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- How do you feel about Jesus now?
- What Good News would God want you to share with your family and friends? What will make that easy or hard to do?
- What does this story tell you about God and Jesus?
- How will you respond to God today?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a feeding trough. When they had seen him, they told what the angels had said about this child. Everyone was amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured these things and continued to think about them. Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It had been just as the angel had told them.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, bless these children with a boldness to tell others the Good News of Your birth.





# Jesus is Baptized (1)

## Matthew 3:13-17

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If I had \_\_\_\_\_, it would make me feel really special.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Bible Story Relay:** Divide the children into teams. They run to a designated spot and back. When they return they have to shout out the next part of the story. Then the next person runs to the spot and back and shouts out the next part of the story till every team has retold the story.

### BACKGROUND

The Bible says that Jesus grew in wisdom, in height and he was loved by God and the people. Jesus had a cousin named John who told people they needed to turn their hearts back to God. When people confessed their sins to God, he then baptized people in the river as a way of showing they were wanting to be in a right relationship with God.. One day Jesus comes to John.

### BIBLE STORY

At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River and wanted John to baptize him. But John tried to stop him, saying, "Why do you come to me to be baptized? I need to be baptized by you!"

Jesus answered, "Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are God's will." So John agreed to baptize Jesus.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven opened, and he saw God's Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love, and I am very pleased with him."

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

### ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- I wonder what the important parts of the story are.
- What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
- What do you think was going on in John's heart and mind? How about Jesus?
- What amazed you about today's story?
- What is something you learned today about Jesus?
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
- Have any of you been baptized? (If so, have them describe their experience. In some cultures it may not be appropriate for children to be baptized.)
- Is there anyone you know who needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

### ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- In what ways is God asking you to be obedient like Jesus was?

---

### ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a desire to be obedient to what you ask of them just like Jesus and John did.



# Jesus is Baptized (2)

## Matthew 3:13-17

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If I was the leader of our city, one law I would make is that everyone ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Tingo Tingo Tango:** Have the children get into a circle. Pass an object around as you are saying "Tingo, Tingo, Tango." When you get to "Tango," whoever has the ball has to say the next part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so the children do not know who will be next.

### BACKGROUND

Jesus has grown up. He is now about 30 years old and God has prepared everything to start showing people His love through Jesus, His Son. His cousin John offered a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Repentance means changing our thinking about God, ourselves, and sin. Jesus comes to John to be baptized.

### BIBLE STORY

At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River and wanted John to baptize him. But John tried to stop him, saying, "Why do you come to me to be baptized? I need to be baptized by you!"

Jesus answered, "Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are God's will." So John agreed to baptize Jesus.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven opened, and he saw God's Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love, and I am very pleased with him."

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's Bible Story?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible?
- What is the most interesting thing you heard today?
- In the story, John needed to serve Jesus. How might you be able to serve Jesus where you live?
- In the story, it says that God loves Jesus and is very pleased with him. We all want to please God. I wonder how we can please God.
- After hearing the story, how might it change how you view yourself?
- What does this story tell us about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Father God, we thank you that you are a God that loves us and can be pleased with us. Bless us with Your love.



# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (1)

## John 13:3-15

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you were able to help someone.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Drawing:** If you have the materials, have the children draw what they saw or what they liked best as the story was being told. Have each child share their pictures with the rest of the group. If there are different scenes from the story, have the children put them in the order that they occurred.

### BACKGROUND

Jesus is about to eat his last supper. It is before the Passover feast. Can anyone remember and tell us that story? Through the miracles he performed and his teachings, Jesus has shown everyone that he is the Son of God. Now he wants to show his disciples, the men who followed him, how much he loves them.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus knew that the Father had given him power over everything and that he had come from God and was going back to God. So during the meal Jesus stood up and took off his outer clothing.

Taking a towel, he wrapped it around his waist. Then he poured water into a bowl and began to wash the followers' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Jesus came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later."

Peter said, "No, you will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "If I don't wash your feet, you are not one of my people." Simon Peter answered, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but wash my hands and my head, too!"

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible?
- What are some important parts to the story?
- I wonder what Jesus was trying to teach his disciples by washing their feet.
- What did you learn about what Jesus is like?
- What kinds of emotions do you think the disciples were feeling throughout the story?
- What do you think was going on in Peter's heart and mind in this story?
- What do you feel is really important to Jesus?
- How does it feel to serve others? I wonder who Jesus wants me to serve.
- I wonder how Jesus might want to serve me and my family?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- I wonder how Jesus would want me to serve others?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

Jesus said, "After a person has had a bath, his whole body is clean. He needs only to wash his feet. And you men are clean, but not all of you".

Jesus knew who would turn against him, and that is why he said, "Not all of you are clean." When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and sat down again.

He asked, "Do you understand what I have just done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that is what I am. If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet as an example so that you should do as I have done for you, you also should wash each other's feet. I did this as an example so that you should do as I have done for you.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each of us with a greater desire to serve You and others.



# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (2)

## John 13:3-15

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when someone was able to help you.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

### BACKGROUND

Jesus knows that he is going to be returning back to his Father. He wants to show his closest followers, his disciples, how much he loved them. They are having their dinner when Jesus gets up from the table.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus knew that the Father had given him power over everything and that he had come from God and was going back to God. So during the meal Jesus stood up and took off his outer clothing.

Taking a towel, he wrapped it around his waist. Then he poured water into a bowl and began to wash the followers' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Jesus came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later."

Peter said, "No, you will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "If I don't wash your feet, you are not one of my people." Simon Peter answered, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but wash my hands and my head, too!"

Jesus said, "After a person has had a bath, his whole body is clean.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Could you imagine being there in the Upper Room with Jesus and the disciples? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- Who were the different people in the story? How did they respond to Jesus?
- If Jesus was here today and wanted to wash our feet, I wonder how I would respond.
- Through the story, I learned that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_
- What choices did each of the characters make? What other choices could they have made? One thing that happened because of their choices is \_\_\_\_\_.
- If I was one of the characters in the story, I would probably be \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

He needs only to wash his feet. And you men are clean, but not all of you”.

Jesus knew who would turn against him, and that is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.” When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and sat down again.

He asked, “Do you understand what I have just done for you? You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you are right, because that is what I am. If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet as an example so that you should do as I have done for you, you also should wash each other’s feet. I did this as an example so that you should do as I have done for you.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord Jesus help us to be more like You and to serve one another with love and humility.





# Jesus Teaches on Treasures (1)

## Matthew 13:44-46

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What is the most important thing to you?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Timing the Retell:** See if the group can retell the story in a specified amount of time.

### BACKGROUND

A parable is a story that teaches something very important. Jesus told parables or stories all the time so people could understand who God is and how to follow Him. Jesus wanted to let people know what was important to God.

### BIBLE STORY

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. One day a man found the treasure, and then he hid it in the field again. He was so happy that he went and sold everything he owned to buy that field.

“Also, the kingdom of heaven is like a man looking for fine pearls. When he found a very valuable pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the stories Jesus told?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- To me, the most important part of the story is \_\_\_\_\_.
- I wonder what the most important part is to God?
- What do you think Jesus was trying to teach in these stories?
- It would be easy for me to give up \_\_\_\_\_ but really hard to give up \_\_\_\_\_.
- If God were to be the most important thing to me, I would have to make \_\_\_\_\_ less important to me.
- This story tells me that to be a follower of Jesus I need to \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, we want to follow You more each day. Bless us with a heart of thanksgiving for all You have done for us.



# Jesus Teaches on Treasures (2)

## Matthew 13:44-46

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What would you do if you found a hidden treasure?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Dice:** Each small group has one dice. The first person rolls the dice. If they get a "1" or "2" they can pass the dice to the next person and do not have to tell any part of the story. If they roll a "3" or "4" they have to tell the next part of the story. If they roll a "5" or "6" the dice goes back in reverse to the person who just had the dice and they have to tell the next part of the story.

### BACKGROUND

Jesus told stories to let people know what the Kingdom of God was like. He used objects that the people had to help them understand what he was saying. Let's hear some short parables that Jesus told and see what you learn from them.

### BIBLE STORY

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. One day a man found the treasure, and then he hid it in the field again. He was so happy that he went and sold everything he owned to buy that field.

"Also, the kingdom of heaven is like a man looking for fine pearls. When he found a very valuable pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What do you think was the best part of the story?
- What would you do if you found a special treasure?
- What does each part of the story mean to you? What if Jesus was the man who found the treasure? I wonder what is so important to Him that He would give everything up to get it? What might Jesus have been teaching the people in this story?
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What do you feel is really important to God?
- How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus bless us with a desire to be with You and not have anything be more important than You!



# Jesus Stops the Raging Storm (1)

## Mark 4:35-41

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share about when you were in a really big storm.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Sound Effects & Motions:** Re-read the Bible story and come up with different sound effects and/or motions for words or actions that repeat throughout the story.

### BACKGROUND

Jesus has been teaching the people by telling parables. Who remembers what a parable is? The disciples, the men whom Jesus asked to follow him, were with him. Let's listen to what happens after Jesus finishes telling his stories.

### BIBLE STORY

That evening, Jesus said to his followers, "Let's go across the lake." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him in the boat just as he was. There were also other boats with them.

A very strong wind came up on the lake. The waves came over the sides and into the boat so that it was already full of water. Jesus was at the back of the boat, sleeping with his head on a cushion. His followers woke him and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we are drowning!"

Jesus stood up and commanded the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind stopped, and it became completely calm.

Jesus said to his followers, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

The followers were very afraid and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What was the best part of the story for you?
- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- What if you were in the boat, how would you have responded?
- What makes you really afraid?
- If Jesus was there with you, I wonder what he would say.
- I wonder how Jesus could calm the storms in my life.
- This Bible story tells me that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Father God, bless the children with the ability to see how You really do care for us.



# Jesus Stops the Raging Storm (2)

## Mark 4:35-41

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Who is the strongest person you know?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Musical Chairs:** Put enough chairs in a circle for each person in your group except one. The chairs should be facing out. Everyone gets to sit in the chair except the one person remaining. When the music starts, the children start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone needs to find a chair. The person remaining has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

A parable is a story that Jesus told which had a lesson for the people to learn. Jesus has just told some parables about faith and trusting God and explained the stories to his disciples. That night, Jesus gets the men into a boat so they can cross the lake.

### BIBLE STORY

That evening, Jesus said to his followers, "Let's go across the lake." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him in the boat just as he was. There were also other boats with them.

A very strong wind came up on the lake. The waves came over the sides and into the boat so that it was already full of water. Jesus was at the back of the boat, sleeping with his head on a cushion. His followers woke him and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we are drowning!"

Jesus stood up and commanded the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind stopped, and it became completely calm.

Jesus said to his followers, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" The followers were very afraid and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
- How long would you have waited till you woke up Jesus?
- Is there something in your life where you need to "wake up Jesus" and have him help you?
- In what ways are we also like \_\_\_\_\_? In what ways are we different?
- How did this story challenge you or encourage you?
- In what ways can I trust Jesus when the hard times or troubles come?
- What does this story tell us about Jesus?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, thank You that we can come to You at anytime with any problem or question we may have.





# Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus (1)

## Mark 10:46-52

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Someone I wish God would heal is...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Partners:** Have the children get into smaller groups of 2 to 3 children. Each child will take a turn retelling the story. If someone gets stuck and can't remember the next part, the others in the group can help them.

### BACKGROUND

While Jesus is with the people, he has been doing some amazing things. He has fed thousands of people with a few fish and loaves of bread. He has told demons to leave and they have, he has healed many people who were sick or crippled. Listen to what happens to a blind man named Bartimaeus.

### BIBLE STORY

Then they came to the town of Jericho. As Jesus was leaving there with his followers and a great many people, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus was sitting by the road.

When he heard that Jesus was walking by, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many people warned the blind man to be quiet, but he shouted even more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Tell the man to come here." So they called the blind man, saying, "Cheer up! Get to your feet. Jesus is calling you." The blind man jumped up, left his coat there, and went to Jesus. Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man answered, "Teacher, I want to see." Jesus said, "Go, you are healed because you believed." At once the man could see, and he followed Jesus on the road.

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What part of the story did you like best?
- Why would the people tell Bartimaeus to be quiet?
- I wonder what different emotions Bartimaeus had throughout the story. If you were Bartimaeus, how would you feel?
- If you were to cry out to Jesus, what would you want him to help you with?
- What do you think Jesus was trying to teach each of the people in the story?
- How did Jesus show honor to Bartimaeus and remove any shame he may have felt?
- This story tells me that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who could you tell this story to this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with a heart to bring people to Jesus.



# Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus (2)

## Mark 10:46-52

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If I was blind, I would miss not being able to see ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Human Slide Show:** Find a big cloth to use as a curtain. Two children will hold it up and then drop it when you tell them. Pick several children to be the characters in the story. For each story segment, while the curtain is up, have the children get into a position as though there were a picture or painting of that part of the story. They are to remain perfectly still and then have the cloth dropped so the rest of the group can see it. Each scene changes as you tell the story.

### BACKGROUND

When we have faith in someone, we trust and believe that person. Listen to what happens to Bartimaeus because of his faith. Jesus is called the Son of David because of the promise that the one God would send to save His people would come from the family of David.

### BIBLE STORY

Then they came to the town of Jericho. As Jesus was leaving there with his followers and a great many people, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus was sitting by the road. When he heard that Jesus was walking by, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many people warned the blind man to be quiet, but he shouted even more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Tell the man to come here." So they called the blind man, saying, "Cheer up! Get to your feet. Jesus is calling you." The blind man jumped up, left his coat there, and went to Jesus. Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man answered, "Teacher, I want to see." Jesus said, "Go, you are healed because you believed." At once the man could see, and he followed Jesus on the road.

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What was the most important part of the story for you?
- How does Jesus respond to Bartimaeus in the story? What does this tell us?
- What do you think was going on in Bartimaeus' heart and mind in this story?
- In what ways are we also like Bartimaeus? In what ways are we different? How are we different and like the townspeople?
- What did you learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- Because of what you learned today, how will you live differently for Jesus?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless these children with a desire to follow you just like Bartimaeus.



# Jesus Blesses the Children (1)

## Mark 10:13-16

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share a time when you felt really loved by someone.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Rope Game:** Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.

### BACKGROUND

A disciple is someone who follows everything their teacher says and does. Listen to how the disciples respond to certain people when they are with Jesus. Where Jesus lived, children were not thought of very highly.

### BIBLE STORY

Some people brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch them, but his followers told them to stop. When Jesus saw this, he was upset and said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people who are like these children.

I tell you the truth, you must accept the kingdom of God as if you were a little child, or you will never enter it." Then Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them, and blessed them.

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about this story?
- What emotions do you think the children had throughout the story?
- I wonder what Jesus blessed the children with. What do you think he said to them?
- Imagine that you are one of those children. What feelings do you have?
- What would you want Jesus to bless you with?
- What do you feel is really important to Jesus?
- What does this story tell us about Jesus?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you tell this story to this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus bless these children with your overwhelming joy and love.



# Jesus Blesses the Children (2)

## Mark 10:13-16

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

Share about a time that you felt like people did not want you around.

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Objects:** Give each group 3 different objects. The group needs to use the different objects in the retelling of the story. They can add other objects but they must at least use the 3 objects given to them.

### BACKGROUND

The Bible tells us that Jesus was friends with everyone, even those who disobeyed God. Some people had a hard time being with Jesus because he became friends with those whom no one else would.

### BIBLE STORY

Some people brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch them, but his followers told them to stop. When Jesus saw this, he was upset and said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people who are like these children.

I tell you the truth, you must accept the kingdom of God as if you were a little child, or you will never enter it." Then Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them, and blessed them.

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- For you, what is the most important part of this story?
- I wonder why Jesus got so angry with his disciples.
- If I was one of those kids in the story, I would \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are there ways in which you are hesitant to come to Jesus?
- I wonder why people are afraid to come to Jesus.
- If you could be with Jesus, what would that feel like for you? What would you want to do with him?
- If Jesus could say one thing to me, I would want to hear \_\_\_\_\_.
- Something I would want Jesus to know is \_\_\_\_\_.
- This story tells me that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- How do you think God wants you to have a part in His Story?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus bless these children with a confidence and desire to just be with You!





# Jesus is Crucified <sup>(1)</sup>

## Mark 15:33-39

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

The biggest hurt I have gotten is ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Group Poster:** If you have the materials, have the children work together on making a poster that can tell the Bible Story. Allow the children to retell the story by using what they drew on the poster.

### BACKGROUND

Though Jesus has done nothing wrong, people are jealous and angry with him and want to have him killed. They have him nailed to a cross to die. Some people are very sad, some are angry, some people are confused because they thought Jesus was going to save the nation of Israel. Let's pretend to be there when all this is happening.

### BIBLE STORY

At noon the whole country became dark, and the darkness lasted for three hours. At three o'clock Jesus cried in a loud voice, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

When some of the people standing there heard this, they said, "Listen! He is calling Elijah."

Someone there ran and got a sponge, filled it with vinegar, tied it to a stick, and gave it to Jesus to drink. He said, "We want to see if Elijah will come to take him down from the cross."

Then Jesus cried in a loud voice and died. The curtain in the Temple was torn into two pieces, from the top to the bottom.

When the army officer who was standing in front of the cross saw what happened when Jesus died, he said, "This man really was the Son of God!".

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- I wonder what the most important part of this story is.
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
- Could you imagine being there? How did it make you feel?
- What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?
- Why do you think Jesus died on the cross? Do you think he could have stopped it?
- Have you ever felt all alone like Jesus did?
- I wonder what Jesus might say to us when we feel alone.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who do you think needs to hear this story?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, bless these children with your Presence. Help them to know they are not alone.



# Jesus is Crucified (2)

## Mark 15:33-39

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

I get really sad when ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.

### BACKGROUND

In the temple where the people worshipped God, there was a very big curtain that separated the people from coming into where God was. Only the priest could go in there once a year. Listen to what happens to the curtain in our story. The Son of God was the Promised One who would bring people back to God

### BIBLE STORY

At noon the whole country became dark, and the darkness lasted for three hours. At three o'clock Jesus cried in a loud voice, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

When some of the people standing there heard this, they said, "Listen! He is calling Elijah."

Someone there ran and got a sponge, filled it with vinegar, tied it to a stick, and gave it to Jesus to drink. He said, "We want to see if Elijah will come to take him down from the cross."

Then Jesus cried in a loud voice and died. The curtain in the Temple was torn into two pieces, from the top to the bottom.

When the army officer who was standing in front of the cross saw what happened when Jesus died, he said, "This man really was the Son of God!".

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- Were there things that made you sad in today's story? Was there anything that you liked about today's story?
- What could you imagine as the story was being told? How did it make you feel? What did you see and hear as the story was told?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What does it mean to you that the curtain is torn that separated man from God? Can you imagine coming into God's Presence? How does that make you feel?
- The word gospel means Good News. How is Jesus dying on the cross Good News?
- Would you like to know more about this Good News?
- How do you feel about Jesus now?
- What does this story tell us about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who else do you think needs to hear this Bible Story and the Good News?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for us which caused the curtain to tear and we can come into Your Presence. Bless each child with a stronger desire to be with You!



# God Releases the Holy Spirit on Pentecost <sup>(1)</sup>

## Acts 2:1-12

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

If you had all the power in the world, what would you do with it?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Ball Game:** Several different games can be played with a ball. Have the children get in a circle. When you say "GO," or start playing the music, the children pass the ball around the circle until you say "STOP" or stop the music. When that happens, the person who has the ball has to say the next part of the story. When you say "GO" or start the music, the children start passing the ball till you say "STOP."

### BACKGROUND

Jesus has died and been buried in a tomb. That happened on a Friday. Sunday comes and some of the people find that He is no longer in the tomb – He is alive! He is with the people for 40 more days. Before going back to Heaven, Jesus visits with His disciples and tells them to wait for the Holy Spirit to come. Pentecost is a holiday that comes fifty days after Passover. The people keep waiting and waiting till ...

### BIBLE STORY

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a noise like a strong, blowing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

They saw something like flames of fire that were separated and stood over each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages by the power the Holy Spirit was giving them.

There were some religious Jews staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. When they heard this noise, a crowd came together.

They were all surprised, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were completely amazed at this.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- Who were the different characters in the story?  
What do you think they were thinking and feeling throughout the story?
- I wonder why God included this story in the Bible?
- Jesus had promised his followers that they would not be left alone. From this story we see that he sends the Holy Spirit to be with the people. What does the Spirit do in today's story?
- In what ways does God come to us today?
- What amazes you about God?
- What does this story tell you about God?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- How will you respond to God today?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

They said, "Look! Aren't all these people that we hear speaking from Galilee? Then how is it possible that we each hear them in our own languages as we are from many different places. But we hear them telling in our own languages about the great things God has done!"

They were all amazed and confused, asking each other, "What does this mean?"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, bless us with awe and wonder about who You are and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives as Your followers.



# God Releases the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (2)

## Acts 2:1-12

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What is the strangest thing that has ever happened to you?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Line Up:** Have the children get in line from shortest to tallest or youngest to oldest. The first person starts by sharing the first incident of the story. The second person tells the next thing that happened and so on till the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

When Jesus lived with the people, he kept telling them that he would leave but he would not leave them alone. He would send the Holy Spirit to encourage and teach them. The Holy Spirit would give them power and they would tell people all over the world about Jesus. That day is about to come.

### BIBLE STORY

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a noise like a strong, blowing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

They saw something like flames of fire that were separated and stood over each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages by the power the Holy Spirit was giving them.

There were some religious Jews staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. When they heard this noise, a crowd came together.

They were all surprised, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were completely amazed at this.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- If you were one of the people who was there, how would you have responded?
- In what ways can we see God at work today?
- How has God used you to share His love to others?
- What amazes you about God?
- I wonder why God sent the Holy Spirit?
- What did the Holy Spirit allow the people to do?
- I wonder what the Holy Spirit wants to do for you?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- How do you think God wants you to live differently because of what you learned?
- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

They said, "Look! Aren't all these people that we hear speaking from Galilee? Then how is it possible that we each hear them in our own languages as we are from many different places. But we hear them telling in our own languages about the great things God has done!"

They were all amazed and confused, asking each other, "What does this mean?"

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless and anoint each child with Your Holy Spirit just like you did the people in our story today. May they walk in Your power and love.





# Paul's Jailer Becomes a Follower of Christ <sup>(1)</sup>

## Acts 16:25-34

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What makes you really happy?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Create a Song:** Create a song that will retell the Bible Story. You might use a song that the children are very familiar with and then change the words so it retells the Bible story. They can create an original song or possibly a rap song.

### BACKGROUND

God has selected a man named Paul to be a missionary and tell everyone about His Son, Jesus. Paul goes on different trips and in our story today, he is traveling with Silas. On one trip the people get really upset with him and he is thrown into prison.

### BIBLE STORY

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God as the other prisoners listened. Suddenly, there was a strong earthquake that shook the foundation of the jail.

Then all the doors of the jail broke open, and all the prisoners were freed from their chains. The jailer woke up and saw that the jail doors were open.

Thinking that the prisoners had already escaped, he got his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul shouted, "Don't hurt yourself! We are all here."

The jailer told someone to bring a light. Then he ran inside and, shaking with fear, fell down before Paul and Silas. He brought them outside and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?"

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like most in the story today?
- For you, what was the most important part of the story?
- How do we become saved? What are we saved from?
- How did the jailer respond to this message?
- What choices did Paul and Silas make? How about the jailer? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- What does God need to save you from today?
- How did this story challenge you or encourage you?
- This story tells me that God is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who in your family needs to hear about Jesus?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

They said to him, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and all the people in your house.” So Paul and Silas told the message of the Lord to the jailer and all the people in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their wounds.

Then he and all his people were baptized immediately. After this the jailer took Paul and Silas home and gave them food. He and his family were very happy because they now believed in God.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord bless each child with the boldness to tell others the Good News about how to be saved.



# Paul's Jailer Becomes a Follower of Christ (2)

## Acts 16:25-34

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

I am believing that God ...

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Story Cards:** Write or draw the different segments of the Bible story on separate sheets of paper. Give them to different children in the class and have the children get in order of the story line. You could also give them a certain amount of time to do it in or write out 2 or more copies of the story line and have several groups of children trying to be the first group to finish.

### BACKGROUND

Paul is in a city where they worshipped other gods. He commanded a demon to come out of someone and because of that, people were upset and he was thrown into prison. The jailer made sure Paul did not escape and so he placed him in the most inner dungeon and chained him to the wall. This does not stop Paul from telling people about Jesus!

### BIBLE STORY

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God as the other prisoners listened. Suddenly, there was a strong earthquake that shook the foundation of the jail.

Then all the doors of the jail broke open, and all the prisoners were freed from their chains. The jailer woke up and saw that the jail doors were open.

Thinking that the prisoners had already escaped, he got his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul shouted, "Don't hurt yourself! We are all here."

The jailer told someone to bring a light. Then he ran inside and, shaking with fear, fell down before Paul and Silas. He brought them outside and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?"

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- The part of today's story I like most is \_\_\_\_\_.
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible.
- What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
- Which character in today's story do you most relate to: Paul, Silas, the jailer, or maybe someone in the jailer's family?
- As you imagined being in the story, what did you see or hear as the story was being told?
- How did the different people in the story trust and obey God? I wonder how God wants me to trust Him.
- Has someone told you the Good News of what it means to be saved? What did they say to you? Would you like to know what it means to be saved? Is there someone you know who needs to hear this story and this message?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- Who do you want to share this story with?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

They said to him, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and all the people in your house." So Paul and Silas told the message of the Lord to the jailer and all the people in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their wounds.

Then he and all his people were baptized immediately. After this the jailer took Paul and Silas home and gave them food. He and his family were very happy because they now believed in God.

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, thank you for being with us, for saving us, for giving us hope and joy!



# Paul in Corinth (1)

## Acts 18:4-11

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What do you like about church or this time we are together?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Musical Chairs:** Put enough chairs in a circle for each person in your group except one. The chairs should be facing out. Everyone gets to sit in the chair except the one person remaining. When the music starts, the children start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone needs to find a chair. The person remaining has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

Paul travels throughout the world to tell people about Jesus. He makes tents and he goes and lives with the people in a city called Corinth. There he continues telling everyone the Good News about Jesus. A synagogue is a place where people worship God.

### BIBLE STORY

Every Sabbath day *Paul* talked with the people in the synagogue, trying to persuade them to believe in Jesus.

Silas and Timothy joined Paul in Corinth. After this, Paul spent all his time telling people the Good News, showing them that Jesus is the Christ. But they would not accept Paul's teaching and said some evil things.

So he shook off the dust from his clothes and said to them, "If you are not saved, it will be your own fault! I have done all I can do! After this, I will go to other nations.

Paul left the synagogue and moved into Titus' home which was next to the synagogue. Titus worshiped God.

The leader of that synagogue, and all the people living in his house believed in the Lord. Many others in Corinth also listened to Paul and believed and were baptized.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about today's story?
- What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
- What do you think was going on in Paul's heart and mind in this story?
- Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
- I wonder what it was like for Paul to keep telling people about Jesus?
- Is there someone you know who needs to hear about Jesus? I wonder what God would want you to say to them.
- Because of today's story, is there something different you feel you ought to be doing in serving and loving Jesus?
- If God were to tell you something tonight in your sleep, what would you want Him to say to you?

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

During the night, the Lord told Paul in a vision: "Don't be afraid. Continue talking to people and don't be quiet. I am with you, and no one will hurt you because many of my people are in this city." Paul stayed there for a year and a half, teaching God's word to the people.

---

## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Jesus, bless each child with Your amazing presence today. Speak to them in the evening hours and tell them of Your love.



# Paul in Corinth (2)

## Acts 18:4-11

### ① REVIEW

- See if any of the children can retell previous stories told.
- Who retold any previous stories to someone else? Let them share what happened.
- How did you respond to the Holy Spirit's leading from previous weeks?

### ② OPENING

What has been your favorite Bible story this year?

### ③ BACKGROUND →

### ④ TELL BIBLE STORY →

### ⑤ RETELL

**Story Review:** Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins and correcting wrong statements.

**Graffiti Style:** Write the different Bible story segments on the board in graffiti style (phrases jumbled). Ask one child to find the first phrase and draw an arrow to the next part of the story repeating both phrases. The next child draws an arrow connecting the second phrase to the third one and repeats all three. Continue until the Bible story is retold.

### BACKGROUND

Paul travels throughout the world to tell people about Jesus. He makes tents and he goes and lives with the people in a city called Corinth. Paul does not travel alone, he has a friend with him. Listen to how Paul and Silas tell people about Jesus and what they should do if people listen or don't listen to this Good News.

### BIBLE STORY

Every Sabbath day *Paul* talked with the people in the synagogue, trying to persuade them to believe in Jesus.

Silas and Timothy joined Paul in Corinth. After this, Paul spent all his time telling people the Good News, showing them that Jesus is the Christ. But they would not accept Paul's teaching and said some evil things.

So he shook off the dust from his clothes and said to them, "If you are not saved, it will be your own fault! I have done all I can do! After this, I will go to other nations.

Paul left the synagogue and moved into Titus' home which was next to the synagogue. Titus worshiped God.

(story continues on the next page)

## ⑥ DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- What did you like about the story?
- What did you learn about Paul's relationship with Jesus from this story?
- What was the most important part of the story to you?
- I wonder why God put this story in the Bible.
- What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
- Could you imagine being there? What did you hear and see as the story was told?
- What did you learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story? In many of the stories we hear that we are not to be afraid. I can be more bold for Jesus by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Has God ever used you like He used Paul?
- Today I learned that God \_\_\_\_\_.

## ⑦ PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS

- What do you feel like the Holy Spirit wants you to do with what you learned today?
- If I could do one thing for Jesus, I think He would want me to \_\_\_\_\_.

## BIBLE STORY (Continued)

The leader of that synagogue, and all the people living in his house believed in the Lord. Many others in Corinth also listened to Paul and believed and were baptized.

During the night, the Lord told Paul in a vision: "Don't be afraid. Continue talking to people and don't be quiet. I am with you, and no one will hurt you because many of my people are in this city." Paul stayed there for a year and a half, teaching God's word to the people.

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## ⑧ CLOSING BLESSING

Lord, bless each child with a passion and desire to follow You all the days of their lives. May they continually grow more in love, choosing to trust and obey You.



# Retell Activities and Descriptions

***It is important to retell the Bible story after it's been told. So Children are engaged in the story and to help them in learning it well enough, so they can retell it to someone else.***

The retell activities should be fun and engage the children in the story. Listed below are various ways to retell a Bible story which engages children in different ways. One way not listed, if the children have Bibles, is to have them open them and re-read the story. This can also be done by someone reading the story and the leader asking sequential questions which everyone then answers by looking in the Bible.

## ■ ART

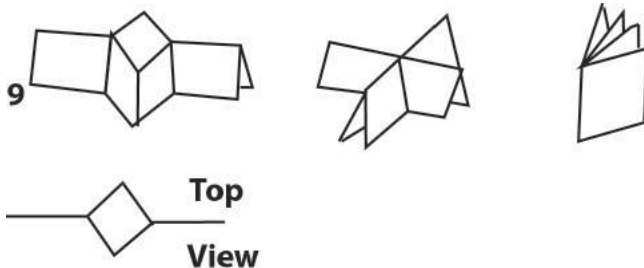
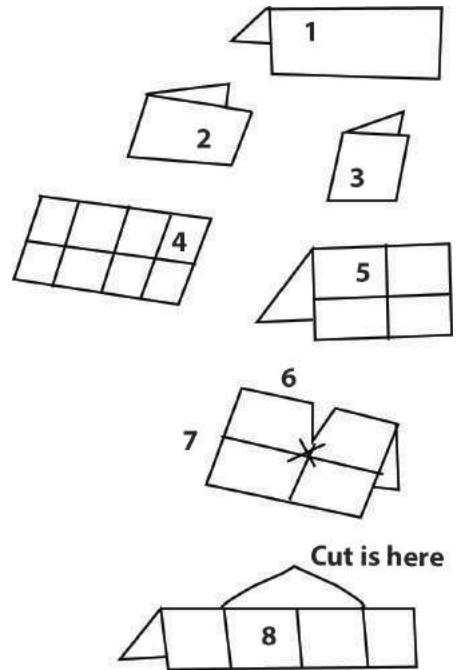
- **Drawing:** If you have the materials, have the children draw what they saw or what they liked best as the story was being told. Have each child share their pictures with the rest of the group. If there are different scenes from the story, have the children put them in the order that they occurred.
- **Group Poster:** If you have the materials, have the children work together on making a poster that can tell the Bible Story. Allow the children to retell the story by using what they drew on the poster.
- **Story Parts:** Give each child a certain scene of the story for them to draw. Have the children put the story in order by the drawings that have been made. The children can then retell the story by using the pictures they have drawn.
- **Art Attack:** Use paper and coloring markers that are available. If the paper is big enough, have the children work on a poster that tells the story. If you only have single sheets, have each child draw a different part of the story or their favorite part of the story and share it with the class.
- **Comic Strip:** Give each child a sheet of paper. Have them fold it in half, then fold that half again and then a third time. When you open the paper, there should be 8 boxes on the paper. For each scene or action in the Bible story, have each child draw a simple picture or object in each box in the order that it happens in the story. Let the children retell the story to a partner by using their comic strips.
- **Billboard:** Design a roadside billboard of the Bible story or how you see yourself connecting with it.
- **Pictionary:** Different parts of the story are randomly given out and each person needs to draw what they have been given until someone guesses what it is.
- **Graffiti Wall:** As a group, have the children write words or draw pictures which tell the story.
- **Tee Shirt Design:** Have each child design the front of a tee shirt that could tell the major parts of the story.
- **Logo Design:** If there could be just one picture, with no words, that would best tell the Bible story, what would that be? Have the children draw it. You can use this simple picture as a way of reviewing the different Bible stories in weeks to come.
- **Book Cover Design:** Children design and draw their own book cover with words and pictures that best capture the different parts of the Bible story.
- **Storybooks:** The story is retold by the child through pictures and/or words in a storybook. See additional appendix page on how the children can create one.

# How to Make Blank Books for Writing

*Here's a great technique for creating a blank book. Work with your child to make these folded little books. Once children master the fold-a-book technique, they will eagerly use it to create blank books (any size) for their own writing and illustrating purposes.*

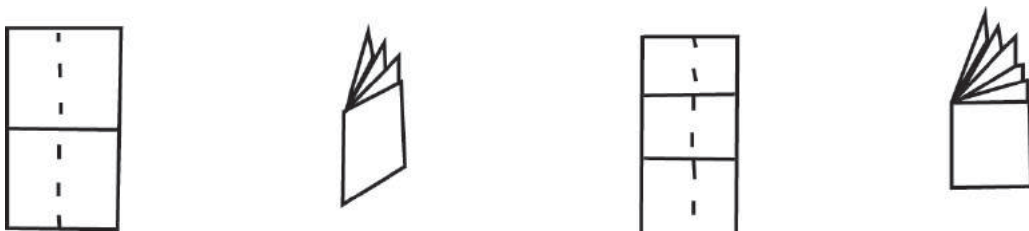
## Fold-A-Book Instructions

1. Fold a rectangular sheet of paper in half lengthwise.  
(We sometimes call this the "hot dog" or horizontal fold.)
2. Fold in half again, as for book. Crease tightly.
3. Fold in half again. Crease tightly.
4. Unfold the sheet – hold it vertically (up and down)
5. Fold in half width-wise. (The "hamburger" fold.)
6. Cut along the center crease from the folded edge to the X.
7. Open the sheet again.
8. Return to the original lengthwise fold (as in #1).
9. Push the end sections together, and it will fold itself into the child-size Little Book. Four sections are formed.



## Cut-And-Staple Book Instructions

A sheet (or sheets) of paper are cut in half or thirds and stapled to form an 8, 12, or 16-page child-size Little Book.



# Retell Activities and Descriptions

## ■ DRAMA / ARTS

- **Act it Out:** Assign different characters of the story to each of the children. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two children who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.
- **Retell** through a character's eyes.
- **Create a Song:** Create a song that will retell the Bible Story. You might use a song that the children are very familiar with and then change the words so it retells the Bible story. They can create an original song or possibly a rap song.
- **Partners:** Have the children get into smaller groups of 2 to 3 children. Each child will take a turn retelling the story. If someone gets stuck and can't remember the next part, the others in the group can help them.
- **Hand Motions:** Go back through the Bible story and have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.
- **Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one group act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. The next group has to act out the next part of the story and the remaining groups tell what is happening. Continue till the story is retold. You may remind the group acting out the story if they don't remember what the next part is.
- **Puppets:** Create simple puppets from things like socks, paper plates, paper cups, sticks, etc and retell the story using these characters.
- **Objects:** Give each group 3 different objects. The group needs to use the different objects in the retelling of the story. They can add other objects but they must at least use the 3 objects given to them.
- **Wire & Clay:** Use these or other available craft items to build and retell the Bible story.
- **Charades:** Without using words, the kids act out the different scenes while the audience has to guess which part of the story they are doing.
- **Sound Effects & Motions:** Re-read the Bible story and come up with different sound effects and/or motions for words or actions that repeat throughout the story.
- **Object(s) (ie: scarf, rope),** See how many times they can use the object to tell the story. Another way is to give each group 3 different objects and they have to use them in retelling the story.
- **Motions:** Use different motions to illustrate each segment of the story. You can assign one motion to each child or small group and they need to demonstrate their motion in the order in which it comes in the story.
- **Human Slide Show:** Find a big cloth to use as a curtain. Two children will hold it up and then drop it when you tell them. Pick several children to be the characters in the story. For each story segment, while the curtain is up, have the children get into a position as though there were a picture or painting of that part of the story. They are to remain perfectly still and then have the cloth dropped so the rest of the group can see it. Each scene changes as you tell the story.
- **Dance:** Retell the story through a dance with or without music and words.
- **Top Ten:** Have the kids, either as a group or individually, write out the top ten events of the story.
- **Journals:** The children are given the opportunity to just quietly sit and journal what was in the story and what it meant to them.

# Retell Activities and Descriptions

## ■ GAMES I

- **Ball Game:** Several different games can be played with a ball. Have the children get in a circle. When you say “GO,” or start playing the music, the children pass the ball around the circle until you say “STOP” or stop the music. When that happens, the person who has the ball has to say the next part of the story. When you say “GO” or start the music, the children start passing the ball till you say “STOP.”
- **Rope Game:** Get a piece of rope that is 15 feet long and tie the ends together. Have the children get in a circle with everyone holding on to the rope. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say “STOP,” the person closest to the knot has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this till the story is told.
- **Movers & Shakers:** Tossing a ball from one person to another while the music is playing. When the music stops, the person holding the ball (or knot in the rope if you are using a long rope that the child are holding and moving around in a circle) has to say the next part of the verse in the way you specify. Some examples could be:
  - At a normal pace
  - In fast forward while jogging in place
  - In a whisper while tiptoeing
  - Shouting while marching
  - In slow motion while jogging in slow motion
  - In a normal voice while walking backward
- **Musical Chairs:** Put enough chairs in a circle for each person in your group except one. The chairs should be facing out. Everyone gets to sit in the chair except the one person remaining. When the music starts, the children start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone needs to find a chair. The person remaining has to say the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is retold.
- **Timing the Retell:** See if the group can retell the story in a specified amount of time.
- **Tingo Tingo Tango:** Have the children get into a circle. Pass an object around as you are saying “Tingo, Tingo, Tango.” When you get to “Tango,” whoever has the ball has to say the next part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so the children do not know who will be next.
- **Line Up:** Have the children get in line from shortest to tallest or youngest to oldest. The first person starts by sharing the first incident of the story. The second person tells the next thing that happened and so on till the story is retold.
- **Balloon or Ball Toss:** Have the children get into circles of about 8. Have them toss the balloon or ball from one to another either as the music is going or when you have said, “GO.” When you stop the music or say “STOP,” whoever has the balloon has to say the next part of the story. For some added fun, try adding a marble or small round pebble in the balloon before you inflate it.
- **Balloon Pop “Surprise”:** You will need enough balloons per group as there are segments to the story. Before doing this activity, write out the different segments of the Bible story on slips of paper. Put one slip in each of the balloons. Blow up the balloon and tie it off. Have the children get in a circle with the balloons in the center. When you tell them, have the children sit on a balloon until it pops. The children then take the slip of paper in the balloon and put them in order of the storyline.

# Retell Activities and Descriptions

## ■ GAMES II

- **Whisperings:** Have the children sit in a circle. Whisper the first part of the story to one child. He or she will then whisper that phrase and the next part of the story to the next person and so on until the last person who will tell the story to the group.
- **Dice:** Each small group has one dice. The first person rolls the dice. If they get a “1” or “2” they can pass the dice to the next person and do not have to tell any part of the story. If they roll a “3” or “4” they have to tell the next part of the story. If they roll a “5” or “6” the dice goes back in reverse to the person who just had the dice and they have to tell the next part of the story.
- **Story Cards:** Write or draw the different segments of the Bible story on separate sheets of paper. Give them to different children in the class and have the children get in order of the story line. You could also give them a certain amount of time to do it in or write out 2 or more copies of the story line and have several groups of children trying to be the first group to finish.
- **Sign Language:** Pretend as though you and the person you are trying to tell the story to are deaf. What would that look like?
- **Bible Story Relay:** Divide the children into teams. They run to a designated spot and back. When they return they have to shout out the next part of the story. Then the next person runs to the spot and back and shouts out the next part of the story till every team has retold the story.
- **Graffiti Style:** Write the different Bible story segments on the board in graffiti style (phrases jumbled). Ask one child to find the first phrase and draw an arrow to the next part of the story repeating both phrases. The next child draws an arrow connecting the second phrase to the third one and repeats all three. Continue until the Bible story is retold.
- **Hide and Seek:** Write phrases of the Bible Story on cards or strips of paper. Place them around the room. Send the children out to find them and as they do, they should gather in the front of the room and place themselves in the proper order. Have someone read and retell the story. You could also do this activity by not hiding the cards but randomly give the cards out to the children and have them get in the right order to read the story.
- **Story Chase:** Write each part of the story on small cards. Randomly tape one card on the back of each child. Have the children assemble the story on their own. They should line up so that each child can see the phrase in front of them. Have the children retell the story by reading the card on the person in front of them.
- **Who’s Got the Star?** Make a star out of construction paper. Have the children sit in chairs in a circle. Instruct everyone to close their eyes. Place the star under someone’s chair. When you have them open their eyes, whoever has the star under them can say the first part of the story. If the child can say it, have everyone close their eyes again and now he or she gets to place the star under someone else’s chair. The activity is played until the story is told. Variation: A coin or other token could be used in the place of a star.

# DISCOVER & RESPONSE QUESTIONS

## ◆ Discover Questions - Head (Facts)

*My goal is to understand the content of the story.  
What does the story say? What happened in the story?  
I want to KNOW God through His Word.*



- 
- a. What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
  - b. Could you imagine being there? What did you hear/see/smell as the story was told?
  - c. What stood out to you in the story?
  - d. What was God/Jesus teaching them in this story?
  - e. Where in previous stories have we seen God do this?
  - f. Did you hear anything that reminded you of previous stories? What connections did you make?
  - g. Which of our other stories talks about \_\_\_\_\_ ?
  - h. Was there anything that was difficult or hard to understand?
  - i. How did the story describe God's/Jesus's relationship with people?
  - j. What did we learn about \_\_\_\_\_'s relationship with God/Jesus from this story?
  - k. How does God/Jesus respond to the people in the story? What does this show us?
  - l. How did God/Jesus respond when ... ?
  - m. How did people respond ... ?
  - n. How did God/Jesus ... ?
  - o. What was God/Jesus teaching or showing them in this event?
  - p. What is something you learned today about ...
    - God?
    - Jesus?
    - This story?
    - What it means to follow Jesus?
    - Yourself?
  - q. What have we learned about what God/Jesus is like?
  - r. What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
  - s. What changes in beliefs, behaviors, or attitudes did someone experience in the story?
  - t. What did you notice about God/Jesus/ \_\_\_\_\_ from the story?
  - u. What was \_\_\_\_\_ risking in order to follow God/Jesus?
  - v. How are the characters alike or different in the story?
  - w. In what ways is our situation like ... ?
-

# DISCOVER & RESPONSE QUESTIONS

## ◆ Discover Questions - Heart (Feelings)

*My goal is to connect emotionally and spiritually with the story, allowing the story to penetrate my heart. How does the story relate to my life?*

*Why is the story important? Why is it important to me?  
I want to LOVE God through His Word.*



- 
- a. What did you like about the story? Is there anything you didn't like?
  - b. What stood out to you in the story?
  - c. What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
  - d. What feelings did you have as you heard the story? How would you have felt if ... ?
  - e. What did you imagine as you were listening to the story?
  - f. What did you wonder about when the story was being told?
    - What kinds of emotions do you think ... ?
    - What feelings do you think motivated ... ?
    - What do you think it was like ... ?
  - g. What do you think was going on in \_\_\_\_\_'s heart and mind in this story?
  - h. What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
  - i. Which character in today's story do you most relate to?
  - j. What do you feel is really important to God/Jesus? To the character?
  - k. In what ways are we also like \_\_\_\_\_? In what ways are we different?
  - l. After hearing the story, how might it change how you view yourself?
  - m. Has God ever used you ... ?
  - n. Why do you suppose ... ?
  - o. Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
  - p. How do you feel about God/Jesus now?
  - q. What is something you never realized before today?
  - r. What is the most interesting thing you heard today?
  - s. How did this story challenge you or encourage you?
-

# DISCOVER & RESPONSE QUESTIONS

## ◆ Response Questions - Hands (Actions)



*My goal is to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to respond to and apply what I've learned from the story.*

*How should I apply the story to my life?*

*What does God want me, specifically, to do with what I have learned from the story?*

*I want to SERVE God by obeying what I've learned from His Word.*

- 
- a. What did you hear today that makes you think you ought to make a change in your life?
  - b. From what you learned today, what do you feel God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit is asking you to do?
  - c. What do you think God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit is saying to you?
  - d. What should you do differently because of today's story? What difference will this make in how you love and serve Him?
  - e. What did we learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story? How can you put this insight into practice this week?
  - f. How should we respond to God/Jesus today?
  - g. After hearing the story, how will you live differently?
  - h. Do you want to know God like this? Is there something happening right now in your life where God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit could help you?
  - i. Who can you share this story with this week?
  - j. How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?



## KIDStory Lessons Years A-D

	Theme	Year A	Year B	Year C	Year D
1	Creation	God Creates Everything <i>Genesis 1:1, 3-5; 6-25(summarized); 26, 31; 2:1-3</i>	God Gives Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden <i>Gen. 1:27-30; 2:8-9, 15-17</i>	God Creates Adam <i>Genesis 2:4-8</i>	God Creates Eve <i>Genesis 2:18-25</i>
2	Fall/Sin	Adam and Eve: The First Sin <i>Genesis 3:1-7</i>	Adam and Eve Feel Shame <i>Genesis 3:7-13</i>	Adam and Eve: Consequences of the Fall <i>Genesis 3:16-21</i>	Cain Kills His Brother Abel <i>Genesis 4:1-7</i>
3	Genesis Stories	Noah Builds the Ark <i>Genesis 6:17-22</i>	Abraham: God's Covenant <i>Genesis 17:1-8</i>	Isaac Has Twins, Jacob and Esau <i>Genesis 25:27-34</i>	Joseph's Dreams and Colorful Coat <i>Genesis 37:3-8</i>
4		Noah: Animals Enter the Ark <i>Genesis 7:5-10</i>	Abraham Sends Away Hagar and Ishmael <i>Genesis 21:14-20</i>	Jacob Tricks His Father Isaac <i>Genesis 27:18-27a</i>	Joseph Sold Into Slavery <i>Genesis 37:18-28</i>
5		Noah: A Colorful Promise <i>Genesis 9:8-15</i>	Abraham's Son Isaac is Born <i>Genesis 21:1-7</i>	Moses: God Provides Food in the Wilderness <i>Exodus 16:15b-24</i>	Joseph Rules in Egypt <i>Genesis 41:37-42</i>
6		Language Confused, People Scattered <i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>	Abraham Gives Up Isaac <i>Genesis 22:9-18</i>	Moses: God Gives the Ten Commandments <i>Exodus 20:1-17</i>	Joseph Reveals Himself to His Family <i>Genesis 45:4-9</i>
7	Exodus Stories	Moses: A Baby in a Basket <i>Exodus 2:1-10</i>	Moses Tells Pharaoh, "Let My People Go!" <i>Exodus 7:14-10:29 (Summary)</i>	God Calls Out to Samuel <i>1 Samuel 3:1-10</i>	Moses: God's People Worship a Golden Calf <i>Exodus 32:1-14</i>
8		Moses and the Burning Bush <i>Exodus 3:1-12</i>	Moses: The Passover <i>Exodus 12:21-30</i>	King Saul Disobeys God <i>1 Samuel 15:17-23</i>	Moses: God's Tabernacle <i>Exodus 35-40 (Summary)</i>
9		Moses Crosses the Red Sea on Dry Ground <i>Exodus 14:21-31</i>	Moses: God Provides Water in the Wilderness <i>Exodus 17:1-6</i>	God Chooses David <i>1 Samuel 16:6-13a</i>	God Chooses Gideon <i>Judges 6:11-24a</i>
10	Historical Books	Spies to the Promised Land <i>Numbers 13:25-33</i>	Daniel is Faithful to God <i>Daniel 1:11-20</i>	David Defeats Goliath <i>1 Samuel 17:40-50</i>	Gideon Defeats the Enemy <i>Judges 7:2-7</i>

## KIDStory Lessons Years A-D

	Theme	Year A	Year B	Year C	Year D
11		Joshua: Jericho's Walls Fall Down <i>Joshua 6:8-16, 20</i>	Daniel's Friends Saved in the Furnace <i>Daniel 3:13-28</i>	David Brings Back the Ark  <i>2 Samuel 6:12-15</i>	Samson Loses His Strength  <i>Judges 16:15-20</i>
12		Elisha: Naaman is Healed <i>2 Kings 5:9-15</i>	Daniel in the Lion's Den  <i>Daniel 6:10-23</i>	Solomon Asks for Wisdom <i>1 Kings 3:5-14</i>	Jonah Preaches Repentance <i>Jonah 3:1-6, 10</i>
13	Prophet	Isaiah's Vision of God  <i>Isaiah 6:1-8</i>	Elijah and the False Prophets <i>1 Kings 18:25-39</i>	Elisha Helps a Poor Widow  <i>2 Kings 4:1-7</i>	Elisha Brings a Boy Back to Life <i>2 Kings 4:25-35</i>
14	Jesus' Birth and Childhood	Jesus' Birth: An Angel Comes to Mary <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>	Jesus' Birth: Shepherds Visit Him <i>Luke 2:8-20</i>	Jesus' Birth: Wise Men Bring Gifts <i>Matthew 2:8-12</i>	Jesus' Birth: Prophecy of Simeon <i>Luke 2:25-34a</i>
15	Jesus' Life	Jesus as a Boy  <i>Luke 2:41-52</i>	Jesus is Baptized  <i>Matthew 3:13-17</i>	Jesus Resists Satan's Temptations <i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>	Jesus Chooses His First Disciples <i>Luke 5:1-11</i>
16	Teacher	Nicodemus Visits Jesus  <i>John 3:1-8, 16-17</i>	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet <i>John 13:3-15</i>	Jesus: Don't Be Anxious  <i>Matthew 6:25-34</i>	Jesus Asks, "Are You Wise or Foolish?" <i>Matthew 7:24-29</i>
17	Parable	Jesus: Story of the Lost Lamb <i>Luke 15:1-7</i>	Jesus Teaches on Treasures <i>Matthew 13:44-46</i>	Jesus: Story of the Lost Son  <i>Luke 15:11-24</i>	Jesus: Story of the Good Samaritan <i>Luke 10:25-37</i>
18	Miracle	Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind <i>John 9:1-11</i>	Jesus Stops the Raging Storm <i>Mark 4:35-41</i>	Jesus and Peter Walk on Water <i>Matthew 14:23-33</i>	Jesus Casts Out Demons  <i>Mark 5:1-13</i>
19	Healer	Jesus Heals Jairus' Daughter <i>Luke 8:49-56</i>	Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus <i>Mark 10:46-52</i>	Jesus Heals the Paralytic  <i>Luke 5:17-26</i>	Jesus Heals Ten Lepers  <i>Luke 17:11-19</i>
20	Interaction with a person	Zacchaeus Has to See Jesus <i>Luke 19:1-10</i>	Jesus Blesses the Children  <i>Mark 10:13-16</i>	A Woman Anoints Jesus  <i>Luke 7:36-50</i>	Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler <i>Mark 10:17-27</i>

## KIDStory Lessons Years A-D

	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Year A</b>	<b>Year B</b>	<b>Year C</b>	<b>Year D</b>
21	Death and Resurrection	Jesus Enters Jerusalem in Triumph <i>Luke 19:29b-41</i>	Jesus is Crucified <i>Mark 15:33-39</i>	Peter Denies He Knows Jesus <i>Matthew 26:69-75</i>	Jesus is Alive! <i>Luke 24:1-12</i>
22	Pentecost & Start of Church	Jesus Goes to Heaven <i>Acts 1:8-11; Luke 24:52-53</i>	God Releases the Holy Spirit on Pentecost <i>Acts 2:1-12</i>	The Fellowship of the First Believers <i>Acts 2:42-47</i>	Philip Tells the Ethiopian the Good News of Jesus <i>Acts 8:26-39</i>
23	Acts, Paul, John	Jesus Chooses Saul, His Persecutor <i>Acts 9:3-18</i>	Paul's Jailer Becomes a Follower of Christ <i>Acts 16:25-34</i>	Peter Heals a Lame Man <i>Acts 3:1-10</i>	God's People Need to Wear His Armor <i>Ephesians 6:10-18</i>
24		Tabitha Comes Back to Life <i>Acts 9:36-42</i>	Paul in Corinth <i>Acts 18:4-11</i>	Peter Released from Jail by an Angel <i>Acts 12:6-16</i>	The Apostle John's Dream about Heaven <i>Revelation 21:1-7</i>



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