

DISCOVERY LAND

Year 1 – Quarter 1

Runners Curriculum

Adapted for use in Africa



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A Note About Curriculum Adaptations

With permission from Discovery Land Global, the original creator of this curriculum and resources, a team from Awana Africa has adapted the content, contextualizing it for use across Africa.



A Message from Kris Smoll

Dear Leaders:

This quarter we are excited to watch God reveal His incredible redemptive plan beginning in the book of Genesis. During our adventure through this amazing book, full of incredible truths, we encourage you to come prepared each week and lead through the lens of a biblical worldview:

- Know Right: A Scripture passage to study
- Think Right: A Scripture verse to meditate on during the week
- Do Right: The challenge to live out God's Word
- Feel Right: The result of applying the lesson and having a biblical worldview

When we disciple through the 4 Rights, we train children how to correctly process good and difficult seasons with truth, which helps them do and feel right before their God.

I would like to encourage those who are new to teaching to network with experienced teachers; seek out their help and guidance. If you are experienced, recognize that you are a huge blessing to the team; take time to encourage and coach your teammates. Your knowledge, skills, and gifts are multiplied when you invest in others.

We are sincerely looking forward to watching God transform the lives of kids as we encourage them to discover truth in the Word of God and apply it to their lives this upcoming season.

Kris Smoll
Executive Director of Discovery Land Global

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Understanding the Curriculum

Overview

The curriculum is designed to be a FUN, ENGAGING, and EFFECTIVE way to inspire kids to know and love God. It is strategic and purposeful and considers the spiritual development of children beginning at six months of age and continuing through their transition to middle school ministry.

The curriculum was developed to teach children:

1. **The Bible:** the big picture of the Old Testament and New Testament as a whole, unified revelation of God's truth to us.
2. **The Gospel of Jesus:** salvation by grace through faith as presented throughout the entire Bible.
3. **The Basics of Christianity:** life transformation through prayer, worship, evangelism, Scripture memory, baptism, communion, tithing, fellowship, serving, missions, etc. (complete list, by age, available in the On Track Map).

Runners Lessons are based on a KNOW RIGHT → THINK RIGHT → DO RIGHT → FEEL RIGHT structure

Know Right:	A key passage from Scripture – 2 Timothy 2:15
Think Right:	A key Scripture verse to meditate on during the week – Psalm 1:2
Do Right:	The challenge to live God's Word – James 1:22
Feel Right:	The result of applying the lesson and having a biblical worldview rather than a secular worldview – Psalm 23

Leaders

Each Runners group typically has several rotational Classroom Helpers and a weekly Lead Teacher.

Lead Teacher: Responsible for teaching an effective Bible lesson that captures the children's attention and creates spiritual growth by following the curriculum, as well as providing leadership of the children and other volunteers throughout the morning.

Classroom Helper: Responsible for welcoming and caring for children, meeting their needs, and helping them to stay focused on the teaching and activities.

Runners Program Overview

The program for Runners children is made up of seven components:

1. Coming In Time
2. Clean Up
3. Large Group Opening Time (includes worship)
4. Bible Lesson (includes puppets)
5. Craft or Activity
6. Snack and Lesson Review
7. Review Activity

These pieces provide a developmentally appropriate balance of free play and activities that engage children in learning the main point of the lesson or an On Track Map objective.

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

:-20	Volunteers ready and prepared to welcome children as they arrive
:-15	Coming In Time
:20	Clean Up
:25	Large Group Time
:35	Bible Lesson
:45	Craft or Activity
:55	Snack & Lesson Review
:60	Review Activity
:65	Parents pick up children

Coming In Time

The purpose of Coming In Time is to help children become comfortable with the volunteers and being separated from their parents. To make the most of Coming In Time, we suggest playing age-appropriate praise music and providing Bible-based books, puzzles, etc.

Clean Up

Clean Up time helps children transition from play to Large Group Opening Time. Children are encouraged to join leaders in helping to put toys and books back in their proper places. A song, such as "Let's Clean Up" that is played consistently during Clean Up time is a very helpful cue for children to begin cleaning up.

Large Group Time

Large Group Time is designed to:

- Give children an opportunity to sing and worship together
- Review Bible Basics
- Introduce and teach the Top 12 Verses

LEADER TIPS

Have the children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible with expression. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God's Word.

When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate! Allow them to pick out a sticker or other small prize.

Bible Lesson

The Bible lesson for Runners brings the Bible to life at a very basic level. The curriculum includes an age-appropriate paraphrase of the same Bible lesson that preschool and elementary-aged children are learning. The Bible lesson also includes reviewing the verse and a puppet script that reinforces the lesson.

Suggested steps for preparing your Bible lesson:

1. Pray for God's direction and leading. Also spend time praying for your children by name.
2. Read the Scripture from your Bible. This curriculum is developed on the foundation of God's Word and the teaching of His truth by the Holy Spirit. It is critical that all leaders read the Scripture passage before reading the Bible Lesson Outline. Curriculum may contain errors, but the Bible is inerrant.
3. Read the curriculum.
4. Plan your lesson.
5. Make your lesson come alive with props, pictures, or actions, utilizing the creative ideas in the curriculum.
6. Practice the lesson so you can bring the Bible to life with excitement in your voice and good eye contact with your children.
7. Teachers should always have their Bibles open during the entire lesson, so children know the account is coming from the Bible. Due to a limited amount of time and the value we place on teaching children that the narratives come directly from the Bible, please do not read the lesson from a Bible storybook.

Craft or Activity

Following the Bible lesson, children engage in a craft or activity that reinforces what they've learned. They will often have a completed project to show their parents or take home with them.

LEADER TIPS

Keep supplies in front of children and assist them as needed to help them remain focused on the project.

While kids are working, reinforce the Know, Think, Do and Feel Right points from the lesson.

Snack and Lesson Review

LEADER TIPS

Check for allergies before offering food to a child!

Make sure hands and tables are clean and ready prior to passing out snacks.

Turn the review questions into very simple multiple choice or yes/no questions as needed.

During this time, the verse is reviewed in an interactive way. A leader then models prayer and asks simple review questions, while the children are eating a simple snack.

Review Activity

An engaging review game is played as children are being picked up. This activity reinforces the main points of the lesson, and it also demonstrates to the parents that their children are actively learning each week.

Runners Syllabus

Year 1 – Quarter 1

Lesson 1

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

Know Right:	God creates the world.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God created the world.
Feel Right:	I can feel excited because God created the world.

Lesson 2

Genesis 2:4-25

Know Right:	God creates Adam and Eve.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God created me.
Feel Right:	I can feel loved because God created me.

Lesson 3

Genesis 3

Know Right:	Sin enters the world.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will understand that I have sinned.
Feel Right:	I can feel safe because Jesus died for my sin.

Lesson 4

Genesis 4:1-16, 4:25-26

Know Right:	Cain sins against Abel.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God hates sin.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I do not sin.

Lesson 5

Genesis 6:5-22

Know Right:	Noah builds the ark.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will obey God.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I obey God.

Lesson 6

Genesis 7:1 – 8:22, 9:8-16

Know Right:	God floods the world.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God keeps His promises.
Feel Right:	I can feel loved knowing God keeps His promises.

Lesson 7

Genesis 11:1-9

Know Right:	The Tower of Babel is built.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will do things God's way, not my way.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I do things God's way, not my way.

Lesson 8

Genesis 12:1-10, 13:1-18

Know Right: Abram and Lot divide the land.
Think Right: Romans 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right: I will love God and others.
Feel Right: I can feel loved when I love God and others.

Lesson 9

Genesis 15:1-18

Know Right: God makes a covenant with Abram.
Think Right: John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right: I will trust in God's promises.
Feel Right: I can feel excited about God's promises.

Lesson 10

Genesis 16:1 – 18:15

Know Right: Abraham and Hagar have Ishmael.
Think Right: John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right: I will patiently depend on God for everything.
Feel Right: I can feel peaceful when I patiently depend on God for everything.

Lesson 11

Genesis 21:1-21

Know Right: Abraham and Sarah have Isaac.
Think Right: John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right: I will patiently depend on God for everything.
Feel Right: I can feel peaceful when I patiently depend on God for everything.

Lesson 12

Review Day

Know Right: True wisdom comes from God's Word.
Think Right: Romans 3:23 and John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right: I will remember God's Word.
Feel Right: I can feel wise when I remember God's Word.

Topical Lesson

The Bible is Truth

Know Right: The Bible is true because it is God's Word.
Think Right: 2 Timothy 3:16-17
Do Right: I will trust the Bible is true because it is God's Word.
Feel Right: I can feel peaceful when I trust the Bible is true.

Quarter Overview

Year 1 – Quarter 1

Welcome! This quarter, our exciting journey through the Bible begins in the book of Genesis. As we study this extraordinary period of history, we will see God's plan begin to unfold. From the creation of the world to the birth of Abraham's promised child, Isaac, this study examines our sinfulness that can only be washed away by the Savior that God would send. It is our prayer that, through this study, your children will come to trust in Christ and then grow in the grace and knowledge of Him.

Our first lesson takes us to the very beginning of creation week. God has told us the order in which He made everything. On day one, He created the light and separated that light from the darkness; day two, the sky; day three, the land, seas, and vegetation; day four, the sun, moon, and stars; day five, the sea creatures and the birds; day six, the land animals, and uniquely, man in His own image; and finally, on day seven, He rested. The results of God's creation are a powerful testimony that He exists, and He loves us; and from this, we should always believe that God created the world.

Next, we take a closer look at day six of creation to learn how God formed the first man. God tells us He took the dust of the ground, formed it into a man, and breathed the breath of life into Adam, so he became the first human being. He gave Adam a spectacular home in the Garden of Eden, a job to do, and food to eat. God then made a woman to be his helper—right from Adam's rib. God united Adam and Eve together in another of His unique creations—marriage—and He told them to have children, so the earth would be filled with people. From this precise and intentional plan, we understand that God created us.

After God created Adam and placed him in the Garden to work and take care of it, He gave him one command. God told Adam not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said that if Adam ate from that tree, he would die. However, instead of listening to and obeying God, Adam listened to his wife, Eve, who had been deceived by the serpent called Satan. Thus, both Adam and Eve disobeyed God and committed the very first sin, which brought death and suffering into our world. But man's sin didn't end there. As the Bible tells us, each and every one of us, born of Adam and Eve, have foolishly disobeyed God. Therefore, we can now understand that we have sinned.

After Adam and Eve sinned and were banished from the Garden of Eden, God gave them a family. Unfortunately, all their children were born with their parents' sinful nature. Their son Cain became a farmer and their son Abel, a shepherd. The way they lived their lives displayed a significant disparity. Abel's favorable offering of fat portions from the firstborn of his flock demonstrated that he lived God's way, by faith. Cain's unfavorable offering of crops revealed that he lived his way, without faith. Because Abel lived God's way, by faith, he was declared righteous and placed in the Hall of Faith. Because Cain lived without faith, he was punished for his sin, and he had to wander the earth instead of being a farmer. Because of this we can know that God hates sin.

Adam and Eve's family continued to grow and eventually they had a descendant named Noah. By Noah's time, God looked at the world and was grieved because of the magnitude of evil He saw. Fortunately, He also saw that Noah had faith in Him, so He revealed His plan to Noah—a plan to destroy the world with a flood. God told Noah to build an ark that would save his family and two of every living creature. Noah obeyed and built the ark—the only way he and his family would be saved. This teaches us that we should obey God.

About 100 years after God revealed His plan to Noah, God sent the flood. Pairs of every kind of bird and land animal, as well as Noah and his family, boarded the ark. Then God shut them in, and they were safe and secure from the flood. About one year later, Noah, his family, and the birds and animals that had been on the ark came out onto dry land. God made a promise to Noah: He would never again destroy the earth by a flood. The sign of God's promise was the rainbow. God was faithful. He saved those who were on the

ark from the flood. Like them, we who have believed in Jesus are safe and secure from being destroyed because of our sin. The account of Noah and the flood teaches each of us to believe that God keeps His promises.

Noah and his family obeyed God by having children to fill the earth. However, many years later, their descendants decided to live life their own way instead of God's way. They built a city because they wanted to make a name for themselves, and they did not want to be scattered around the earth. And they built a tall tower in the city because they wanted it to reach the heavens. God's solution for this disobedience was to confuse their language and scatter them all over the earth. From the account of the Tower of Babel, we learn that we should always do things God's way, not our way.

God's plan continued with a man named Abram. God told Abram to leave his country, his people, and his father's home and go to a land He would show him. God also promised Abram that he would be a blessing and he would receive blessings. Because Abram had faith in God, he obeyed and went. He took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot. When they arrived in this new land called Canaan, there was trouble. Both Abram and Lot had huge herds and flocks, which caused conflict between their herdsmen. The land would not support them both if they lived together, so Abram gave Lot the choice of which land to take. Lot selfishly chose what looked like the better land, and Abram unselfishly took what was left. Abram's unselfishness demonstrated his love for God and for Lot. God blessed Abram by giving all of the land to him and his family forever. This land would one day be called Israel. Abram's example and God's faithfulness encourage us to love God and others.

After Abram arrived in Canaan, God spoke to him in a vision and explained more of His special promise, called a covenant. Even though Abram was old and had no children, God promised him a son that would come from his own body. He also told Abram he would have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. These descendants would be given the land of Canaan to live in. But, before that, they would be enslaved in a foreign country and mistreated for four hundred years. After that, they would leave that country with great possessions. Just like God promised all of this to Abram, He promises eternal life to those of us who trust in His Son, Jesus, to save us from our sin. Abram believed what God promised him. May we always trust in God's promises.

Abram was now 85 years old and still had no children. Instead of patiently depending on God to keep His promise, Sarai convinced Abram to have a son through her Egyptian maidservant, Hagar. Hagar gave birth to Abram's son; he was named Ishmael. As soon as Hagar was pregnant, conflict erupted between her and Sarai. This conflict was a consequence of Abram and Sarai not patiently depending on God. God told Abram that Ishmael was not the son He had promised. Because of this, we learn to patiently depend on God for everything.

God changed their names to Abraham and Sarah, and when Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah was 90, she gave birth to a son named Isaac. The conflict between Hagar and Sarah escalated, and Abraham had to send Hagar and his beloved Ishmael away—another tragic consequence of not patiently depending on God. In spite of Abraham and Sarah's impatience, God kept His promise and continued His plan to bring Jesus to save us from our sin. The bittersweet saga of Abraham's family begs us to patiently depend on God for everything.

As we come to the end of the quarter, we take a day to remember and celebrate all that God has taught us through the study of His Word. Next quarter, we will return to the New Testament to learn how God's promise of a Savior came true. God bless you for humbly serving Him.

Lesson 1

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

Know Right:	God creates the world.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God created the world.
Feel Right:	I can feel excited because God created the world.

GET READY!

God’s creation is a powerful testimony that He exists, and He loves us. His handiwork reminds us without a doubt that God created the world. This foundational truth encourages us to confidently build our lives on Him and His Word. This week, let’s spend time worshiping God for His greatness! Then, with our hearts in this attitude of worship, let’s prepare to serve and pass this truth on to our children.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of God’s creation. Pray also for those children who won’t be attending this week that they will return next week.

Read: Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

Know Right: God creates the world

Our first lesson takes us to the very beginning of creation week. God has told us the order in which He made everything. On day one, He created the light and separated that light from the darkness; day two, the sky; day three, the land, seas, and vegetation; day four, the sun, moon, and stars; day five, the sea creatures and the birds; day six, the land animals, and uniquely, man in His own image; and finally, on day seven, He rested. The results of God’s creation are a powerful testimony that He exists, and He loves us; and from this, we should always believe that God created the world.

GET SET!

Teacher’s Note: For many children, this is their first week in a structured classroom. We encourage you to review the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster prior to entering your teaching time. Training children how to sit through a lesson will take time, so be patient while being consistent. You will be surprised how fast they will catch on if you are consistent. To capture children’s attention, you need to be well prepared, use props, and have all classroom leaders ready to assist children as needed.

Creative Teaching Supplies:

Seven boxes (or bags) to hold props for each day of creation (see lesson for assembling each box)

- Box 1: Black and white paper
- Box 2: Blue paper with cotton balls attached
- Box 3: Spray water bottle and pictures of a tree and a plant
- Box 4: Yellow ball, picture of the moon, and star stickers
- Box 5: Plastic fish and birds (or models or pictures of fish and birds)
- Box 6: Plastic or stuffed animals and plastic man and woman figures (or puppets or action figures)
- Box 7: Empty

Note: Save these boxes to review next week and for the Review Lesson.

Note: This quarter children will learn one or two new hand motions each week during the lesson. By the end of the quarter, children will be able to talk through the lessons they've learned in Genesis.

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as "Let's Clean Up."

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. "The B-I-B-L-E"
2. "My God is so Big"
3. "Thank You Lord for Making Me"

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the "Let's Get Ready to Learn!" poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let's make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God's Word!*

This is a new verse. Is it long or short? Use hand motions to describe long and short. Let's stand and say this short verse together.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Let's look in the Bible and discover what God created. Created means that God made it. In Genesis 1:1, we learn that God created or made everything. He created the whole world.

Introduce the hand motion of the week. Say the word while doing the hand motion.

Creation: bring hands up to form a world

In each of these boxes is something God created. Remember, created means that God made it. Should we peek inside? *Do this with excitement.* How did God create the world?

Day 1: Everything was dark, and God said, "Let there be light!" *Show black and white paper.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 2: God created the sky and clouds. *Show blue paper with cotton balls.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 3: God created the land, the water, and the plants. *Gently spray water and show a picture of a tree and a plant.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 4: God created the sun, the moon, and the stars. *Show the yellow ball, picture of the moon, and the star stickers.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 5: God created the fish and the birds. *Show plastic fish and birds.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 6: God created animals. *Show plastic or stuffed animals.* He created lots of animals – cows, sheep, frogs, monkeys, cats, dogs, lizards...God is so creative! *Have children make animal noises.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

After the animals, God created a man and a woman. *Show man and woman figures/puppets.* God saw that it was good. *Have children say, "It was good", and give a thumbs up.*

Day 7: What do you think God did next? *Open the box, which will be empty.* Wait! There's nothing in here. Why? Let's find out. *Look in your Bible.* Oh, on the seventh day God rested! Fold your arms and rest your head on them or lay your head on your hands.

Review the items as you put them back into each box; children can help.

Verse Review Time

Our God, who created all things, is perfect. Are we perfect? (No, we have sinned) Sin is anything we think, say, or do that is against God. Like when you are sassy. That is sin. When you hit your brother, that is sin. Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with hand motions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Wow...that Bible lesson was amazing! God created everything!!! Birds, monkeys, the sun and the moon...wow! Hey Teacher, guess what? I love going on walks and seeing everything God made.

Teacher: Me, too! I love taking walks and seeing and hearing everything God has made! Kids, what do you see when you go on walks? *(have Tracker add in comments as children share)*
What do you see on your walks, Tracker?

Tracker: Well, the other day I went for a walk with my mom, and I saw a bunny. He was so cute and fluffy and fast! And then I saw purple and yellow flowers. I went to smell them, but there was a bumble bee on them! I ran away from that big bee! *(yell, "Ahhhh!" and shake your head as if you're scared)*

Teacher: Our God is so awesome! Did you know He even made the colors?

Tracker: No way! I am so excited that God created everything! Boys and girls, when you drive home today, try to point out everything God made to your parents. Then tell your friends and parents that God made everything! Bye, friends, see you next week!

Craft or Activity

Option 1

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with a picture of the world and "God created the world!" (see Resources Booklet)
- Stickers of animals, flowers, people
- Crayons

Instructions:

1. Children will attach stickers to their coloring sheet and use crayons to color it.
2. As children work on this project, talk about how God created everything in the world.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Black paper
- White crayon
- Toothpicks

Instructions:

1. Have leaders hold a piece of black paper taut.
2. Have one or two children at a time use a toothpick to poke holes in the black paper. Collect toothpicks immediately after use and allow the next children to poke holes in the paper.
3. Write on the paper with a white crayon, "God made everything including the stars!"
4. When finished, hold it up to the light, and it will look like stars.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: Thank God for creating everything and for the wonderful snack. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, “Dear Heavenly Father” and close with, “...in Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did God create everything? (Yes)
3. What is your favorite animal that God created? What sound does that animal make?

Review Activities

Option 1

Supplies:

- Creation boxes from the lesson

Instructions:

Review the days of creation with children using the boxes from the lesson.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Plastic animals (or pictures, drawings, or models of animals)
- Container to hold the animals

Instructions:

1. Hide plastic animals around your classroom and have children go on an animal hunt.
2. When they find an animal, have children place the animal in the zoo (container).
3. Hide animals again and repeat as time permits.

Lesson 2

Genesis 2:4-25

Know Right:	God creates Adam and Eve.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God created me.
Feel Right:	I can feel loved because God created me.

GET READY!

Just as Adam and Eve were designed by God to work as a team, each of us have a unique and important role as leaders in children’s ministry. Stop and think about how amazing it is that God created you and gave you unique gifts and talents! As you study the lesson, thank God for creating you and each one of the children in your class, and get ready to serve Him the way only you can!

Pray: Specifically pray for each of the children in your classroom. Pray that God will allow them to seek and understand the greatness of our God this week as they are taught that God created the world.

Read: Genesis 2:4-25

Know Right: God creates Adam and Eve

Next, we take a closer look at day six of creation to learn how God formed the first man. God tells us He took the dust of the ground, formed it into a man, and breathed the breath of life into Adam, so he became the first human being. He gave Adam a spectacular home in the Garden of Eden, a job to do, and food to eat. God then made a woman to be his helper—right from Adam’s rib. God united Adam and Eve together in another of His unique creations—marriage—and He told them to have children, so the earth would be filled with people. From this precise and intentional plan, we understand that God created us.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Creation boxes (from last week) or pictures to represent each day of creation
- As children walk in, have them wave to themselves in a large mirror. Say, “God made _____” as they walk by.
- Flannel board with Adam, Eve, trees, flowers, animals (Instead of a flannel board, use a piece of paper that is green on the bottom and blue on top, to represent the Garden of Eden, and place it inside of a plastic page protector; use tape to attach cut out pictures of Adam, Eve, two trees, flowers, and animals to the Garden of Eden as you talk about them.)

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “Thank You Lord for Making Me”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

Our verse, Romans 3:23, talks about sin. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that is against God. This is like being sassy to your parents or hitting a friend – this is sin. Have you sinned? From the Bible, we learn that we have all sinned. Let’s all say Romans 3:23 together with the actions.

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home.

When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Today we are going to discover something new from our Bible. *Point to Genesis in your Bible.*

Last week we heard that God created the whole world.

Let’s practice our hand motion from last week.

Creation: bring hands up to form a world.

Let’s review some of God’s creations. Remember, create means made. God made everything. *Review creation using the creation boxes from last week or pictures.* Some of you looked at yourself in the mirror when you came in. God created you as a tiny baby. He also created your blue, green, or brown eyes, your tiny nose, and your cute smile! Today we are going to hear more about the first people God created. We are going to learn about Adam and Eve.

Let’s learn our new hand motion.

Adam and Eve: one forearm up for each name

In the Bible, God tells us that He created a man and named him Adam. *Place man on flannel board.* What was his name? (Adam) God gave Adam a fun job to do. Do you know what it was? Adam got to name all the animals! Doesn't that sound like fun? *Place animals on the flannel board and have children tell you the name of each animal and make the noise of each animal.*

God didn't want Adam to be alone, so God created a woman and named her Eve. *Place the woman on the flannel board.* Adam and Eve were the first people God created. God gave Adam and Eve yummy food to eat, fresh water, and pretty flowers to look at. *Place flowers on the flannel board.* I'm sure they loved being in the garden.

The garden was beautiful, but while they were in the garden, God gave them one rule to follow. *Hold up one finger.* Listen carefully to the rule: "Do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." God said it was good to eat from all the other trees in the garden, but not that one tree. *Place trees on the flannel board.* Wow, that was super nice of God to give them so many trees in the garden to choose from! Adam and Eve only had one tree they couldn't eat from. Do you think Adam and Eve obeyed? Next week we will find out if they obeyed the one rule.

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with hand motions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Hi, Friends! *(Tracker should wave)* Did you hear what the teacher said? She/he said that God made me! That really makes me feel loved. God gave me my soft brown fur *(stroke head)*, big black eyes *(point to eye)*, and floppy tongue *(open mouth and shake head back and forth while saying "Ahh" with tongue out)*! Hey look, He even gave me two ears and a belly button! *(Tracker laughs)*

Teacher: You're right, Tracker! Do you know that God made all these kids that are sitting in class today? He made _____ *(insert names of children)*. I love all these wonderful children that God created! And the amazing leaders that He created, too!

Tracker: I also love the laugh that He gave to my dad. Whenever my dad laughs, I laugh, too! He laughs like this... *(make a funny laugh sound)* God is so amazing! He loves all of us sooooo much!

I feel so loved by God.

Teacher: You are so right, Tracker! God loves all of us so much!

Tracker: Bye, boys and girls. See you next week!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet that says "God created me!" and Psalms 139:14, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." (see Resources Booklet)
- Washable ink pads or marker pens
- Hand washing supplies
- Sample of a completed project

Instructions:

1. Say: Today you are going to make your handprint, to remind you that God made you!!
2. Help children make their handprint in the center of their paper.
3. Say: Did you know that your handprint is not the same as anyone else's?
4. After children are finished with their handprint, help them use their fingers to make fingerprints around the page.
5. Help children clean their hands once their activity sheet is complete.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for making and loving each person in the world. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did God create everything? (Yes)
3. What is the name of the first man God created? (Adam)
4. Where did Adam and Eve live? (Garden of Eden)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Several mirrors of different shapes and sizes
- Painter's tape, masking tape, yarn, or chalk dust (create lines on the floor for children to walk on; place mirrors along the path)
- Fun praise music

Instructions:

As music plays, have children walk on the path. When they come to a mirror, have them stop and look at themselves. Leaders should ask, "Who created you?" (God did!)

Lesson 3

Genesis 3

Know Right:	Sin enters the world.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will understand that I have sinned.
Feel Right:	I can feel safe because Jesus died for my sin.

GET READY!

A true understanding of sin and its eternal punishment has been lost in our generation. How do we help children develop a biblical worldview, so they can see sin for what it really is? We go back to Genesis. No matter your role, study the lesson ahead of time and pray that you and your children would learn to see sin through God’s eyes, so you can respond to it by turning to Jesus for His grace and forgiveness.

Pray: Pray that God will give you a clear understanding of the Scripture as you prepare your lesson. Also pray that your class will fall in love with their God at a deeper level, and as a result they will make the right choice and walk away from sin throughout their lives.

Read: Genesis 3

Know Right: Sin enters the world

After God created Adam and placed him in the Garden to work and take care of it, He gave him one command. God told Adam not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said that if Adam ate from that tree, he would die. However, instead of listening to and obeying God, Adam listened to his wife, Eve, who had been deceived by the serpent called Satan. Thus, both Adam and Eve disobeyed God and committed the very first sin, which brought death and suffering into our world. But man’s sin didn’t end there. As the Bible tells us, each and every one of us, born of Adam and Eve, have foolishly disobeyed God. Therefore, we can now understand that we have sinned.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Paper and markers to draw out the lesson
- Flower stickers or cut out pictures of flowers and glue or tape for sticking (one per child)
- Real flower
- Wordless Book

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “My God is so Big”
3. “God is Good to Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

Let’s all stand up and say Romans 3:23 with our loud voices.

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let’s practice our hand motions to help us remember our past lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name

Today we are learning about sin. Here is our new hand motion:

- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an “X”

In the Bible, God tells us He created Adam and Eve. Remember, create means made. God made Adam and Eve. They lived in a beautiful garden. *Draw two stick people and some flowers. Have children place flower stickers on paper during the lesson or after you share the lesson.*

Adam and Eve had plenty to eat. *Pretend you are eating.* I'm sure the beautiful garden smelled wonderful. *Allow children to smell the flower.* I wonder what they could hear. I'm sure they could hear beautiful birds. What do birds sound like? *Draw items as you are teaching.* In the middle of the garden, there were trees. God gave them only one rule in the garden. Do you remember what it was? There was one tree they could not eat from. God told them they could eat from any of the trees except this one tree. *Put an X on the tree.* Do you have rules at home – rules like no running in the road or no playing with sharp things? We have rules to help us know right from wrong. Rules are to keep us safe.

Do you think Adam and Eve obeyed God's one rule? Let's find out.

One day a snake came to the garden. *Make the sound of a snake.* The snake was really God's enemy, Satan. *Thumbs down.* Satan told Eve to eat from the tree. Should Eve eat from the tree God told her not to eat from? (No!) Can you guess what she did? Eve ate a piece of fruit from the tree, even though God said "No!" She even gave some to Adam! Do you think this made God happy? (No!) Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and that is called sin. *Highlight the dark page of the Wordless Book.* As soon as they ate the fruit, they felt sad. They disobeyed – sinned – so God told them they had to leave the beautiful garden. *Make a sad face.* But God never stopped loving them. God gave them a happy promise, "I will send my Son, Jesus, to take away all your sin!" Wow, this is Good News! This reminds me of our verse.

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with actions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: *(Tracker should come up crying....)*

Teacher: What's wrong, Tracker? Why are you crying? *(Tracker should continue to cry and blow his nose in a tissue)*

Tracker: *Eve sinned...she ate from the tree that God said they shouldn't eat from. Oh my, how awful! (keeps crying and blowing his nose)*

Teacher: Hey, Tracker? Do you know that you have sinned? *(Tracker should instantly stop crying and look at the Teacher with a long stare)*

Tracker: *Whatcha talk'n about? Me, a sinner, like Eve? I don't think so...*

Teacher: Kids, let's tell Tracker our verse, Romans 3:23. *(have children recite the verse to Tracker)*

Tracker: *Are you calling ME a sinner? I'm only 4 years old!*

Teacher: Tracker, have you ever told a lie or been sassy to your mom?

Tracker: *Maybe once...or twice...or three times...*

Teacher: That means you have sinned.

Tracker: Wow, that makes me sad. I shouldn't sin. I should do what is right.

Teacher: That is right. We need to say "No" to sin and do what is right.

Tracker: I need to go pray and tell Jesus I'm sorry for sinning. I'll talk to ya later. Bye!

Craft or Activity

Option 1

Supplies:

- Activity sheet of the Garden of Eden with the words "Adam and Eve sinned" (see Resources Booklet)
- Paper snakes (cut in advance; one per child) (see Resources Booklet)
- Glue sticks
- Crayons

Instructions:

1. Children will color the Garden of Eden and attach a paper snake using glue sticks.
2. Remind children that Adam and Eve disobeyed God when they listened to the snake and ate the fruit God told them not to eat.



Option 2

Supplies:

- White paper plates or construction/ manilla paper cut into a circle (draw a spiral on each plate or paper circle and write "Adam and Eve sinned" in the spiral; one per child)
- Crayons or washable markers
- Googly eyes or seeds/ beads enclosed in a pharmaceutical blister pack, or cloth buttons
- School glue
- Scissors (for leaders to cut circles into snakes; hint: don't cut until children have finished coloring)

Instructions:

1. Have children color their circle.
2. When finished, leaders should glue two googly eyes to the middle of the circle where the spiral ends, and then cut on the line. When you lift from the middle, it should become a spirally snake.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for loving each person in the world. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did God create everything? (Yes)
3. Did Adam and Eve sin? (Yes)
4. Did Adam and Eve eat the fruit God told them not to eat? (Yes)

5. Do you sin? How do 2-year-olds and 3-year-olds sin? (Being sassy, not going to bed when Mom and Dad tell us to, not picking up toys when it is pick-up time, not sharing, etc.)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Dark-colored construction paper or manilla paper cut into small squares (five squares per child)
- White construction paper or manilla paper cut into small squares (five squares per child)
- Red bucket
- Wordless Book

Instructions:

1. Hide small dark and white squares around the room.
2. Hold up the Wordless Book and show children the dark page. Tell children that the dark page reminds us of sin. When we sin, we can feel sad or scared. Sin makes God sad.
3. Have children find all the black squares and put them in the red bucket. Explain that red reminds us of Jesus. He is the only one who can forgive our sin and make us clean.
4. Hold up the Wordless Book and show children the clean page. Have children find all of the white squares and put them in the red bucket, completely covering the dark-colored squares in the bucket.
5. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 4

Genesis 4:1-16, 4:25-26

Know Right:	Cain sins against Abel.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God hates sin.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I do not sin.

GET READY!

In the world we live in, it’s easier than ever to believe the lie that each person should do what seems right in their own eyes. But God’s Word is clear: the only way to avoid the painful consequences of sin is to do what is right according to God. This week we will learn about the spread of sin and the tragic effect it had on the first family. Ask God to help you and your children see sin through His eyes, run from it, and embrace His forgiveness when you fall.

Pray: Thank God for each child in your classroom. Pray that they will be sensitive to sin throughout their lives.

Read: Genesis 4:1-16, 4:25-26

Know Right: Cain sins against Abel

After Adam and Eve sinned and were banished from the Garden of Eden, God gave them a family. Unfortunately, all their children were born with their parents’ sinful nature. Their son Cain became a farmer and their son Abel, a shepherd. The way they lived their lives displayed a significant disparity. Abel’s favorable offering of fat portions from the firstborn of his flock demonstrated that he lived God’s way, by faith. Cain’s unfavorable offering of crops revealed that he lived his way, without faith. Because Abel lived God’s way, by faith, he was declared righteous and placed in the Hall of Faith. Because Cain lived without faith, he was punished for his sin, and he had to wander the earth instead of being a farmer. Because of this we can know that God hates sin.

GET SET!

Teacher’s Note: To keep this lesson toddler-friendly, we would recommend that you use the term “hurt” rather than killed or murdered, while still conveying the seriousness of the sin. Please use your discretion when teaching that portion of the lesson. Remember that when you are preparing this lesson, you are teaching children the Word of God. What an honor it is to present His Word to toddlers!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Wordless Book
- Apple (real or plastic) or a drawing or cut-out picture of an apple
- Puppet or stuffed sheep
- Pictures of: children helping pick up toys with smiles on their faces, a child yelling at his mom, children sharing, and a child or children reading a Bible with a parent

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “Bigger than Big”
2. “God is Good to Me”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. *Have children make a Bible with their two hands.*

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. *Have children fold their hands to pray.*

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. *Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.*

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

Do you remember our Bible lesson from last week? There were two people who sinned; what were their names? (Adam and Eve) Do you sin? (Yes) Sinning is being sassy, not sharing, not being kind, and hitting others when we are mad. The Bible tells us that we have all sinned.

Let’s all stand and recite Romans 3:23.

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let's practice our hand motions to help us remember our past lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an "X"

Today we are going to learn about two brothers. Their names were Cain and Abel.

- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself

Good job! Now let's find out from the Bible what happened after Adam and Eve left the garden. They had to leave the beautiful garden because they sinned. When they ate from the tree God told them not to eat from it was a sin. I'm sure they felt very sad. *Make a sad face.*

Disobeying is called sin. *Show the dark page of the Wordless Book.* After Adam and Eve left the garden, God still loved them and took care of them. They had two children; their names were Cain and Abel. *Have children hold up their two thumbs to match the hand motions.* When the boys were grown up, they had jobs. Cain grew up to become a farmer. He grew wonderful fruits and vegetables. *Show apple.* Abel grew up, and he raised animals. *Show puppet/stuffed sheep.* They should have brought their best to God because they loved Him.

Cain brought something to give to God, but it wasn't his best. *Show apple.* Abel brought something to give to God. *Show puppet/stuffed sheep.* Abel gave his best because he loved God, and he wanted to please God (make him happy). God loved Abel's offering, but not Cain's.

Cain became mad. *Make a mad face.* Cain was mad that God liked Abel's gift better. Cain was mean to his brother. *Have your thumbs fight together – thumb wars.* When you are mean to others this is called a sin.

We are going to look at some pictures and you can tell me if they are sinning or doing what is right.

Picture 1: Children helping pick up toys with smiles on their face (*thumbs up*)

Picture 2: Child yelling at his mom (*thumbs down*)

Picture 3: Children sharing (*thumbs up*)

Picture 4: Reading a Bible with a parent (*thumbs up*)

Great job! When Cain got angry and was mean to his brother, that was sin. *Show the dark page of the Wordless Book.* But when we do what is right, it pleases God, which makes us happy!

Verse Review Time

This Bible lesson reminds me of our verse, Romans 3:23. Let's stand up and practice our verse.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Golly, that was another super sad Bible lesson. Cain sinned, just like Eve. *(starts crying very loudly)* Sin is soooo bad. *(sniffles dramatically)*

Teacher: You are right; sin is bad. Tracker, how did you do this past week? Did you try not to sin?

Tracker: Well, I did something sneaky. I took my sister's favorite doll and hid it! *(hee, hee, hee....)*

Teacher: Oh, Tracker, I bet that made your sister sad.

Tracker: Yes, she was very sad. She cried and looked all over the house for her doll.

Teacher: Tracker, this isn't funny at all. Do you know you sinned?

Tracker: Well, I figured that out after I was sent back to my room for a very long time out. I felt bad, so I gave her the doll back and said I was sorry! This week I'm going to pray and ask God to help me not to sin. I want to do things that please God. Bye, friends! See you next week!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Play-Doh®, modelling clay, plasticine, or clay soil
- Cookie cutters shaped like animals and food items
- Plates

Instructions:

1. Say, "Today we are going to make animal shapes. Let's practice being kind by sharing. This is doing what is right."
2. Demonstrate to children how to flatten Play-Doh and use cookie cutters to make shapes of animals and food.
3. All leaders will need to be attentive and help the children throughout the activity. Address each child by name and praise them for doing their best in creating their object.
4. As children work, remind children to do what is right and not to sin.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for caring for each person in the world. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Were Cain and Abel brothers? (Yes)
3. Did Cain sin? (Yes)
4. Was Cain mean to his brother? (Yes)
5. Should we sin? (No)

Review Activities

Option 1

Supplies:

- Painter's tape, masking tape, yarn, or chalk dust (create lines on the floor for children to walk on)
- Music

Instructions:

1. Have children walk on the line as the music plays.
2. Pause the music occasionally and have them all say their verse, Romans 3:23.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Wordless Book-colored ball-pit balls or bottle tops/caps or maize cobs dyed into Wordless Book colors
- Wordless Book-colored buckets

Instructions:

1. Roll balls/ caps/ cobs on the floor.
2. Challenge children to quickly pick up the balls/ caps/ cobs and place them in the matching buckets.
3. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 5

Genesis 6:5-22

Know Right:	Noah builds the ark.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will obey God.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I obey God.

GET READY!

“Saved” is a frequently used word in the church setting, but let’s take a moment to reflect on what we are saved from: eternal punishment. When we take time to realize how much God has saved us from, our worship will intensify, our actions will reflect Jesus at any cost, and the hope we have in Him will shine. Let’s spend time reflecting on this as we prepare to serve, giving our best to Him out of gratitude for all He’s done for us.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand that Jesus can save them from the punishment of sin. Pray also for those children who won’t be attending this week that they will return next week.

Read: Genesis 6:5-22

Know Right: Noah builds the ark

Adam and Eve’s family continued to grow and eventually they had a descendant named Noah. By Noah’s time, God looked at the world and was grieved because of the magnitude of evil He saw. Fortunately, He also saw that Noah had faith in Him, so He revealed His plan to Noah—a plan to destroy the world with a flood. God told Noah to build an ark that would save his family and two of every living creature. Noah obeyed and built the ark—the only way he and his family would be saved. This teaches us that we should obey God.

GET SET!

Teacher’s Note: How did OT people become saved? God did not change how He saved people in the New Testament. It has always been by faith. In the case of the OT people, they looked ahead in time to the Messiah. We look back to Him and see the cross. This should be an exciting lesson for you and your children. Be well prepared as you teach the truth of Noah and the ark. Please do not use story books to teach this lesson; teach the lesson from God’s Word with props.

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Ark (a simple ark can be made from a box)
- Plastic animals, or pictures or models of animals (two of each kind)

GO!

Coming In Time

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Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “My God is so Big”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let’s review our hand motions to help us remember our Bible lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an “X”
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself

Today we are going to learn about Noah. Unlike Cain, Noah obeyed God.

- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand

In the Bible, God tells us that Adam and Eve had many, many children in their family. One of their family members was named Noah. What was his name? (Noah) When Noah was grown up, God looked at the world and was very sad. *Make a sad face.* God was sad because many people didn't love and obey Him. Because of their sin, God decided to send lots and lots of rain to fill up the earth with water.

But Noah loved God! *Thumbs up.* God was happy with Noah because Noah loved Him and did his best to obey God. God had a plan to save Noah, his family, and lots of the animals. God told Noah to build an ark. An ark is a huge boat – bigger than your house! *Move your hands out as wide as you can.* Wow, that is big!

How would Noah build such a big boat? God gave Noah instructions on how to build it! Do you think Noah obeyed God? (Yes, Noah obeyed) *Thumbs up.* Noah and his family cut lots of wood and might have pounded lots of nails. *Pretend to pound.* They worked very hard for a long time. The ark was finally done. *Show ark.* After the ark was built, God told Noah that at least two of every animal would go into the ark. *Show animals; have children tell you the names of the animals as you place them in the ark and have children make animal sounds.*

When Noah and his family and the animals were all in the ark, God closed the door. All of Noah's family and the animals were safe on the ark.

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with hand motions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy.

Prop: Tracker has a toolbox on the edge of his house

Tracker: (banging should come from behind the Tracker puppet stage)

Teacher: Tracker, what are you doing?

Tracker: (Tracker pops up) I'm building an ark, just like Noah. Hey Teacher, can you go get my puppy? He needs to get in the ark with me.

Teacher: Tracker, we don't need an ark! God told Noah to build an ark, not us.

Tracker: What? It isn't going to rain, and rain, and fill up with water?

Teacher: No silly, that happened a long time ago.

Tracker: Whew...that's good news! I had no clue where I would find elephants, monkeys, and zebras.

Teacher: Our Bible lesson was teaching us to obey God, just like Noah.

Tracker: That's good. I can obey like Noah.

Teacher: How can you obey like Noah?

Tracker: God tells us to obey our parents, so I'm going to obey. God tells us to love others, so I'm going to love others.

Teacher: That's great, Tracker! I am so proud of you.

Tracker: Alrighty, I'm going to get back to making my ark, so I can pretend to be Noah.

Teacher: Sounds like fun. Have a great time!

Tracker: Thanks! Bye, friends! I'll see you next week.

Craft or Activity

Option 1

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with an ark and "Noah obeyed God and built an ark" (see Resources Booklet)
- Animal rubber stamps and Washable ink pads
- Alternate supply option: Small pictures of animals to paste, glue, and marker pens
- Hand washing supplies
- Optional: use animal stickers instead of rubber stamps and ink pads

Instructions:

Have children fill the ark and around the ark with animals. They can use the rubber stamps or small cutout pictures to fill the ark, and the marker pens to color and add more animals.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Cardstock, construction paper, or manilla paper (cut into strips to make headbands)
- Cardstock animal faces with "I will obey God like Noah did!" (staple or tape to cardstock bands) (see Resources Booklet)
- Tape or stapler

Instructions:

1. Tape or staple an animal headband to fit each child's head.
2. Have children parade through the room pretending to be on their way to the ark.
3. Have them walk, hop, or crawl like their animal and make animal sounds.
4. Children can take their animal headband home at the end of class.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and ask Him to help us obey this week. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Was God sad that many people sinned? (Yes)
3. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark)
4. Was the ark small or big? (Big)
5. Did Noah, his family, and the animals go into the ark? (Yes)
6. Who shut the door after Noah, his family, and the animals went into the ark? (God)

Review Activities

Option 1

Supplies:

- Plastic animals or models or pictures of animals
- Ark (a simple ark can be made from a box)
- Music

Instructions:

1. Hide animals all over your classroom during snack time.
2. Following snack, have children find the animals and place them in the ark while listening to music.
3. Repeat as time permits.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Styrofoam bricks or a chunk of Play-Doh (one for each small group of children)
- Long golf tees (three or four for each small group of children)
- Play hammers or blocks

Instructions:

Have a leader carefully supervise a small group of children as they pretend to build like Noah by hammering golf tees into the Styrofoam or chunk of Play-Doh with the hammers or blocks.

Alternate idea: Use toy hammer and peg sets and have children take turns pounding like Noah.

Lesson 6

Genesis 7:1 – 8:22, 9:8-16

Know Right:	God floods the world.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will believe that God keeps His promises.
Feel Right:	I can feel loved knowing God keeps His promises.

GET READY!

As Christians, we know that we are spiritually safe in Christ. God has promised this in His Word, for all who believe! When we trust this promise, we can live like Noah, who obeyed and followed God even when others rejected God.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of God’s promises.

Read: Genesis 7:1 – 8:22, 9:8-16

Know Right: God floods the world

About 100 years after God revealed His plan to Noah, God sent the flood. Pairs of every kind of bird and land animal, as well as Noah and his family, boarded the ark. Then God shut them in, and they were safe and secure from the flood. About one year later, Noah, his family, and the birds and animals that had been on the ark came out onto dry land. God made a promise to Noah: He would never again destroy the earth by a flood. The sign of God’s promise was the rainbow. God was faithful. He saved those who were on the ark from the flood. Like them, we who have believed in Jesus are safe and secure from being destroyed because of our sin. The account of Noah and the flood teaches each of us to believe that God keeps His promises.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Ark
- Spray bottle with water
- Stuffed or plastic animals or pictures of animals
- Green leaf
- Picture of a rainbow or create a multi-colored rainbow with streamers across your room

Note: Some of these supplies will be used for the Review Lesson.

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “Thank You Lord for Making Me”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. *Have children make a Bible with their two hands.*

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. *Have children fold their hands to pray.*

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. *Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.*

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

What is sin? Sin is anything we think (*point to head/temple*), say (*point to mouth*), or do (*pound fist down into palm*) that is against God. So when your mom asks you to do something and you tell her “No!”, that is a sin. Have you sinned? (Yes, the Bible tells us that we have all sinned) Let’s say this verse all together with actions:

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let’s practice our hand motions to help us remember our past lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an “X”
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand

Today, we are going to learn about a flood with a promise.

- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands

Good job! Now let’s find out what happened after Noah and his family and the animals were in the ark.

We learn from the Bible that Noah obeyed God. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark) *Show ark.* Was the ark big or small? (Very big) Once God closed the door to the ark, it started to rain. *Gently mist children with a spray bottle or pat your knees to make the sound of rain.* It rained and there was probably thunder and lightning. *Have children help make noises of a storm, pat hands on lap loudly and then softly.* It rained for forty days! That’s a long time. It rained so much that the water went up, up, up until everything was covered in water. That is called a flood. The only thing that was not covered with water was the ark that Noah and his family and all the animals were in. Before Noah built the ark, God

made Noah a promise. He told Noah that He would keep his family safe from the flood. Do you think God kept His promise?

While it was raining, Noah and his family had to take care of all the animals on the ark. *Hold up animals*. What do you think they had to do to take care of the animals? (Feed them, pet them, love them, clean up after them) Do you think it was smelly in the ark with all those animals? *Plug nose*. One day the rain stopped (*Cheer!*), and the ark landed on a mountain. Did God keep His promise to Noah - to keep him and his family safe during the flood? (Yes!) The water went down a little every day. Noah opened a window in the ark and let a dove fly out. The bird came back with a green leaf! *Show leaf*. That meant there was dry land, a place that the water didn't cover. Soon they would be able to get out of the ark! God gave a rainbow as a sign He would never flood the earth like that again. *Show rainbow*. This was a promise, and God *always* keeps His promises! Whenever you see a rainbow, remember that God always keeps His promises!

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse. Romans 3:23, with actions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) **have sinned** (two thumbs down and look sad) **and fall short** (squat) **of the glory of God** (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." **Romans 3:23**

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: *(make many fun animal sounds)*

Teacher: Tracker, what are you doing?

Tracker: I'm pretending I'm on Noah's ark with all the animals. *(continue to make animal sounds while swaying back and forth on a boat)* Whoa, I'm getting sea sick! *(put hand over mouth)*

Teacher: Let's play a game. Tracker, can you make an animal sound, and kids can you guess what animal makes the sound he is making?

(play a little game with the children)

Teacher: I'm so glad God protected Noah's family and all the animals on the big boat. God saved Noah, his family, and all the animals!

Tracker: I am so glad God keeps His promises!

Teacher: Me, too! Everything God tells us in the Bible is true, and we know He always keeps His promises!

Tracker: Yes! And one of His promises was that He would send someone to take away all our sin! And God kept His promise – He sent us Jesus! Yay!

Teacher: You are right, Tracker! God sent us Jesus as a baby. When He grew up, He died on the cross for all of our sins and then He rose again! Jesus is alive, just like God promised.

Tracker: Yes! God keeps His promises! Bye, friends! See ya next week!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with a rainbow and "God keeps His promises!" (see Resources Booklet)
- Crayons, washable dot stampers, or marker pens in rainbow colors

Instructions:

1. Say: Today you are going to make a rainbow of your own! What did God promise when He sent a rainbow? (That He would never flood the earth again) Does God always keep His promises? (Yes) Should you keep your promises? (Yes)
2. Have children use crayons or dot stampers to color their rainbow. Leaders should review the lesson as children work.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, "Romans 3:23", and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for keeping His promises. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did Noah and his family take care of the animals in the ark? (Yes)
3. Did it rain for a long time? (Yes)
4. What did Noah see in the sky? (A rainbow)
5. Does God keep His promises? (Yes)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Carpet squares or rainbow-colored paper cut into squares (tape paper to the floor if you have hard surface floors)
- Music

Instructions:

1. Have children jump from square to square as the music plays.
2. Pause the music occasionally. Have children freeze and say, "God keeps His promises!"
3. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 7

Genesis 11:1-9

Know Right:	The Tower of Babel is built.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will do things God’s way, not my way.
Feel Right:	I can feel happy when I do things God’s way, not my way.

GET READY!

Have you ever wondered why we have so many different languages in this world? Think of all the communication issues that could be solved if the whole world spoke the same language! As you read the Scripture passage and the lesson below, discover (or rediscover) the source of language barriers, the importance of doing things God’s way, and the unimaginable consequences that can result when we don’t.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of doing things God’s way, not their way.

Read: Genesis 11:1-9

Know Right: The Tower of Babel is built

Noah and his family obeyed God by having children to fill the earth. However, many years later, their descendants decided to live life their own way instead of God’s way. They built a city because they wanted to make a name for themselves, and they did not want to be scattered around the earth. And they built a tall tower in the city because they wanted it to reach the heavens. God’s solution for this disobedience was to confuse their language and scatter them all over the earth. From the account of the Tower of Babel, we learn that we should always do things God’s way, not our way.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Boxes (enough to build a tall tower). You can also use disposable cups, wooden blocks, or toilet paper rolls.
- Alternate idea: Draw simple pictures on a whiteboard/ chalkboard or a poster board while sharing the lesson. Draw a few basic pictures ahead of time and add in color and details during the lesson.

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “My God is so Big”
3. “God is Good to Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. *Have children make a Bible with their two hands.*

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. *Have children fold their hands to pray.*

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. *Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.*

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

How great is our God? What did He make? *Show pictures of a bird, mountain, and flowers.* God made many things. Do you realize God created everything on this earth, and He created heaven, too?

Heaven is a perfect place. There is no sin in heaven. What is sin? (Anything we think, say, or do that is against God) So, if your Mom tells you to eat your vegetables and you say, “No!”, that is a sin. Have you sinned? The Bible teaches us that we have all sinned. Let’s say our verse all together with actions:

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let’s review the hand motions to help you remember our past lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an “X”
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands

Today we are going to learn about the Tower of Babel.

- **Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head.

Good job! Now let’s find out what happened at this big Tower of Babel.

In the Bible, God tells us that Noah and his family obeyed God and had many children to fill the earth. Do you have many children in your family? Do you have cousins? Aunts and uncles?

Many years later, people started being mean and not obeying God. *Thumbs down.* Uh-oh! *Every time you say, “Uh-oh”, have children say, “God’s way”, and add a box to the tower that you will build throughout the lesson.* Some people wanted to do things their way, not God’s way. *Thumbs down.* Uh-oh! *Children say, “God’s way”. Should we do things God’s way? (Yes, God knows what is best!) These*

people didn't love and trust God. Uh-oh! *Children say, "God's way".* They were selfish. *Make a sad face.*

Some of the people decided to build a big tower to heaven. *Add a few more boxes to the tower to make it quite a bit taller.* Is that silly? Can we build a tower to get to heaven? (No!) They thought they didn't need God. They wanted to do things their way, not God's way! Uh-oh! *Children say, "God's way".*

God tells us in the Bible that all of the people were talking to each other and working together to build this big, big, tower. God was not happy with what they were doing. *Make a sad face.* The people were sinning and doing things their way and not God's way. But God had a plan. He stopped the people from being able to talk to each other. When the people would talk, it sounded like babble, babble, babble. Because they couldn't talk to each other, they were not able to finish building the tower. That tower that they did not finish was known as the Tower of Babel.

Whose way should we follow? (God's way!) Where do we find God's way? *Hold up your Bible.* (The Bible!)

I can feel happy when I do things God's way, not my way!

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with actions.

"For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up)." Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: *(pounding noise coming from Tracker's house)*

Teacher: *(looks confused)* Kids, what do you think Tracker is doing? Tracker, what are you doing?

Tracker: *(pops up)* I'm building a tower to heaven! But I need more wood. Can you go get me some?

Teacher: Tracker, I don't think you listened to our whole Bible lesson today. You can't build a tower to get to heaven.

Tracker: What????

Teacher: That's impossible! But God does tell us in the Bible how to get to heaven. The only way to get to heaven is to ask Jesus to forgive your sin and make Jesus the leader of your life.

Tracker: Then why were the people building a tower?

Teacher: They were sinning and doing things their way instead of God's way.

Tracker: Yikes!

Teacher: God asks us to do things His way, like obeying, worshiping Him with our music, talking to Him in prayer, and coming to church. Tracker, do you think you can do things God's way?

Tracker: I sure can! I will ask God to help me do things His way and not my way this week! Bye, friends! See ya next week!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with “God’s way, not my way!” (see Resources Booklet)
- Pictures with ways to obey God: read my Bible, go to church, obey my parents, pray to God, love others (cut out pictures in advance) (see Resources Booklet)
- Glue sticks

Instructions:

1. Help children glue the pictures, showing ways they can obey God, to their activity sheet.
2. As children work, talk about different ways we can obey God.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let’s all clap three times when I say, “Romans 3:23”, and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for loving each person in the world. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, “Dear Heavenly Father” and close with, “...in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Should we do things God’s way? (Yes)
3. Will building a tower take us to heaven? (No)
4. When we don’t obey God, what is it called? (Sin)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Blocks or boxes, disposable cups, wooden blocks, or toilet paper rolls

Instructions:

1. Work together with children to build towers with blocks or boxes/ cups/ rolls.
2. If the blocks or boxes fall, have everyone freeze and say Romans 3:23.
3. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 8

Genesis 12:1-10, 13:1-18

Know Right:	Abram and Lot divide the land.
Think Right:	“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Roman 3:23 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will love God and others.
Feel Right:	I can feel loved when I love God and others.

GET READY!

In a world obsessed with feelings, it's important for us to remember that “love” isn't just a feeling; it's also a verb – a “doing” word. When we choose to love God and others, we can feel loved. As we read this week's Scripture passage and lesson plan, let's pray that we will find ways to intentionally and genuinely love God and others.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of loving God and others.

Read: Genesis 12:1-10, 13:1-18

Know Right: Abram and Lot divide the land

God's plan continued with a man named Abram. God told Abram to leave his country, his people, and his father's home and go to a land He would show him. God also promised Abram that he would be a blessing and he would receive blessings. Because Abram had faith in God, he obeyed and went. He took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot. When they arrived in this new land called Canaan, there was trouble. Both Abram and Lot had huge herds and flocks, which caused conflict between their herdsman. The land would not support them both if they lived together, so Abram gave Lot the choice of which land to take. Lot selfishly chose what looked like the better land, and Abram unselfishly took what was left. Abram's unselfishness demonstrated his love for God and for Lot. God blessed Abram by giving all of the land to him and his family forever. This land would one day be called Israel. Abram's example and God's faithfulness encourage us to love God and others.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Sheep puppet or a picture of a sheep
- Picture of a tent (type used as a nomadic home in the Middle East)
- Suitcase or a bag
- Several green carpet squares or pieces of green construction paper or manilla paper
- Sand
- Pictures of: children picking up toys, children sharing, and a child helping a grandparent

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “Bigger than Big”
3. “God is Good to Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

There is no sin in heaven. What is sin? (Anything we think, say, or do that is against God) If you ask your mom for a treat and she says, “No!”, so you get mad because you didn’t get the treat, that is sin. Have you sinned? The Bible tells us that we have all sinned. Let’s say our verse all together, Romans 3:23.

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let's review our hand motions to help us remember our past lessons.

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- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands
- **The Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head

We have two new hand motions this week about a man named Abram.

- **Abram said: "Let's Go!":** right hand up with strong pumping movement
- **Divided land:** both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms

Good job! Now let's find out where Abram is going!

In the Bible, God tells us about a man named Abram. Abram was born a long time after Noah and the flood. Let's find out what happened to Abram!

Abram lived in a tent and took care of his sheep. *Use sheep puppet/ picture.* Do you think it would be fun to live in a tent? *Show picture of tent.* Abram loved God. *Thumbs up.* God told Abram to leave his home. Wow, do you think Abram obeyed and left his home? (Yes, he did) He packed up all of his things, and he traveled to a new land with his wife, his nephew Lot, and all of their animals. *Show suitcase/ bag.* Abram said, "Let's go." *Have children repeat after you with hand motion – Abram said: "Let's Go!": right hand up with strong pumping movement.* He trusted God and left his home. He went to a place he didn't know. *Shrug shoulders with hands held palms up and out in front of you.* Do you think he was afraid? Probably, but should we still obey God even when we are afraid? (Yes!) Abram trusted God, and he knew God would take care of him.

After Abram had traveled a long time, God finally showed him the place where he was going to live. It was beautiful and had lots of green grass for the sheep to eat! *Show sheep puppet/ picture.* But there was one problem; the place was too small. They couldn't all fit in the same place. *Lay down one green carpet or paper square on the floor and have several children try to stand on it at the same time.* See, it's too small, you don't fit. Abram and Lot were trying to live in the same place with all of their animals, and it was too small. Abram and Lot will need to live in different places, so all the people and animals will fit. *Lay down several green carpet or paper squares and have one child stand on each piece.* Now you fit – you have a big enough place to stand.

Do you know what Abram did? He told Lot he could pick what part of the land he wanted to live on. Can you guess what Lot did? He picked the best place to live! Was Lot being selfish? (Yes, Lot wanted the best land for himself) Lot was not being loving. Abram and his wife got the dried up, sandy land. *Show sand.*

Do hand motion – Divided land: both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms.

But remember, Abram loved and trusted God. He knew God would take care of him. God did! God gave Abram a place to live that had lots of water and green grass and flowers! God wants us to love Him and others just like Abram did. Abram and his wife set up their home, and God blessed them!

What are some ways we can love others? *Have children give a thumbs up as you show pictures.*

- *Show picture of children picking up toys*
- *Show picture of children sharing*
- *Show picture of child helping a grandparent*

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, Romans 3:23, with actions.

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Hi, friends! Wow, Abram and his family went on a long trip! I would have been super tired.

Teacher: You are probably right; they had to walk or ride on camels in the very hot desert. There was probably sand blowing in their faces, and it was probably very hot!

Tracker: But Abram loved and obeyed God, and that is the most important thing! Abram was also very kind to his nephew Lot.

Teacher: Yes, he was. Boys and girls, did Lot take the best place to live? Yes, he did!

Tracker: God wants us to be like Abram and love others, even when it is hard. We can love others by giving them the best and not being selfish.

Teacher: Do you think you can share all your toys this week? Maybe share your favorite toy with your sister when you are playing?

Tracker: That will be super hard, but I want to be like Abram and put others first. I'm going to do it. I'm going to share with my sister!

Teacher: That sounds great. See you next week, Tracker! Bye!

Tracker: Bye, friends!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with dry, desert ground on one half and lush, green land on the other half and “Abram showed love when he gave Lot first choice of the land” (see Resources Booklet)
- Small green strips or squares of tissue or construction paper (to look like grass)
- Cups of sand (one for every 2-3 children) Optional: use small squares of tan construction paper instead of sand
- Glue sticks
- Shirt-size gift boxes or trash cans (to shake the excess sand into)

Instructions:

1. Have children glue green paper strips or squares to Lot's side of the paper.
2. Then have children put glue on Abram's side of the paper, and a leader should assist each child with pouring a small amount of sand on top of the glue and shaking off the excess in a box or trash can. Or you can use tan colored paper strips instead of sand.
3. Remind children that Abram loved God and trusted God. Abram also loved Lot, which is why he gave Lot the first choice of a place to live.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in Romans, chapter 3, verse 23. Let's all clap three times when I say, “Romans 3:23”, and then put our hands in our laps. Romans 3:23! *Clap three times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for loving each child in your class. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, “Dear Heavenly Father” and close with, “...in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did Abram obey God? (Yes)
3. Did God tell Abram to take everything he had along with his family and go to a different place? (Yes)
4. Did Abram love his nephew Lot? (Yes)
5. Did Abram give Lot the first choice of a place to live? (Yes)
6. How can we love others? *Prompt children by showing pictures from the lesson.*

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Sheet or tarp (or use pop-up tents)
- Music

Instructions:

1. Have children help create a large tent in your room with sheets by placing them over a table.
2. Then sit under the tent and sing songs to God.

Lesson 9

Genesis 15:1-18

Know Right:	God makes a covenant with Abram.
Think Right:	“In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.” John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will trust in God’s promises.
Feel Right:	I can feel excited about God’s promises.

GET READY!

The word “promise” has lost its significance in our culture because promises are constantly broken. But God is the eternal promise-keeper. We never have to wonder if He will do what He says He will do. We can put our trust in Him and rest in the fact that each one of His promises will absolutely come to pass. Let’s meditate on this as we study the Scripture passage and the lesson plan below.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of trusting in God’s promises. Pray also for those children who won’t be attending this week that they will return next week.

Read: Genesis 15:1-18

Know Right: God makes a covenant with Abram

After Abram arrived in Canaan, God spoke to him in a vision and explained more of His special promise, called a covenant. Even though Abram was old and had no children, God promised him a son that would come from his own body. He also told Abram he would have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. These descendants would be given the land of Canaan to live in. But, before that, they would be enslaved in a foreign country and mistreated for four hundred years. After that, they would leave that country with great possessions. Just like God promised all of this to Abram, He promises eternal life to those of us who trust in His Son, Jesus, to save us from our sin. Abram believed what God promised him. May we always trust in God’s promises.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Suitcase or bag
- Sheep puppet or pictures of sheep
- Baby blanket, sheet, or Kanga

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “My God is so Big”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word! Since this is a new verse, read the entire verse, but just teach the first half.*

This is a new verse! This verse reminds me of how much God loves me and that He is making a very special place for me to live someday called heaven. Listen carefully as I teach you the first half of the verse.

“In my Father’s house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children).” **John 14:2**

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let's review our hand motions to help us remember our Bible lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an "X"
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands
- **The Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head
- **Abram said: "Let's Go!":** right hand up with strong pumping movement
- **Divided land:** both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms

This week, we will learn about a special promise called a covenant that God made with Abram.

- **God's covenant:** take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head

Now, let's find out more about this special promise.

Remember, last week we heard about Abram leaving his home and moving where God told him to go. *Show suitcase.* Abram obeyed God. God is pleased when we obey Him! *Thumbs up.* God promised to take care of Abram and his family. Did God keep His promise? (Yes, God keeps all His promises!)

Abram and his wife Sarai were happy; they loved God, they had a nice home, and they also had many animals. *Show sheep puppet.* But they could not have a baby. They really wanted a baby, and they had waited a long, long, long time to have one. But still no baby.

God gave Abram another promise. Guess what it was? *Show the baby blanket.* God told Abram that he and his wife Sarai would have a baby boy and a big, huge family after that – as many people in his family as there are stars in the sky! *Do hand motion – God's covenant: take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head.* Wow! Abram laughed because he thought he was too old. *Have everyone laugh.* But God can do anything!

We know God keeps His promises. We also have to trust God that His promises will happen just at the right time. God promised Abram and Sarai a baby, but God didn't say when. They might have to wait a long time, but we know that God always keeps His promises, right? God also promised He would send His one and only Son, Jesus, to take away our sin. Did He keep that promise? (Yes, God sent His one and only Son, Jesus, as a baby!) And when Jesus grew up, He died on the cross to forgive our sin. Do you feel excited when you think about God's promises?

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice the first part of our new verse, John 14:2, with actions.

"In my Father's house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children)." **John 14:2**

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Hi, friends! Did you have a great week? *(have children respond)* I did! My mom bought me my favorite candy bar. Choco-co-co-co-late Crunch Bar. Yummy, yummy, in my tummy!

Teacher: Sounds good. Tracker, we are so glad you made it today.

Tracker: Hey Teacher, I love that new verse we are memorizing. I get so excited *(jump up and down)* thinking about heaven. It's going to be so great!! There will be big houses with many rooms, and I get to see Jesus!! Right, Teacher!?!?!?

Teacher: Yes, we know that God keeps His promises, so if the Bible says heaven is real, then guess what...heaven is real! Hey kids, let's stand up and practice our new verse with Tracker. *(recite John 14:2)*

Tracker: That was so AWWWWWWesome! I love God's promises. See ya next week, friends!

Teacher: Bye, Tracker!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with "I will trust in God's promises...like Abram and Sarai" with a picture of them on a hill looking at the stars (see Resources Booklet)
- White paint
- Q-tips or cotton buds/ swabs

Instructions:

1. Children will dip Q-tips in white paint to add stars to the sky.
2. Remind children that Abram and his wife trusted in God's promise.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our new Bible verse can be found in John, chapter 14, verse 2. Let's all clap two times when I say, "John 14:2", and then put our hands in our laps. John 14:2! *Clap two times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for always keeping His promises. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. What did God promise Abram and his wife? (A baby)
3. Does God keep His promises? (Yes)
4. What does our verse promise us? (God is preparing a place in heaven for us)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Baby doll
- Music

Instructions:

1. Have children sit in a circle and gently pass the baby as the music plays.
2. When the music stops, have everyone recite John 14:2 together.
3. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 10

Genesis 16:1 – 18:15

Know Right:	Abraham and Hagar have Ishmael.
Think Right:	“In my Father’s house are many rooms, if it were not so I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.” John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will patiently depend on God for everything.
Feel Right:	I can feel peaceful when I patiently depend on God for everything.

GET READY!

How do you respond when God’s answer to your prayer request is “wait”? Do you have a sense of peace knowing He is orchestrating things behind the scenes for your good and for His glory, or are you tempted to take matters into your own hands? It is so comforting to remember that God is in control, and He can be trusted at all times and in all situations. Consider your own life – can you think of a time when God said “wait”, and later you were able to see that it was because He was busy making things beautiful? He is always taking care of us! This week, let’s prepare to serve with peace, knowing that God is doing beautiful work for our good as we patiently depend on Him.

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of patiently depending on God for everything.

Read: Genesis 16:1 – 18:15

Know Right: Abraham and Hagar have Ishmael

Abram was now 85 years old and still had no children. Instead of patiently depending on God to keep His promise, Sarai convinced Abram to have a son through her Egyptian maidservant, Hagar. Hagar gave birth to Abram’s son; he was named Ishmael. As soon as Hagar was pregnant, conflict erupted between her and Sarai. This conflict was a consequence of Abram and Sarai not patiently depending on God. God told Abram that Ishmael was not the son He had promised. Because of this, we learn to patiently depend on God for everything.

GET SET!

Teacher’s Notes:

- This is a family-based curriculum, but due to the sensitive nature of this lesson, we will not be specifically discussing Abram’s relationship with Hagar and their child Ishmael. Instead, we will focus on Abram’s choice to do things his way, not God’s way.
- We also will begin to use Abraham and Sarah’s new names, but we won’t be discussing it in the lesson as it is a hard concept for children this age to understand.

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Sheep puppet or pictures of sheep

- Baby blanket, sheet, or Kanga
- Pictures of birthday presents and a swing
- Tray of chocolate chip cookies (or another special treat) – enough for snack time

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “Bigger than Big”
3. “Jesus Loves Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

Do you like to talk about heaven? Heaven is a wonderful place where Jesus lives. Listen carefully as we learn the whole verse this week.

“In my Father’s house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children).” **John 14:2**

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home.

When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let's review our hand motions to help us remember our Bible lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an "X"
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands
- **The Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head
- **Abram said, "Let's Go!":** right hand up with strong pumping movement
- **Divided land:** both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms
- **God's covenant:** take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head

Look at the yummy chocolate chip cookies I have here. *Show children the tray of cookies.* Mmmmm..... Chocolate chip cookies are my favorite. How about you? Do you like chocolate chip cookies? I am going to share my favorite cookies with you, but you will have to wait until it is time for our snack. I know that waiting can be hard. While we wait, let's talk about somebody else who had to wait. Let's talk about Abraham.

Remember when we learned that God promised to take care of Abraham and his family? Did God keep His promise? (Yes, God keeps all His promises!) Well, we learn from the Bible that God gave Abraham another promise. God told Abraham that he and Sarah would have a baby boy. Wow! Abraham laughed because he thought he was too old. But God can do anything!

God's promise to Abraham was even greater! He told Abraham he would have lots of children and grandchildren. He would have as many family members as there are stars! *Do hand motion – **God's covenant:** take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head.* That's a big family! Well, Abraham and Sarah waited and waited and waited and still no baby! But God promised! Yes, God promised, and He always keeps His promises, but He didn't say when they would have a baby. Abraham and Sarah stopped waiting and depending on God for a baby and did things their own way. Oh, no!

Waiting can be hard sometimes for us, too: *Show pictures as you talk about them.*

- Like when you have to wait to open your birthday presents.
- Or when you have to wait your turn to go on the swings.
- Or you have to wait for yummy chocolate chip cookies.

Waiting can be hard, and it was hard for Abraham and Sarah. But they knew God keeps His promises, so should have they waited and depended on God? (Yes!) We will have to wait and find out next week what happens to Abraham and Sarah.

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, John 14:2, with actions.

"In my Father's house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children)." **John 14:2**

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: I'm so excited! Grandma is coming to my house tonight! She promised to bring chocolate chips, so we can make chocolate chip cookies. Yummy, yummy! Hot squishy chocolate chippy cookies are my favorite!

Teacher: Sounds like your grandma made a big promise to you.

Tracker: Grandma always keeps her promises...ALWAYS! Well, except that one time when she didn't get me a pet pony because my mom and dad said it was too big for my house.

Teacher: Do you know that God always keeps His promises – big and small?

Tracker: Absolutely yes! God does keep His promises. That makes me feel so happy!

Teacher: When is your grandma coming over?

Tracker: Right now! I gotta run. Bye, friends!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Activity sheet with "We can depend on God for everything" with pictures of things we depend on God for: sunshine, house, food, heart (for love), flowers, and trees (see Resources Booklet)
- Watercolor paints
- Paint brushes
- Spill proof water cups (or add a few drops of water to each paint color)

Instructions:

As children paint their picture, review the things we depend on God for.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Look boys and girls, we finally get to have these yummy chocolate chip cookies for our snack. I am so glad you waited patiently. Now let's say our Bible verse together. Our Bible verse can be found in John, chapter 14, verse 2. Let's all clap two times when I say, "John 14:2", and then put our hands in our laps. John 14:2! *Clap two times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for always keeping His promises. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did Abraham and Sarah have to wait? (Yes)
3. Do we have to wait patiently? (Yes)
4. Does God keep His promises? (Yes)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Bubbles or music

Instructions:

1. Tell children that they get to have fun popping bubbles/ moving to the music, but they are also going to practice waiting patiently.
2. Whenever you say, "Practice patience", stop blowing bubbles/ stop moving, and everyone needs to stand still while giving a thumbs up.
3. When you say, "Pop the bubbles" / "keep moving", they may move again/ pop the bubbles.

Lesson 11

Genesis 21:1-21

Know Right:	Abraham and Sarah have Isaac.
Think Right:	“In my Father’s house are many rooms, if it were not so I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.” John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will patiently depend on God for everything.
Feel Right:	I can feel peaceful when I patiently depend on God for everything.

GET READY!

Last week we began to learn about how we can patiently depend on God for everything. Abraham and Sarah chose to do things their way, and the consequences were painful. However, despite their lack of trust, God chose to keep His promises. As we study this week’s lesson, let’s pause to praise God for His faithfulness and goodness!

Pray: Pray that the children in your class will understand the importance of patiently depending on God for everything throughout their entire lives.

Read: Genesis 21:1-21

Know Right: Abraham and Sarah have Isaac

God changed their names to Abraham and Sarah, and when Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah was 90, she gave birth to a son named Isaac. The conflict between Hagar and Sarah escalated, and Abraham had to send Hagar and his beloved Ishmael away—another tragic consequence of not patiently depending on God. In spite of Abraham and Sarah’s impatience, God kept His promise and continued His plan to bring Jesus to save us from our sin. The bittersweet saga of Abraham’s family begs us to patiently depend on God for everything.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Baby blanket, sheet, or Kanga
- Pretty box filled with a baby bottle, a rattle, and a blanket
- Baby doll

Note: Save the pretty box and baby care items for the Review Lesson.

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as “Let’s Clean Up.”

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.*

1. “The B-I-B-L-E”
2. “Bigger than Big”
3. “God is Good to Me”

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

Let’s say our verse with actions.

“In my Father’s house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children).” **John 14:2**

Repeat several times. At pickup time, remind parents to help children practice their verse at home. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick a prize from the basket.

Bible Lesson

Before we talk about our lesson, let's do our hand motions for all our previous Bible lessons.

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an "X"
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands
- **The Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head
- **Abram said, "Let's Go!":** right hand up with strong pumping movement
- **Divided land:** both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms
- **God's covenant:** take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head

This week we'll learn a new hand motion during our Bible lesson.

Last week we learned that God promised Abraham and his wife Sarah that they would have a baby boy. *Show baby blanket.* But that didn't happen right away. They waited and waited and waited. It is so hard to wait. Look at this pretty box. *Show box.* Do you want to see what is inside? Well, I'm afraid you are going to have to wait until the end of our lesson. But I promise, when the lesson is finished, I will show you what is inside. Let's listen first to what the Bible says about Abraham, Sarah, and the baby God promised them.

From the Bible, we learn that God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a baby boy. When Abraham heard this, he laughed! He laughed because he thought he was too old to have a baby. But Abraham believed that God would keep His promise. God can do anything, and He always keeps His promises.

After Abraham and Sarah waited and waited and waited some more, the time finally came. God gave Abraham and Sarah a baby boy, and his name was Isaac. *Cheer and show baby doll wrapped in a blanket.* Everyone show me how you would rock baby Isaac. This reminds me of our new hand motion – **Isaac is born ha, ha, ha:** *rock the baby in your arms.* This was a miracle. God always keeps His promises! All of God's promises in the Bible are true. God promised He would give Abraham and Sarah a baby, and He did.

God also promised us that He would send His one and only Son, Jesus, to take away our sin. Did He keep that promise? (Yes, God sent His one and only Son, Jesus, as a baby!) And when Jesus grew up, He died on the cross so we can have our sins forgiven.

Show pretty box. When we started our lesson, I showed you this pretty box and promised you I would show you what is inside. Are you ready? *Show items to children one at a time while you talk about how you would use the item to take care of a baby.*

Verse Review Time

Let's stand up and practice our verse, John 14:2, with actions.

“In my Father’s house (hands above head and meet at a point) **are many rooms** (arms opening in front of you); **if it were not so** (shake finger), **I would have told you** (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). **I am going there** (two pointer fingers point way up) **to prepare a place for you** (two pointer fingers point to children).” **John 14:2**

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have the voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Hi, friends! Wow! I am so happy for Abraham and Sarah; they FINALLY had that baby.

Teacher: Do you know what they named their baby?

Tracker: Baby Isaac.

Teacher: Do you know what the name Isaac means?

Tracker: I think the name Isaac means...laughter. This means that when Isaac was born, everyone said, “ha, ha, ha!”

Teacher: Hey Tracker, that is our new hand motion for today. Let’s practice it: Isaac is born, ha, ha, ha: *rock the baby in your arms.*

Tracker: Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha... (*keeps laughing*)

Teacher: Tracker, you can stop laughing now.

Tracker: Okay. Well, I’m super glad that baby Isaac was born and once again God is keeping His promises! See ya next week, friends!

Teacher: Bye, Tracker! Girls and boys, make sure you share with your mom or dad what you learned today!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Rain stick (homemade or purchased) or recording of the sound of rain

Instructions:

1. Say: Remember how Abraham and Sarah had to wait and wait and wait for their baby? Today we are going to do an activity to teach us how to be patient and wait. When the rain stops, we will do an activity.
2. Tip the rain stick and when the rain is done, have them do an activity, such as to jump up and down five times and then sit back down.
3. Repeat with other fun activities, such as clap three times, hop on one foot, sing “Happy Birthday to baby Isaac,” etc.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our Bible verse can be found in John, chapter 14, verse 2. Let's all clap two times when I say, "John 14:2", and then put our hands in our laps. John 14:2! *Clap two times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and for always keeping His promises. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. What did God promise Abraham and Sarah? (A baby)
3. What was the baby's name? (Isaac)
4. Does God keep His promises? (Yes)

Review Activities

Supplies:

- Painter's tape (use to make a large circle on the floor)
- Music
- Bubbles (see alternate instruction if you do not have bubbles)

Instructions:

1. Have children walk on the tape as they listen to music.
2. When the music stops, have children quickly sit down.
3. If they obey, blow the bubbles.
4. If you do not have bubbles, then tell everybody to clap and cheer when the whole group obeys.
5. Repeat as time permits.

Lesson 12

Review Day

Know Right:	True wisdom comes from God's Word.
Think Right:	Romans 3:23 and John 14:2 (Top 12)
Do Right:	I will remember God's Word.
Feel Right:	I can feel wise when I remember God's Word.

GET READY!

This quarter, your labor in the Lord was not in vain. Every hour you invested in prayer, studying the lesson, and teaching or assisting in the classroom will make an eternal difference in the lives of your children. Be encouraged, God is at work, and He will help your children recall these lessons for years to come.

Pray: Pray that your children will understand the importance of remembering God's Word. Pray also for those children who won't be attending this week that they will return next week.

Read: Review the lessons from this quarter.

Know Right: Reviewing what we've learned

As we come to the end of the quarter, we take a day to remember and celebrate all that God has taught us through the study of His Word. Next quarter, we will return to the New Testament to learn how God's promise of a Savior came true. God bless you for humbly serving Him.

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- Set up three review stations around your classroom – see lesson for details

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as "Let's Clean Up."

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship.

1. "The B-I-B-L-E"
2. "My God is so Big"
3. "Thank You Lord for Making Me"

Bible Basics: As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. *Have children make a Bible with their two hands.*

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. *Have children fold their hands to pray.*

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. *Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.*

Think Right Verse: *Have children listen carefully as you read the verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word!*

We memorized two verses this quarter! Let’s say our first verse, Romans 3:23:

“For all (hands from center going outward) have sinned (two thumbs down and look sad) and fall short (squat) of the glory of God (stand up while pointer fingers twirl pointing up).” Romans 3:23

You did a great job. We are so proud of you! *All leaders should clap.* Now, let’s say our second verse, John 14:2:

“In my Father’s house (hands above head and meet at a point) are many rooms (arms opening in front of you); if it were not so (shake finger), I would have told you (two pointer fingers move from mouth outward). I am going there (two pointer fingers point way up) to prepare a place for you (two pointer fingers point to children).” John 14:2

Repeat several times. Great job! When you get home today, surprise your family by saying your verses.

Bible Lesson

Let’s do our hand motions to review all our Bible lessons from this quarter:

- **Creation:** bring hands up to form a world
- **Adam and Eve:** one forearm up for each name
- **Sin:** take your two forearms and cross them like an “X”
- **Cain and Abel:** two thumbs up and start a thumb war with yourself
- **Noah obeyed:** take your fist and pound it into your hand
- **A flood with a promise:** bring arms up like a flood and go up until you form a rainbow with your hands
- **The Tower of Babel, Babel, Babel:** create a pointed tower over your head
- **Abram said, “Let’s Go!”:** right hand up with strong pumping movement
- **Divided land:** both forearms up and together tight in front of you, then divide the arms
- **God’s covenant:** take fingers and create sparkling stars over your head
- **Isaac is born, ha, ha, ha:** rock baby in your arms

Review Station 1: Creation

Props: *Creation boxes from Lesson 1*

We have learned that God created everything. In each of these boxes is something to help us remember what God created. Do you remember what it means when I say, ‘God created’? It means that God made it. Let’s peek inside. *Be excited as you review each day of creation.* God created everything, and after He created it He said it was good. *Have children say, “It was good!”, and give a thumbs up.* I am so excited that God created everything. How about you? Are you excited God created everything? Let’s say it together, “God created everything!”

Review Station 2: Noah

Props: *plastic animals (one per child), an ark, spray bottle with water, picture of a rainbow*

Give each child an animal. From the Bible, we learned that Noah obeyed God. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark) *Show ark.* An ark is a super big boat. After Noah built the ark, God told him to take at least two of every kind of animal and bird into the ark along with his family. *Have children put their animals in the ark.* Once all the animals and Noah's family were in the ark, God shut the door. Then it started to rain. *Gently mist children with a spray bottle.* It rained and rained and rained until water covered everything except the ark. After raining for a long time, the rain finally stopped and the water went down, down, down. The ark landed on top of a mountain. Before it rained, God made a promise to Noah that He would keep his family and all the animals safe. Did God keep His promise? He sure did! God gave a rainbow as a sign that He would never flood the earth and cover it with water again. *Show picture of rainbow.* God always keeps His promises. Boys and girls, let's say that together, "God always keeps His promises."

Review Station 3: Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac

Props: *baby care items (one per child), baby doll wrapped in a blanket, pretty box*

Give each child a baby care item. From our last lesson, we learned that God always keeps His promises even if we have to wait. God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a baby. They waited and waited and waited. It is so hard to wait. They waited so long! When God told Abraham that he would have a baby boy, Abraham laughed because he thought he was too old to have a baby. But Abraham believed God would keep His promise. God can do anything, and He always keeps His promises. After Abraham and Sarah waited some more, the day finally came. God gave Abraham and Sarah a baby boy, and his name was Isaac. *Cheer and show baby doll wrapped in a blanket. Have children put their baby care items into the pretty box.* It was a miracle for Abraham and Sarah to have a baby when they were really old. Remember boys and girls, God always keeps His promises – even if we have to wait.

Note: *Due to the Review Activity, we will not have a Tracker skit.*

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Tracker activity sheet with the words: "We had fun 'tracking' through God's Word this quarter!" along with both verses from the quarter (see Resources Booklet)
- Corks
- Washable ink pads or marker pens
- Hand washing supplies

Instructions:

Have children make Tracker "tracks" on their activity sheet with corks and ink pads or with marker pens.

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: Our newest Bible verse can be found in John, chapter 14, verse 2. Let's clap two times when I say, "John 14:2", and then put our hands in our laps. John 14:2! *Clap two times and then, when hands are in laps, say the verse.*

Pray: *Thank God for the snack and allowing us to learn from the Bible. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."*

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
2. Did God create everything? (Yes)
3. What is your favorite animal that God created?

4. What did God tell Noah to build? (An ark)
 5. Was the ark small or big? (Big)
 6. Did Noah, his family, and the animals go into the ark? (Yes)
 7. Did it rain for a long time? (Yes)
 8. What did Noah see in the sky? (A rainbow)
 9. What did God promise Abraham and his wife Sara? (A baby)
- Does God keep His promises? (Yes)

Review Activities

Option 1

Supplies:

- Carpet squares, masking tape, or chalk dust (use to create a path for the children to follow)
- Music

Instructions:

1. Have children hop to different squares as they listen to worship music.
2. Occasionally stop the music and say, "Freeze!"
3. Have children freeze and then recite Romans 3:23 or John 14:2.

Option 2

Supplies:

- Wordless Book-colored pom-poms, bottle top/ caps or dyed maize cobs
- Wordless Book-colored plates, buckets, cups, or manilla papers

Instructions:

1. Show the different colored pom-poms/ caps/ maize cobs as you explain the Wordless Book.
2. Then scatter the pom-poms/ caps/ maize cobs on tables or on the floor.
3. Call out a specific color and have children collect that color and place them on the matching plate/ bucket/ cup/ paper. As children collect the items, talk about the color.
4. Repeat with remaining colors.
5. Repeat activity as time permits.

On Track Map

Topical Lesson: The Bible is Truth

Know Right:	The Bible is true because it is God's Word.
Think Right:	"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17
Do Right:	I will trust the Bible is true because it is God's Word.
Feel Right:	I can feel peaceful when I trust the Bible is true.

GET READY!

This lesson is designed to help children know the Bible is the book of truth. When asked why they believe the Bible is true, they need to be confident in its truth. God orchestrated history beautifully to prove the Bible's authenticity. He knew people would have questions, and He provided amazing ways for us to have confidence that the Bible is His Word and is trustworthy. Spend time this week praising God for His Word, the Bible.

Pray: Pray that the children in your classroom will understand that the Bible is true.

Read: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Know Right: The Bible is true because it is God's Word

GET SET!

Creative Teaching Supplies:

- An assortment of types of books (an animal book and a bird book)
- Bible

GO!

Coming In Time

Joyfully greet children as they enter your class. Make sure they feel safe, special, and loved the moment they see your smiling face. Immediately engage them with toys or activities. Fun praise music is always encouraged in classrooms during playtime. Recommended music options are in the Resources Booklet.

Clean Up

Clean up together while listening to a song such as "Let's Clean Up."

Large Group Opening Time

Worship Time: *All volunteers should assist children to the designated learning area for worship. Choose 2-3 worship songs to sing with the children. Options are in the Resources Booklet of the current curriculum.*

Bible Basics: *As children sit in the designated learning area, remind and reinforce basic sitting guidelines (refer to the “Let’s Get Ready to Learn!” poster).*

Hold up the Bible. What is this? (The Bible)

Let’s make a Bible with our hands. Have children make a Bible with their two hands.

Is everything in the Bible true? (Yes, everything in the Bible is true!)

When we pray, we talk to God. Have children fold their hands to pray.

When we read the Bible, this is how God talks to us. I have a special marker in my Bible marking a very important verse. Show your fun, bright bookmark and point to the correct verse.

Think Right Verse: *We recommend reviewing the current Bible verse, rather than the Think Right verse from this lesson.*

Have children listen carefully as you read the current verse from your Bible. We want them to know that the verse comes directly from the Bible, God’s Word! After reading the verse, review the hand motions with children and say it together several times. When a child can say the verse with little or no help, celebrate and allow them to pick something out of the prize basket.

Bible Lesson

Lay out the books where children can see them. Then hold them up one at a time and talk about each one. After speaking about each one, return it to its place on the floor. Feel free to substitute books on various topics that you have on hand.

Show a book about animals. What do you think this book is about? (Animals) Inside it shows us what the animals look like and what their names are. It tells us a little about what makes each one special. We like books about animals, don’t we? Open the book and talk about one animal. Encourage children to make that animal’s sound.

Show a book about birds. What do you think this book is about? (Birds) Inside it shows us what different birds look like and what their names are. It tells us a little about what makes each one special. We like books about birds, don’t we? Open the book and talk about one bird. Encourage children to make that bird’s sound.

Show the Bible. What is this book about? This book is about God. Who knows what its name is? (It’s called the Bible) The Bible is true. The Bible is not pretend. Everything that we read in the Bible is true. Let’s say that together, “The Bible is true!” God wrote the Bible, so He could tell us how much He loves us. He gave us the Bible to tell us that He sent Jesus because He loves us. Why did God give us the Bible? (To tell us how much He loves us!)

Which book tells us about animals? Children should point to the animal book. Which book tells us about birds? Children should point to the bird book. Which book tells us about God? Children should point to the Bible. Does God tell us He loves us in the Bible? (Yes!) Yay! I am so happy that God loves us, and I know it is true because it is in the Bible. Hold up the Bible. Let’s cheer and celebrate that the Bible is true! Cheer and celebrate with children.

Verse Review Time

We recommend reviewing the current Bible verse, rather than the Think Right verse from this lesson.

Great job! You are really learning that verse from the Bible. Wait...did you hear something? I think I heard Tracker!

Tracker Skit

Note: Tracker should have a voice of a 4-year-old boy

Tracker: Bam! Wow! Look out!

Teacher: What's going on here, Tracker?

Tracker: I'm playing dress-up with the Bible lesson we learned last week.

Teacher: (*chuckles*) God sure tells us some amazing things about people in the Bible, doesn't He?

Tracker: The Bible is super-de-duper exciting!

Teacher: And all those exciting things that happened are really true.

Tracker: What? You mean they really did happen?

Teacher: They sure did.

Tracker: You mean, when Jesus told the storm to calm down, that really happened?

Teacher: Yep.

Tracker: And when Noah built the giant ark for all the animals?

Teacher: That really happened, too.

Tracker: And David really did beat that big ol' giant Goliath?

Teacher: Oh yes, David really did beat Goliath. If it comes from the Bible, you can count on it being true.

Tracker: That makes it even more super-de-duper exciting! I'm gonna go back and play dress-up with another Bible lesson. You can come play, too, anytime you want.

Teacher: I just might do that. See ya Tracker!

Craft or Activity

Supplies:

- Cardstock bookmark with a Bible and "God's Word is true" and "Read to me" (see Resources Booklet)
- Crayons or washable markers

Instructions:

1. Say: God tells us in His Bible how much He loves us. His Bible also helps us know how He wants us to live. I love my Bible! I'm so glad God gave us the Bible, so we can know more about Him. How about you? Is the Bible special to you?
2. Children will color a bookmark to remind them that the Bible is true. It will also remind parents to read to their children.
3. While the children are coloring, ask the following review questions:
 - a. What is this called? *Hold up the Bible.* (The Bible)
 - b. Is the Bible true? (Yes)
 - c. What does the Bible teach us? (God loves us)

Snack and Lesson Review

Verse Activity: We recommend reviewing the current Bible verse, rather than the Think Right verse from this lesson.

Our Bible verse can be found in the book of _____, chapter _____, verse _____. Let's clap our hands _____ times and then put them in our laps. *After hands are in laps, say the current Bible verse.*

Pray: Thank God for giving us the Bible and for the wonderful snack. Encourage children to fold their hands, bow their heads, and close their eyes. Remind them that praying is talking to God. Open prayer with, "Dear Heavenly Father" and close with, "...in Jesus' name, Amen."

Review questions to ask during snack:

1. Which book tells us about God? (Bible)
2. What special thing does the Bible say about God? (He loves us)
3. Does the Bible always tell the truth? (Yes)
4. Who did God write the Bible for? (Everyone)

Review Activities

Option 1

Supplies:

- Bibles of various sizes and colors (place all around the room; should be real Bibles, not Bible storybooks)
- Designated area at one end of the room for all children to sit (this could be a rug or an area marked off with tape; it needs to be defined so they know the boundaries)

Instructions:

1. This activity will acquaint children with what the Bible looks like. All Bibles do not look alike. We'll also be reinforcing that the Bible is from God.
2. One at a time, say a child's name and have them go get one of the Bibles. Then have them say, "The Bible is true" and bring the Bible back. Begin a stack for the Bibles. Once the child has gently placed the Bible on the stack, have them rejoin the group.
3. Repeat the process with another child. Continue doing this until all children have had a chance to retrieve a Bible.
4. Then instruct children to take one of the Bibles from the stack and carefully place it somewhere in the room. Then it's all set up to do it again.
5. Repeat activity, but this time send two children at a time to get a Bible.

Option 2

Supplies:

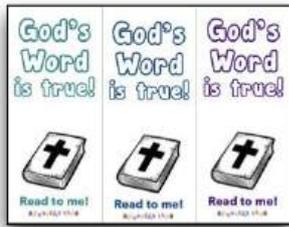
- Obstacles placed around the room (chairs, small things to jump over, maybe a tunnel or box to crawl through, etc.)

Instructions:

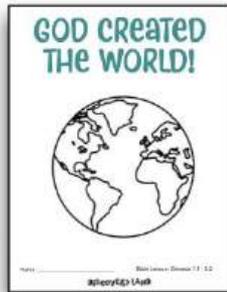
1. Say: The Bible is our guide. It tells us how God wants us to live. You could say that it's God's way of leading us. If it's God's way of leading us, we need to follow what it says. I want you to follow me through some things I have set up in the room. When I stop, I want everyone to stop. When I start going again, I want everyone to follow what I do.
2. Play "Follow the Leader" around the classroom.
3. Say: Just like you followed me and did what I told you to do, we all need to learn what God tells us to do from the Bible. We need to follow the instructions He gives us in the Bible.

Runners Printable Resources

Year 1 - Quarter 1



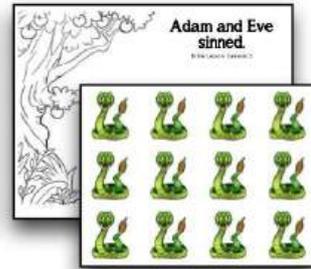
**Topical Lesson:
The Bible is Truth
God's Word is true
bookmark**



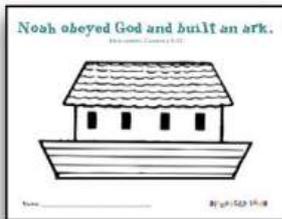
**Lesson 1
God created the world**



**Lesson 2
God created me**



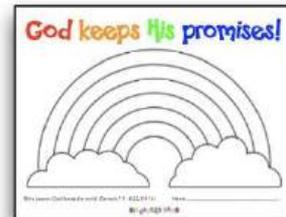
**Lesson 3
Garden of Eden activity sheet
(page 2 is enough for 12 children)**



**Lesson 5 - Opt 1
Noah obeyed (with ark)**



**Lesson 5 - Opt 2
Animal faces
(headbands)**



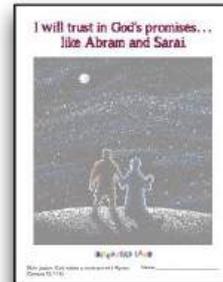
**Lesson 6
God keeps His promises**



**Lesson 7
God's way, not my way
(page 2 is enough for 2 children)**



**Lesson 8
Abram & Lot divide the land**



**Lesson 9
I will trust in
God's promises**



**Lesson 10
We can depend
on God**



**Lesson 12
Tracker activity sheet
with verses**

The Wordless Book - Presenting the Gospel to Children



The Wordless Book is the primary way the Gospel is shared with children in the Discovery Land curriculum. You will notice that it is referred to on a weekly basis as you present the Gospel message.

Each color has a simple meaning and a key verse that will help children understand the true meaning of God's love and how they can have a personal relationship with Him now and for eternity.

The Wordless Book is a tool that outlines a clear Gospel message. For older children, you may feel that this tool has become repetitive, but after reviewing test results, we learned our older children know the key word, color, and verse, but often they do not know how to use it as a tool to share or defend their faith. Keep this in mind as you role model the Gospel message to your children each week.

Occasionally try using the Gospel outline without referring to the colors. After you are done, ask children what this reminds them of. Or begin sharing the Gospel by expressing the joy you have by being clean (saved) from the sin in your life.

It is important to tie in the joy of becoming part of God's family. When you become a Christian, God is your Heavenly Father and you join all Christians as part of His church family.

Using the Wordless Book:

Gold - The gold page reminds us of God's love for us and how we, as Christians, can have confidence that someday we can go to heaven. John 14:2 says, "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you." Heaven is real...and is a perfect, literal place. It will be filled with happiness, joy, streets of gold, a perfect family, and the presence of God Himself.

But there is one thing that is not in heaven...and that is sin.

Dark - The dark page represents sin. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that is against God. Examples of sin are cheating, stealing, and gossiping. These are things that are not going to be in heaven and things that displease God. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." The penalty of sin is eternal death, meaning we can't go to heaven, but there is hope...

Red - The red page reminds us of Jesus. Jesus is God's only perfect Son who came to this earth to live a perfect life. Because of His perfect life, only He could take the punishment for our sin. Hebrews 9:22b says, "...and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." Jesus did shed His blood, and because of that, He is the only way to heaven. It is not by good works (Ephesians 2:8-9), it is only through the gift of Jesus. It's a personal choice if we want to accept this free gift of Jesus. But wait, I need to tell you something...Jesus didn't stay dead, He rose again and had victory over sin!

Clean - The clean page reminds us that if we believe in these truths, our sin is forgiven. Acts 16:31 says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household."

Believe and you will be saved from the penalty/punishment of your sin. Your sin can be forgiven and you can be washed clean. But that is a choice that each individual needs to make.

Green - The green page reminds us that once you ask Jesus to forgive your sin, He wants you to grow closer to Him. It's a *relationship*, not a religion. He becomes the leader of your life. Because He is your leader, you will want to grow...like grass in the warm summer months (green). 2 Peter 3:18a says, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We grow closer to Him by reading our Bible, praying, and obeying His Word.

This sounds pretty cool, doesn't it? No matter how old you are, it's a choice you have to make for yourself! You can choose today to accept this amazing truth. If you want to choose to ask Jesus to be your Savior and Lord, you need to pray, or talk to God, about it. God is real, and He can hear you when you pray.

If you'd like to make this decision, you can pray about it right now:

1. Admit you are a sinner...tell Him about the sin you struggle with and how you know they displease God. (**dark**)
2. Tell Him you believe that Jesus died and took the penalty for your sin. (**red**)
3. Personally ask Jesus to forgive you of your sin and become the leader of your life. (**clean**)
4. Thank Him for forgiving you and being the new leader of your life.

If you have truly asked Jesus to save you and be the leader of your life, you can know that your sin is forgiven and that you are a child of God!

Additional Tips:

To help coach children toward salvation, the DL program provides the *Coaching Kids for Salvation* card.

Coaching Kids For Salvation

After the Gospel is presented by the teacher...
 ...during the lesson, invite children to a quiet location if they want to make a decision.

Making sure the child is ready for salvation:
Ask: I think I know why you came to talk to me; but, would you tell me?
 Answers may vary from "I want to go to Heaven," "I have sinned," "I love Jesus," or "I don't know." If child says, "I don't know," encourage them to go back to class and you can talk more later.

Checking to see if the child has an understanding of the Gospel:
Ask: Can you tell me anything about the Wordless Book?
 Allow the child to explain the Gospel to you. Don't expect perfection. Look for an understanding of sin and the need for Jesus to forgive them of their sin.

Allowing the child to personalize the need for a Savior:
Ask: Have you sinned? How have you sinned?
 Show child **Romans 3:23** in your Bible.
 If the child denies sin in their life, they are not ready to go further in this discussion. If the child can tell you about sin and personalize that they have sinned, you can continue with the conversation.

Ask: Who can forgive your sin?
 Answer should be Jesus.

Ask: What did Jesus do for your sin?
 Show child **Hebrews 9:22b** in your Bible.
 Have child put their name in the sentence, "Jesus died for _____'s sin."

Ask: What happened after Jesus died for you?
 Answer: "He rose again!" (**1 Corinthians 15:3b-4**)

DISCOVERY LAND

Making a personal choice:
Ask: What would you like Jesus to do for you?
 Answers may vary: "Take away my sin," or "Take the punishment for my sin."

Say: In Acts 16:31, it says that if we believe in the Lord, Jesus Christ (point to the red page) you can be saved (dark page) from your sin (clean page).

Ask: Would you like to pray and ask Jesus to take away your sin?
 If a child says, "No," tell the child to continue to think about it through the week and end talk to you next week if they would like to.

If a child says, "Yes," say, "Why don't you pray and tell Jesus you have sinned, that you believe in Him, and that you need Him to forgive your sin."

Allow child to pray. If the child needs coaching with words, inform them that you will help them, but they need to remember they are talking to God and they need to really mean what they are saying.

Assurance of salvation:
Following the prayer, ask: What did Jesus just do for you?
 Allow child to answer: "He saved me from my sin."

Ask: How do you know?
 Allow child to answer: "The Bible tells me so."

Hebrews 13:5b teaches us that when we ask Jesus to be part of our lives, He will never leave us. Use your fingers (starting with your pinky) and say, "Jesus will never leave _____."

"I am so excited about the decision you made today. Why don't we go back to class and tell the Teacher(Shepherd) about what happened." (Allow the child to explain what happened.)

Adapted from CEF salvation training.

DISCOVERY LAND

To assist you with presenting the Gospel and beginning to disciple a child, the DL program provides the *Believe It or Not?* booklet, the *Now What?* booklet, and the *I Believe* bookmark.

The *Believe it or Not?* booklet explains the Gospel using Scripture, kid-friendly definitions, and the Wordless Book framework. It is a great tool to explain the Gospel to an interested child, and/or to send home with a child who wants to consider trusting Jesus as their Lord and Savior.



If a student chooses to trust Jesus as their Lord and Savior, the *Now What?* booklet is a great introduction to what it means to live the Christian life. It briefly covers topics such as who they are in Christ, spiritual disciplines, such as worship and prayer, and being a part of the family of God.



I BELIEVE!

"Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with your household." Acts 16:31

Name: _____ Date: _____

I BELIEVE!
 Guide: _____
 Date: _____
 To receive this bookmark, you must first make a personal choice to trust Jesus.

Following a child's decision to trust Christ as their Savior, the *I Believe* bookmark can be filled out as a reminder of this important decision. The bookmark remains with the student and the tab at the end is filled out and turned in to your director or staff person, so they can rejoice with the student.

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