



## God is Promise Keeper

Genesis 24

### God Statement: God Has a Plan

KEY VERSE:

**“The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you.  
He will never leave you. He’ll never desert you.”**

**Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV**

## CHECK-IN

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.*

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you’ve completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

## CONNECT WITH KIDS

*Purpose: To build relationships & prioritize safety for our youngest children.*

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

**The 4 S's are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:**

When a child feels...(most of the time)

**SAFE:** physically and emotionally

**SEEN:** known and understood

**SOOTHED:** calmed and supported

They can become **SECURE.**

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 minutes)

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

### DISCUSS:

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is Promise Keeper.

**SAY:** Has anyone ever given you a gift? What was it? *(Wait for responses)* God gives us lots of gifts. He promises to give us good gifts. Today we'll hear about a promise God made to a man named Abraham and some good gifts he gave him.

### PLAY: Pouring Station

(adapted from True Way Kids)

**Supplies:** towel, different sized cups, pitcher of water

#### Directions:

- Fill the different cups with varied amounts of water.
- Allow children (1-2 at a time) to carefully pour water into their favorite container to other containers.
- Ask questions like: Which container holds the most water? Which one is smallest?
- Today, we'll hear a story about a woman who poured water for camels, and it turned out to be a very important gift from God!



## WORSHIP TIME

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!*

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to **Plex > Videos > EC > Babies folder**.

This month, focus on singing these songs:

- God's Promises
- Mindy Songs\_God Can Do Anything
- Thank You God

## READ THE BIBLE STORY

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!*

This week, read about a Bible story from Genesis 24.

Read the Bible story below. Try to engage the child(ren) as you share the story by showing pictures and repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word of the story! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!

### BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

#### **THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Isaac and Rebekah**

(Summarized from Genesis 24; adapted from True Way Kids)

*Bring Hamilton (the hedgehog puppet) out and allow the kids to interact with him before you begin the story (they can feel his soft fur, give him high fives, give him a hug, etc.). Use Hamilton to help keep the kids engaged while you share the story (he can do the hand motions, ask the kids questions, etc.).*

***Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is holding a gift.***

**SAY:** Hi Hamilton, what do you have there? **Hamilton shows us.** A gift! Ooooh, gifts are so fun. **Hamilton nods.** Let's listen to this true Bible story to see what the gift is for!

***Share the story of Isaac and Rebekah using the story cards in your folder.***

#### **SAY:**

- Do you remember Abram and Sarai?
- God changed Abram and Sarai's names to Abraham and Sarah.
- God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a baby, and they did!

- Hamilton, do you remember the baby's name? **Hamilton nods and whispers in your ear.** Yes, the baby's name was Isaac, which means laughter. Let's all laugh together!
- Isaac grew up big and strong.
  - Show me your strong muscles! **Show children how to flex their arms.**
- It was time for Isaac to get married.
- Abraham, Isaac's dad, wanted the best for his son.
- He sent his servant to find a good wife for Isaac.
- The servant prayed and asked God for help.
  - Let's make praying hands! We can ask God for help, too!
- God showed the servant Rebekah.
- Rebekah was kind and gave water to the servant's camels.
- Remember when we poured water into different containers? Rebekah poured water for the servant's thirsty camels!
- The servant gave Rebekah beautiful jewelry and many other gifts, like the one Hamilton brought.
  - Let's put on some beautiful jewelry, like the jewelry Rebekah got as a gift! **Pretend to put bracelets on your arms and a necklace around your neck.**
- Rebekah went back with the servant to Isaac.
- Rebekah and Isaac got married!
  - Hamilton, let's celebrate! **Have Hamilton do a happy dance.**
- God promised good things for Isaac. One of the good things was Rebekah.
- God is Promise Keeper!

### SAY IT OUT LOUD:

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

**SAY:** Today our God statement is **God is Promise Keeper**. We are going to say our God statement in fun ways to help us remember it.

- Have the kids say it in a fun voice.
- Have them say it in a whisper.
- Have them say it in a loud voice.

## BLESSING

*Purpose: To read a blessing or verse over the kids.*

**Encourage/show the kids how to hold their hands open to receive the blessing. This is a truth that they can take with them and hide in their hearts.**

### TODAY'S BLESSING:

“(Child's name) May you remember the good things God has given you. God likes to give you good things because He loves you. God keeps His promises and will take care of you.”

## PLAY!

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!*

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

### **Suggestions of activities for Babies & Younger 1 Year Old's:**

- Play Peek-A-Boo
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball
- Roll a large car back and forth
- Take turns putting toys in a bin or bucket

### **Suggestions of activities for Older 1 Year Old's:**

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)

## CHECK-OUT

### **(end of service)**

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent. Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"