



God is Mighty – Gideon and the 300

Judges 6:11-16

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. So don’t be afraid. Don’t lose hope.”
(Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 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: God is Mighty

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God forgives!

SAY: Have you ever had to do something that you were afraid to do? **Let kids respond.** Maybe you were nervous to go on a trip or try something new? Or maybe you had something happen in your life that made you feel afraid? **Let a few kids respond.** Sometimes we need someone to help us feel safe and protected, especially when things might seem uncertain in our lives.

Do you know who is with us ALL of the time? **Let kids respond – Jesus/God!** God is always with us! Did you know that God is always with you? He is mighty and He can do big things in our lives! Do you know what mighty means? **Let kids respond** Mighty means strong! We might be afraid or nervous sometimes, but He tells us not to be afraid and to trust Him. He is mighty and He is with us.

MAKE: Mighty Torch Craft

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Supplies: one paper roll per child, colorful tissue paper, mighty sticker, glue, crayons, markers

Directions: Pass out one paper torch per child (brown paper roll). Give each child 5-6 pieces of tissue paper and have them glue the paper to the top inner part of the roll to make a torch. Then add the “God is mighty” sticker on the outside of the torch. Children can then color their torches as well.



SAY: Today we get to learn about someone named Gideon! God helped Gideon and reminded him that God is mighty and is always with him. Before we learn more about Gideon, let's make a special craft!

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- Help Me Live in Step
- Egypt

LARGE GROUP RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Large Group Rules video in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Large Group Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides. ****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

****Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.****

***“The Lord Himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He’ll never desert you. So don’t be afraid. Don’t lose hope.”
(Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV)***

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: A Torch

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Accept around three questions and then three guesses. You can allow the kids to whisper their guess to their neighbor to allow for more sharing before you reveal the item. Retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

SAY: What do you guys see? It’s a torch! Have you ever seen a torch before? **Let kids respond.** Do you know why people use torches? **Let kids respond.** Those are all good answers! Usually, people use a torch to give light to help them see. Why do you think there is a torch in our wardrobe? **Let kids respond.** You guys have really good answers! Torches have been used in the Bible to help give light when there was a battle at night. Let’s dive into God’s word today to discover more about how this torch is connected to the lesson!

***** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.*****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK’S LESSON: God is Mighty – Gideon and the 300

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

*****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.*****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

DO: PRAISE & WORSHIP – God IS MIGHTY

Supplies: worship song in PowerPoint – My God

SAY: God is mighty. Can you imagine being in that army of only 300 men holding only trumpets, lanterns, and pitchers? How might you feel if you were asked to stand up to a very big, very scary army like that? ***Let a few kids share responses.***

Gideon and his army had to trust that God had a plan for them and that God is mightier than any big army. How mighty is God? Show me with your muscles! God is the mightiest!

Let's take some time today to praise God for how mighty He is and how He always has a plan for us! We can trust that God will give us the strength for what He wants us to do. We're going to sing a song about how mighty our God is. As you sing this song, imagine you're one of the 300 men in Gideon's army and you're singing this song right before you go out into battle!

DIRECTIONS: Turn on worship song and allow kids to respond in worship how they want.

SAY: I'm so glad that God is mighty and God has a plan for us! God deserves all of our praise. Thanks for praising God with us, friends!

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Offering slides.******

OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering.

****After Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.****

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – ACTS Gift of Love

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the PowerPoint to display important announcements.

ACTs Gift of Love

SAY: What holiday is coming up this December? Christmas, that’s right! Raise your hand if you’ve ever received a gift you really wanted during Christmas? How did that make you feel? **Let kids respond.** Did you know some kids right here in our city, and schools, and even within our church are unable to enjoy Christmas like we do. Some families are not able to buy gifts for their children to enjoy during the holidays and they do not get to experience the same excitement you experience when you open a gift you really, really want at Christmas.

SAY: This is the reason our mission focus is Gift of Love. Has anyone here heard of Gift of Love? Gift of Love is a super special event that allows families in need to shop for Christmas gifts at a very low cost! And guess how you can be a part of it? Your family can help by donating new toys/clothes/activities/games/etc. for the families to shop for. Did you notice the big Christmas trees when you came in today? When you leave, talk to your family about picking an ornament off of the tree and shopping for a specific age/gender – like a 12 year old girl or a 7 year old boy. Then, bring your UNWRAPPED item back in and put it under the tree next weekend!

SAY: How would it feel to give the same joy you experience during Christmas to someone else? Let’s love one another well by giving a Gift of Love!!!

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the families who will participate in Gift of Love.

****After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.****

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

May you stand strong trusting that God is mightier than anything you might face this week! God is standing with you and behind you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today? (God is Mighty.)**

2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Judges 6:11-16**
 - **What did the Angel of the Lord say to Gideon?** ("Mighty warrior, the Lord is with you.")

 - **Where did Gideon's strength come from?** (God.)

 - **Who did the Lord say would be with Gideon?** (The Lord would be with him.)

3. **God was with Gideon. He gave him the strength to carry out God's plan. Just like God gave the strength to Gideon to carry out His plan, He gives us the strengths and equips us to carry out his plans.**
 - **What is a strength or talent you think God gave you?**

 - **How can we use our skills to bring Glory to God and His kingdom?** Spend some time as a group discussing and sharing.

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

PLAY: Follow Gideon

Supplies: none

Directions: Have children play follow the leader (follow Gideon). Pick one child to be “it” and allow them to do a few different motions for the rest of the class to follow. Then have another child be the leader.

SAY: Today we got to learn about Gideon and how God is mighty! Let’s play a special follow the leader game to help us remember our lesson.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.