



God is Our Leader – Tower of Babel

Genesis 11:1-9

God Statement: God has a Plan

KEY VERSE: “The Lord Himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you.”
(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 our Leader

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God is our Leader!

SAY: Have you ever done something to make someone else proud of you? **Let kids respond.** How about something to be cool or popular? Maybe something that has never been done before? **Let a few kids respond.** It’s always fun to do unique things and for others to see and recognize our talents BUT God always wants us to look to Him and not how famous or popular we can be. He wants to LEAD us! He is our leader!

Who should you always follow? **Let kids respond – Jesus/God!** That's right! We should always follow God and what He asks us to do. Even if it's something we may not want to do. Today we get to learn a story about some individuals who were thinking about themselves and not God. God did something very unique to get them to focus on Him again! Before we learn about our story, let's make a special craft!

MAKE: Tower of Babel 3D Craft

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

Supplies: one 3d tower, one person tower page, crayons/markers, tape/glue

Directions: Pass out one tower paper and one people page per child. Have them decorate and color their pages. When finished, help them to curve the tower to make a 3D tower on the page.

SAY: Today we get to learn about something very interesting! God did something to these people when they were trying to build a very big BIG tower! I wonder what it could be?!



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:

- Child of Love
- Your Love

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.”
(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: Tower

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 tower! I don’t think I have ever seen a tower in our wardrobe before. Do you guys know why there is a tower in our wardrobe? **Let kids respond.** Can you think of a Bible story that talks about a tower in it? **Let kids respond.** There’s a couple, but the one that we are going to talk about today is the Tower of Babel. All I know is that the people wanted to build a very tall tower, because they wanted to be “famous”. But that’s not something God calls us to do. So lets dive in and learn more!

***** 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 Our Leader – Tower of Babel

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: CHALK RESPONSE – God IS MY LEADER

Supplies: chalkboard WR station, chalk

Prepare Ahead: write “God is MY Leader” on the top of the chalkboard

SAY: Who is our creator? Who has a plan for our life? Who loves us more than we can understand? Who gives us mercy? Who is in control? **Let kids respond – God!**

God is all of those things we just said, and that is why God is our leader! Did the people in our story today think that God was the best leader for them? **Let kids respond – no!** No, they thought they knew what was best for them, so they built a what? **Let kids respond – a big tower to try and reach Heaven.** The people didn’t listen to God!

Touch your ears for me! Do you ever choose not to listen to God? **Let a few kids share if appropriate.** We all struggle to listen to God, but when we do, we can trust that God is our leader!

Think about a time when you didn’t listen to God. Now, think about God’s love for you! How can you listen to God more next time? **Let kids respond.**

DIRECTIONS: Invite kids to respond by drawing or writing on the chalkboard how they can follow God as their leader.

SAY: When you’re ready, go up to the chalkboard and write or draw you following God as your leader!

After a few minutes, gather everyone back together.

SAY: God is our leader! Thank you, God, for loving us and leading us!

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 Feeding Families

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 Feeding Families

SAY: What is your favorite food? **Let kids respond** That sounds awesome! My favorite food is _____. How often do you get to enjoy your favorite food? A lot? Sometimes? Only as a special treat? **Pause.**

SAY: Did you know that even though you and I get to enjoy some of our very special treats, not all kids get to do the same? There are some kids who do not have the same access to food that we have. That’s why we are partnering with ACTs Feeding Families to help the kids in our community who are in need of food. How do you think you help kids in need of food? **Let kids respond.** That’s right! You can donate food each week AND pray for the families and kids who get the food.

Hold up a green Feeding Families bag or a food donation list.

SAY: You can take home one of these special green bags to help you remember to bring in food donations for Feeding Families. Grab one on your way out today!

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the families who receive food through Feeding Families.

******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 follow God as your leader this week, trusting that He has a plan for you because He loves 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 Our Leader.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Genesis 11:4-9**
 - **What did the people want to build?** (A big tower that reaches to the sky.)
 - **Why did the people want to build a big tower that reaches the sky?** (So, they would be famous.)
 - **Because they wanted to be famous and do what God told them not to do what happened?** (God made them all speak in different languages and scattered them all throughout the world.)
3. **The people of Babylonia wanted to be famous and well known. They thought they were the greatest. But really, they just had a lot of pride in their heart. Their heart was not one for God. My challenge for you this week is to examine your heart.**
 - **Is your heart filled with pride?**
 - **How can we give God all the glory rather than ourselves?**
 - **How can we give God the credit?** (As a group take a couple of minutes and brainstorm how we can have a heart that wants to glorify God.)

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: Old Testament Books of the Bible Card Race

Supplies: 2 bags of Old Testament books of the Bible cards and mat

Directions: split the class into two teams. Have an LIT or helper sit in each group. Give each helper a bag with Old Testament matching cards and a number mat. Have the helper flip over the cards face down and shuffle them around. Allow the children to flip over one card at a time and match them to the corresponding number on the chart. The LIT or helper can then read the cards in order. The first team to finish wins.

SAY: God is our leader! God wants to lead us in everything we do. Did you know that He gives us something special we get to use to help us? He guides us through a very special book. Do you know what it is? **Let kid's respond.** The Bible! That's right! We can follow His word and it will help guide us and lead us. Let's play a special game to see how many books of the bible we know!

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.