



God is in Control – The story of Job

Job 1-3

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

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 in Control

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

SAY: What does it mean to have control? **Let kids respond.** Controlling something means that you get to decide what is going to happen. Have you ever not had control of something? Or had a question about why things are happening? **Let a few kids respond.** It can be kind of hard to not have control all of the time right?

Do you know who is always in control? ***Let kids respond – Jesus/God!*** God! That's right! God is always in control. Even when we don't understand what is happening or why we have to do something, God knows what will happen and He has a plan! Let's do a special activity before we learn more about this, today.

MAKE: Prayer Chain

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

Supplies: 5-6 strips of paper per child, stapler or tape

Directions: Pass out 5-6 pieces of paper per child. Have them write prayers and items that they want to give to God on their strips of paper. Help them turn their papers into a paper chain.



SAY: Today we get to learn about how God is in control. We get to make a special prayer chain today. Can you think of something you can't control or something that you struggle with? Let's write it down and give it to God. As we write down our prayers we can add a paper to our prayer chain. When you go home, you can add more prayers each day and make the chain longer, and longer!

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:

- Nothing is Impossible
- Gratitude

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.”
(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 Sad Face

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 sad face. Why do you think there is a sad face in our wardrobe? **Let the kids respond.** Many of us have probably felt sad before. Today, the man we are going to be learning about from our Bible story had to face some pretty sad things. Job was a man of God. He loved God so much. Even though Job had to face many, many sad things in his life, he knew that God is in Control. Even though we too may have to go through some sad things, we can take comfort in knowing that God has a plan. So lets dive in and learn more from the story of Job!

***** 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 in Control – The story of Job*

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 IN CONTROL

Supplies: worship song in PowerPoint - Gratitude

SAY: God is in control. Can you imagine for a moment that you had to go through all the hard things Job did? All that pain and loss and sadness? When Job lost everything he had, did he yell at God and blame God and run away from God? ***Let kids respond – No!*** No, Job didn't. Does anyone remember what Job did when he lost everything? ***Let kids respond.*** That's right, Job fell to the ground and worshipped God.

Hmm... Why would Job worship and praise God if all that bad stuff had just happened? Because Job knew that God is in control and Job knew that God had a plan for his life, even if it was hard at times.

Think for a moment about your own life. Have you ever had something really hard or sad happen to you? Maybe to someone in your family? Think about how it made you feel.

Now think about how BIG our God is and how much God loves you. He loves you so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for you! God is so good! We're going to take some time to practice worshipping God no matter what we're going through because God is in control and He deserves our worship!

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

SAY: I'm so glad that God is in control! Let's thank God for who He is!

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 Senior Center

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 Senior Center

SAY: Raise your hand if you have something to be thankful for? ***Pause and let the kids respond.*** That’s right, every person has something to be thankful for! At the beginning of class each of you made a special turkey wreath with feathers stating something you are thankful for. Not only are the wreaths meant to teach you the importance of having a heart of gratitude, but they are also a big way that we show the seniors of the ACTs Senior Center Ministry that we are thinking of them and care about them.

SAY: As we enter into the holiday season, our new mission focus for the next two weeks is ACTS Senior Center Ministry. The holidays are a great time to remember others and to love others well through what we say and do! During the next two weeks, think of how you can show love to the seniors in your life! Maybe you can spend a special day with your grandparents and tell them how much they mean to you. Maybe you can hold the door open for a senior at the store or at church. Or maybe you can say ‘hi’ to a senior in your neighborhood and ask them about their day. Let’s love well!

Invite a couple kids to come up and pray for the seniors who will receive the wreaths, that they would feel known, loved, and seen by Jesus.

******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 in Control.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Job 1:9-22**
 - **What happened to Job's farm animals?** (They were stolen.)
 - **What happened to Job's kids?** (They died; the house collapsed on them.)
 - **So many bad and sad things happened to Job, what did he do (v. 20-22)?** (He fell to the ground and worshipped God.)
3. **Job was a man who loved God with all His heart. He listened and obeyed God. Satan thought he was faithful to God because God always rewarded him. Until one day so many sad things happened to Job. He got sick, his animals were taken, his kids passed away. So many sad things happened to him. But instead of being mad at God and running away from him, Job turned his sadness into gratitude. He had hope in God and the plan God has for his life. He praised him because no matter what happens, God is good. Throughout this week I want to challenge you guys to praise God no matter what. If something doesn't go your way or you get bad news I want to challenge you to stop and pray thanking God that he is good.**
 - Take a few minutes talking together as a group on how we can praise God even in the storm. What does this look like? How do we do this?

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: Worry Toss Game

Supplies: colorful pieces of paper

Directions: Pass out one piece of paper per child. Have them write down or draw their worries on their piece of paper. Then when they are done. Have them pray for god to take these worries away. Have the children rip up their pieces, crumple up, throw away, their paper etc. They can be creative on how they “toss away” their worries!

SAY: Today we got to learn about how God is in Control! He is always with us and we can tell Him all of our worries. Let’s play a game to remind us that we can give our worries to God. We will get to write down our worries and then rip them up and toss them away after we pray for them!

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.