



God is with Me!

Deuteronomy 2

God Statement: God is with Me!

KEY VERSES:

“Be strong and brave.” (Joshua 1:9a, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

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: Building relationships & prioritizing 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**.

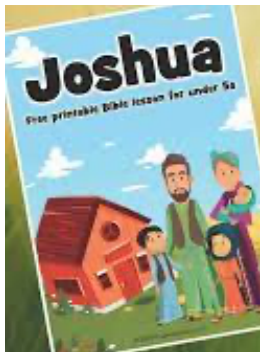
READ THE BIBLE STORY

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

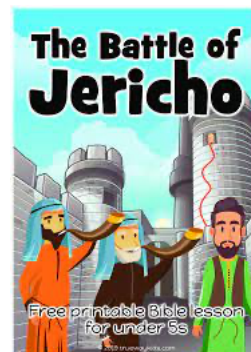
This month, read a short story about Joshua and the Battle of Jericho from **TrueWay Kids**

Try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as your read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! 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!

January 1st/2nd, 8th/9th, 15th/16th
Read this story about Joshua



January 22nd/23rd and 29th/30th
Read this story about Jericho



SING SONGS

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 3 songs:

- Wherever You Go (Joshua 1:9)
- My God is so Big
- Only God Can Do

LEAD AN ACTIVITY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by doing a variety of learning activities!

WEEK 1 – Joshua 1:9 Coloring Sheet

Help the children work on their fine motor skills by coloring the Key Verse coloring sheet. Only give the child 1 or 2 options of crayons and assist the child with holding and coloring, as needed.

While the children are coloring:

- Play the Joshua 1:9 song on Plex in the background
- Tell them how God was with Joshua and the Israelites
- Tell them how God is with us
- **Read and pray Joshua 1:9 over the children – “Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.”**

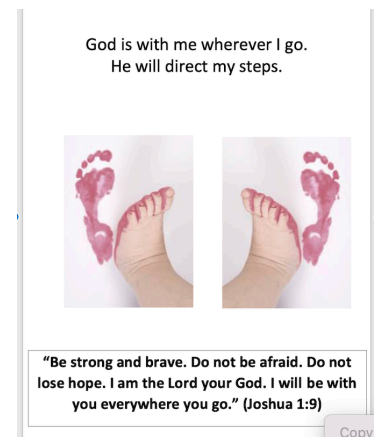


WEEK 2 – Joshua 1:9 Footprint craft

Work one on one with each child to help them make this footprint craft as a reminder that God is with us and He leads our steps.

Craft Instructions:

- Before starting, find a clear space to work where other kids cannot get into the supplies. Make sure you have wet wipes nearby and all other supplies ready before starting!
- Bring each child over to work on the project one at a time
- Take off the child's shoes and socks
- Use the paint brush to spread a thin layer of paint onto the child's foot (one at a time)
- Push the child's foot (with paint) onto the page, then use a wipe or paper towel to clean their foot off
- Repeat with other foot
- Put the child's socks and shoes back on and place the craft in an area where it can dry safely without kids touching it



While you are doing the craft:

- Talk about the child's feet – point to their toes, count their toes, talk about how feet help us walk places
- Talk about how God is with us all the time and He leads our steps
- **Read and pray Joshua 1:9 over the children – “Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.”**

WEEK 3 – “Follow God” Activity

Have the children practice following you as a reminder of how God is with us no matter where we go.

Activity Instructions:

- Find toys or objects in the room that you can use to help with the activity (ball, blocks, instruments).
- Start by walking around the room and have the kids follow you
- Explain to the kids that you are the leader and they are following you
- Say, “God is always with us and we can follow Him, too!”
- If the kids are having fun following, add some other activities that they can follow (toss a ball, build blocks, shake instruments, etc.)
- Pray over the children and God to help them follow Him always.

WEEK 4 – Paper Horn Craft

Help the children color and make a paper horn to remind them about the story of Jericho and that God is with us all the time.

Craft Instructions:

- Help the child color their horn. Give them 1 or 2 options of crayons and assist them with coloring, as needed.
- After the child is done coloring the horn, cut it out and wrap the edges around to make a trumpet shape, then apply a piece of tape

While the child colors the horn:

- Discuss how God kept His promises to the Israelites
- Discuss how God was with Joshua and how God is with us.
- Tell the kids that we are going to do just what Joshua and the Israelites did:
 - March around the classroom with the kids
 - You can go in circles, in a line, around objects, etc.
- After marching around the classroom take a minute to reexplain the story
- Pray over the kiddos and thank God for always being with us

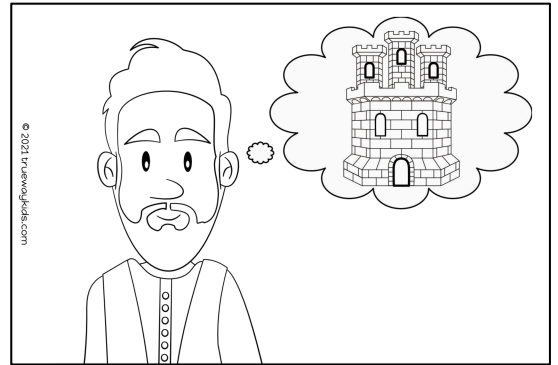


WEEK 5: Joshua Coloring Page

Help the children work on their fine motor skills by coloring the Key Verse coloring sheet. Only give the child 1 or 2 options of crayons and assist the child with holding and coloring, as needed.

While the child colors the picture:

- Remind the kids about the story
- Say, “The Israelites were marching around. Can you show me how to march?”
 - Take turns marching around the room – make it fun by allowing the kids to lead, put different items around the room to walk around, etc.
- Explain how God was with the Israelites and how God is with us, just like how our mommies and daddies and grandmas and grandpas are with us. God is ALWAYS with us, even if those people aren’t with us.
- Say God is with us 5 times (if the kids are younger, you say “God is with us” 5 times and ask the kids to jump or clap while you say it)
- Read and pray Joshua 1:9 over the children
 - **“Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.” (Joshua 1:9)**



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 Olds:

- 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 Olds & 2 Year Olds:

- 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)!"

PLEASE RETURN:

Use this checklist of items to return at the end of the month.

Note: Please keep "The Big Picture Story" Bibles at your campus