



## God Is Our Promise Keeper – Getting to the Promised Land

Joshua 6

### God Statement: God is Our Leader

**KEY VERSE:** “Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go..”  
(Joshua 1:9, 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:**

We’ve been learning about how God is our leader. Let’s say that together, “God is our leader!” As our leader, God is always with us and He gives us courage. That’s pretty

special. Do you know what else makes God such a special leader? He always keeps His promises! If God says He will do something, He always does it. Have you ever had someone give you a promise? Turn to your neighbor and tell them about that time.

How does it make you feel to know that God always keeps His promises? It makes me feel safe and happy! Let's play an activity now to get us thinking about our lesson today.

### **MAKE:**

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

#### **Cup Wall**

**Supplies:** paper or plastic cups

**Say:** *Today, we are going to practice working together. We've been learning about Joshua leading the Israelites to get to the promised land, and they sure had to work together to get there. Let's play this cup wall game to see how well we work together.*

**Directions:** Split children into teams of 4-5. Give each child a set of 15-20 cups. Set a timer for 2 minutes. Have them build a wall and see who can make the strongest wall within the time limit. After the teams finish building their walls, they can march in circles around the walls until they "fall down".

## **LARGE GROUP**

### **(25 minutes)**

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

### **BIBLE CHALLENGE**

#### **Host**

*Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.*

#### **Books of the Bible Song**

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the Old Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a "Bible Challenge" card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

***As kids begin to learn the song, invite kids up to come show what they know during Large Group.***

*\*\*\*After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide. Invite the worship leader up to lead the group in worship.\*\*\**

## **WORSHIP & CHLOE’S 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.

#### **CHLOE’S RULES**

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

*\*\*\* After Worship & Chloe’s 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.*

**“Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.”  
(Joshua 1:9, 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: Binoculars

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. Once the children have guessed correctly, 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.

#### ASK:

Oh, what are these? What do we usually use **binoculars** for? For looking at things far away. Have you ever used binoculars before? I wonder what these have to do with Joshua and the Israelites getting to the promised land. What do you think? I think we’re going to find out soon. Do you know what time it is? It’s time for us to dive into God’s Word together!

*\*\*\* 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 Promise Keeper – Getting to the Promised Land***

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.

**Supplies:** markers, paper plate

God has a plan. He used Joshua to complete His plan.

God told Joshua exactly what He wanted Joshua to do. And Joshua did it. Exactly as God had told Him.

God is Joshua's leader. God is the leader of His people, the Israelites. God still leads us today. He is our leader.

He leads us through His word, the Bible. He leads us through worship songs. He leads us through our parents. He leads us through our teachers. He leads us through our friends.

To help us remember and think about how God is our leader, let's play a game where our Host leads us. Let's follow the Host.

***Pass out a paper plate and marker to each child.***

Host: OK, follow my directions and let's see how you are at following a leader.

1. Take your marker in your hand – take off the lid.
2. Put your paper plate on top of your head and follow my drawing directions.
3. So far so good. Now draw two eyes on your paper plate.
4. Draw a nose.
5. Now draw a big happy smile.
6. Draw some ears.
7. How about some hair.
8. OK, now you can look at your paper plate. How does it look? Did you follow my directions?

Well, it's a little mixed up but that's ok. Put the lid on your marker and we'll collect those now. Even though the drawing was a little mixed up at the end, you did your best to follow the leader and listen to the directions.

Let's pray that we will listen to God and follow His directions because He is our leader.

***Close the time in prayer.***

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

## **COMPASSION & OFFERING**

### ***Host***

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

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

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Host

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

*\*\*\*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 always remember that God is our promise keeper. He is our leader and we can trust that He is with us wherever we go.***

## SMALL GROUP

### Classroom Teachers

**(10 minutes)**

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they’ve just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

### Younger Kids:

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

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story (Joshua 6).**
2. **Where did the Israelites go? (Jericho)**
3. **What did the Israelites do around the city of Jericho? (They marched and blew trumpets).**
4. **How many days did they march around the walls? (7 days)**
5. **When they marched on the 7<sup>th</sup> day, what happened to the walls? (They fell).**

6. Can you imagine being there when the walls came crashing down? What do you think it looked like? How do you think the Israelites felt when they were able to enter the city of Jericho?

Close small group in prayer.

## 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.

### MAKE – Walls of Jericho Craft

**Supplies:** 1 craft page per child, scissors, crayons/markers

**Directions:** Pass out activity page and crayons, etc. for kids to color. Have kids color their picture scene and then help them cut out the walls of Jericho. Help the children cut on the dotted line and place the walls in the hole. The children can then pull the walls up and down to make them look like they are falling to the ground. This can also be sent home if there is not enough time in class to complete.

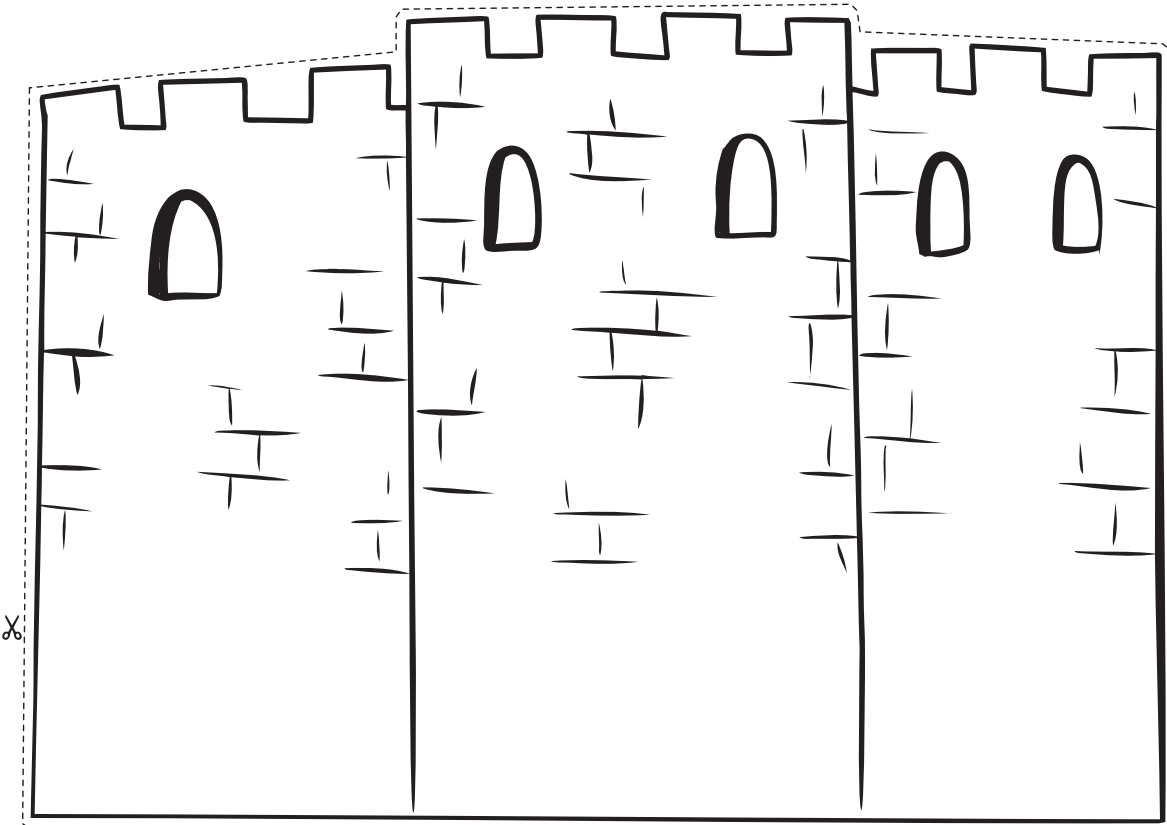
**Say:** *Wow! God really does keep His promises. What an amazing story we got to hear today. Let's make a craft to remind us of this great promise God kept at the Walls of Jericho.*

## 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.*



10 MINUTES OF QUALITY TIME

