



God Saves the Israelites – Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 14

God Statement: God is in Control

KEY VERSE: “Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.”
(Psalm 27:14, 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.

MAKE: Thanksgiving Basket Cards

(To be done during check-in, prior to Explore Activity)

As kids check-in, invite them to make a Thanksgiving card to go with the Missions focus for this month – Thanksgiving Baskets for those in need.

Supplies: Thanksgiving cards, markers/crayons

Directions: Encourage kids to color/decorate and write a special note for the families in our city receiving a Thanksgiving Basket. Kids can write a Bible verse or a fun Thanksgiving joke or share a favorite Thanksgiving tradition. Place finished Thanksgiving cards in curriculum folders.

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 continue learning about how God is in Control.

SAY:

Raise your hand if you like swimming! Have you ever been in a big lake or pond or river or the ocean? What do you like to do when you're in water? Everybody all at once act out what you like to do in water. Ready, set, go!

Did you know God made all the water that we talked about – the lakes, rivers, ponds, oceans and seas? Today, we're going to learn about how God used his mighty power to save the Israelites from the people chasing them. Does anyone know who was chasing after the people of Israel? The Egyptians and the Pharaoh, that's right!

The Israelites were scared of the people chasing them, but God did something amazing to protect them and help them get away safely. Before we hear what that is, let's do an activity to help us get ready.

PLAY:

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

Cross The Sea!

Supplies: blue plastic table cloth, brown butcher paper

Say: *We're going to play a game that will give us a hint about what our story will be today. First, let's lay this blue sheet down. This blue sheet represents water, okay? Let's all use our imaginations and pretend this is a big sea! Can I have a few volunteers who can show me how the sea might look if it's really stormy? What about if it's calm? Now, I'm going to place this dry ground across the sea and I need everyone to make a line at one end of it. We're going to take turns crossing this sea by only walking on the dry land. Ready?*

Directions: Place the blue sheet on the floor and have kids stand on both shorter sides. Have them wave the sheet like an ocean. Have the kids lay the sheet on the ground, then place the brown paper "land" across the blue sheet. Have kids take turns walking across the dry land to the other side.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

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

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.

**"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."
(Psalm 27:14, 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: Red Sea

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:

This is a pretty cool What’s It today. Do you know what it is? It’s the **Red Sea**, that’s right! What did we do in our Explore Activity today? We practiced crossing a sea. I wonder if that has anything to do with this picture of the Red Sea we just found. I can’t wait to find out what these have to do with our Bible story today. 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 Saves the Israelites – Crossing the Red Sea

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: none

Prepare ahead: Prepare classroom teachers during Huddle to act out the horse hooves pounding and the shouting during the scene description.

Have you ever been very afraid? Maybe someone you love was very sick. Maybe you watched a yucky movie, and you couldn't stop thinking about it. Maybe you did something wrong and were afraid of getting in trouble. Maybe there was a big storm with lots of lightning and thunder.

- I think the Israelites in our story today were very afraid. The Bible says the Israelites “feared greatly.” That means they were very afraid!
- They were sitting on the shore of the sea with nowhere to go. Behind them, the Egyptians came with hundreds of horses and chariots, and the army was thundering behind them.
- They were stuck in the middle. Going forward meant they would go into the deep water; turning around would mean they would run into the army.

Have kids close their eyes as you describe the scene. Remind teachers to be ready to make noises.

- Can you imagine sitting there on that shore? You can smell the water.
- You can feel the wind. You can hear the horses' hooves pounding. **Teachers begin pounding ground with hands/feet.**
- You can hear the yells of the Egyptians coming your way. **Teachers shout and make noise along with the horse hooves.**
- You can see the dust from all the chariots. It seems impossible!
- But God showed up. **All teachers get silent.**
- He told Moses what to do. God's chosen people, the Israelites, were saved. The Lord fought for them while they sat silent. God is in Control.

Tell God your troubles. He will save you, too. It might not look the way you thought it would, but He is mighty to save. That's what He is good at. We can trust God that He will show up because God is in Control. God loves each and every one of us so much that He sent His own Son to die on the Cross for you and me. And we can be at peace that God is in control by continuing to remember all that He has done.

Let's pray together. We're going to do a new kind of prayer, using our bodies. Everyone stand up with me.

Pray Using Your Body

- **(3 deep breaths)**
- **God, you are above (reach toward the sky), below (touch your toes), inside (hands to heart) and all around (big arm circles).**

- *I worship you (reach toward the sky) and give my life to you (touch your toes). I don't have to be afraid for you are with me. (Point to God and point to your heart.)*
- *I know you will save me. (Give yourself a hug.)*
- *God You are in Control (Put your hands out like you are giving it to God).*
- *And I love you (hands to heart) with all that I am (big arm circles).*
- *(3 deep breaths) Amen.*

Thank kids for praying that prayer and close time together.

******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.

Friends, tell God your troubles. He will save you. It might not look the way you thought it would, but He is mighty to save. That's what He is good at.

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. **Re-tell the story of the Crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:5-31).**
2. **Who did Moses say would fight for the Israelites? (God.)**
3. **What would the Israelites need to do? (Nothing, just to be still.)**
4. **How do we see God's protection and power in our lives? Do you feel safe knowing that God is in control and He loves each of us? Why or why not?**

Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, we once again see Your power and protection for Moses and the people of Israel. You always keep Your promises. Thank You for Your protection, and for keeping Your promises to us.

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.

God Is In Control – Part the Sea (Ocean in a bag)

Supplies: 1 sandwich bag per kid, blue and clear hair gel, toy fish, duct tape

Say: *God did something pretty amazing in our story today. What happened? He parted the Red Sea, that's right. God used Moses to rescue the people of Israel! We're going to*

make a little activity to help us remember, even when we go home that God is in control and God saves.

Directions: Help children put clear and blue hair gel in a ziplock bag. Put about 1 tbs of each in and mix it together. They can add toy fish (1-2 per child) to their bag to have them swim in the “Ocean”. Zip the bag and duct tape the zipper so children cannot reopen the bag. Children can then push on the middle part of the bag to “part the sea”.

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.