



Lesson 19

2s & 3s

WILDERNESS WANDERINGS

January 4 & 5

GOD IS WITH US



LESSON GOAL:

Background: God used Moses to lead His people, the Israelites, out of Egypt and to the promised land. Along the way, God provided for the Israelites again and again, but they became angry and complained to God that He should have never taken them out of slavery in Egypt. Because of their disobedience, God made them wander in the desert for 40 years. Through all of their wandering, God continued to show His presence and was with the Israelites the entire time.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that even though we go through hard or frustrating things that aren't easy, God is always with us!

Deuteronomy 1:26-46

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Parent & Leader Equipping: Dr. Jeff Meyers
Jan 24 @ Rockrimmon • 6-8 PM

Faith Foundations Class
Saturdays, Jan 25 - Feb 8 • RR & MO
Sundays, Jan 26 - Feb 9 • WH

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:
Basketball



KEY VERSE:

Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.

Joshua 1:9, NIRV

MISSION FOCUS:

Serving by Praying

(New SW Campus Building)

We're excited to share an incredible opportunity with you! As we prepare for the transition of our Southwest campus into their permanent building, we invite you to partner with us through prayer.

This new building is more than just a space—it's a tool for reaching those within our city by sharing God's love. Together, let's pray that this new campus building will be a place where lives are changed and people can come to know the hope of Jesus!

25
min

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! Do you have any offering to put in our offering bin? *(Direct child to offering station)*. You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

(Insert parent name), do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!

DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.

DO:

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

Examples:

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

15
min

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



MAKE: “God is always with me” clock

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Paper spinning clock, crayons/markers, God statement sticker



SAY:

Today we are learning about how God is always with us! During the day, at night, wherever we go, He is always there. Let’s make a special craft to remind us of this truth!



DO:

Pass out one paper clock per child. Have them decorate their clocks and then place the “God Statement Sticker” on the front.



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions.



SAY:

Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson

1. Who is our story about today?

God & the Israelites

2. What is the problem?

God’s people didn’t trust His plan to get them to the promised land and had to wander in the wilderness for 40 years.

3. What will God do?

Even though they disobeyed God, God was with His people in the wilderness and took care of them the whole time.



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



SAY:

Let’s all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

Sing: “Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere.”



Craft Example



15
min

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video ([Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s](#))

SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.
We will listen, we will pray.
We'll sit quietly in our spot.
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!

DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



WORSHIP

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 > 2s/3s](#) folder.

SONG 1: Pharoah, Pharoah

SONG 2: I'm In the Lord's Army

SONG 3: Down In My Heart



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Supplies: none

Today we learned that **God is With Us!** Where are some places that you have gone this week? ***Let kids share places they've been.*** Wow, that's a lot of different places! Now, let's all close our eyes and picture that place again. As you picture yourself there, give yourself a big hug to remind you that God was with you then! Open your eyes - God is with us now too! Let's give ourselves another big hug as we think about God with us!



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

May you remember that God is with you wherever you go! God loves you!

BIBLE STORY

Hamilton's Prop: compass



INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



SAY:

Hey Hamilton! **Hamilton holding compass looking around.** Hamilton, what do you have there? A compass? Well what would you need that for? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Oh! You're going on a hike and you need the compass to help you know where to go? **Hamilton nods excitedly.** Well, that reminds me of our Bible story today. Before you go on your hike, would you like to join us for a Bible story about how God is with us? **Hamilton nods excitedly.**



BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



SAY:

The Israelites were God's chosen people, his family! For a very long time, God's people had been stuck in Egypt as slaves. God used a man named Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to be free! It wasn't easy to get out of Egypt, but God had a plan. We can always trust God's plans because God is good!

God promised His people that He would lead them to a very special place called the promised land! All God's people, the Israelites, had to do was trust and follow God. **Let's all stand up and pretend we're the Israelites marching to the promised land! Have kids sit back down.**

Have you ever been on a really long walk or hike? Do you ever get hungry or thirsty on those walks? Well, the Israelites got very hungry and thirsty on their way to the promised land... And they were a little grumpy too. **Show me your grumpy face.** They were grumpy at Moses, their leader, and they were grumpy at God!

Even though God's people got mad at Him, God was still with them the WHOLE time! It took 40 years for God's people to get through the wilderness to the promised land... That's a REALLY long time! It wasn't easy, but God was with the Israelites and watched over them. **God is with us too!**

15
min

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.



SAY:

Today our God statement is **God is With Us!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.



DO:

God (hand vertical in front of face)

is With Us (point to yourself)



ACTIVITY- Follow Directions

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: None



SAY:

God is with us everywhere we go. I want all of you to stand here (**point A**) and I'm going to tell you where to go next. Listen carefully and follow my directions. Sometimes our path isn't easy or it's a little curvy. But no matter where we go, God is with us!



DO:

Pick 3 destinations in the classroom as points A, B and C. Give the kids step by step (simple) instructions to get from A to B to C. Be intentional about NOT going in a straight line. Show the kids that it may not have been the easiest path, but you still got to your destination.

15
min

EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



DO:

- Play “I Spy” focusing on color, shape, and letter recognition
- Freeze Dance
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Hot Potato
- Charades
- Odd One Out Game
- Hokey, Pokey
- Popcorn Parachute Game
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

5
min

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.