



God is Covenant Keeper

God's Covenant with Abraham

KEY VERSE:

"The Lord himself will give you a sign. And he will be called Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14)

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: To build relationships & prioritize 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.**

WORSHIP TIME

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.

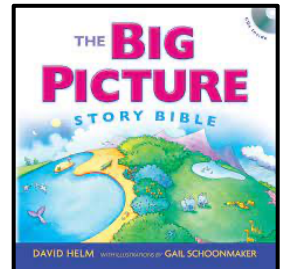
This month, focus on singing these songs:

- Oh, What a Special Night
- Silent Night
- Joy to the World
- There is a Star

READ THE BIBLE STORY

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

Read the Bible story provided. You can read the full story from the book provided or simply read the summary provided below. Try to engage the child(ren) as you share the story by showing pictures, allowing the kids to turn pages, or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word of the story! 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!



THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God's Covenant with Abraham

(Summarized from The Big Picture Bible, page 77-81, 249)

BIBLE STORY:

Bring Hamilton (the hedgehog puppet) out and allow the kids to interact with him before you begin the story (they can feel his soft fur, give him high fives, give him a hug, etc.). Use Hamilton to help keep the kids engaged while you share the story (he can read parts of the story, do the hand motions, ask the kids questions, etc.).

Share about God's Covenant with Abraham:

- Last week we learned that Adam and Eve are a part of God's family
- Abraham was part of God's family too
- God promised Abraham to give him as many family members as stars in the sky
 - That's a big family!
 - And God kept his promise to Abraham
- Do you know who else is related to this family?
 - Mary!
 - Mary was baby Jesus' mom
- Jesus was so special – He was the Savior of the world!
- We are a part of God's family.

- I am so glad that you are a part of God’s family
 - Hamilton is happy, too. Let’s give Hamilton high fives to celebrate! **(Have Hamilton give everyone a high five)**
- God is Covenant Keeper; He keeps his promises.

LEAD AN ACTIVITY

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

TODAY’S ACTIVITY: STAR ORNAMENT

Work one on one with each child to help them make this star ornament craft as a keepsake to help them remember that God is a Covenant Keeper; He keeps His promises.

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

- Before starting, find a clear space to work where other kids cannot get into the supplies
- Bring each child over to work on the project one at a time
- Give them 1 or 2 options of crayons and assist them with coloring, as needed
- Give them 2 or 3 options of stamps to decorate the start ornament, assisting them as needed
- Write the name of the child along with the date and the location (Woodmen Kids) on the child’s craft so the parent(s) can keep it as a keepsake



BLESSING

Purpose: To engage our youngest children in prayer while reading a blessing over them.

Pray with the kids – teach them how to fold their hands and close their eyes while you pray this blessing over them.

TODAY’S BLESSING:

“(Child’s name) may you always remember that you are a part of God’s family. God keeps His promises and you are part of His plan.”

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 Old’s:

- 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 Old's:

- 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)!"