



TOY BOX | WEEK 2 | SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

4s-5s Lesson

Deborah

Bible Story: *God is with me so I can be wise.* Deborah • Judges 4 and 5

Memory Verse: "We have the Lord our God to help us." 2 Chronicles 32:8, NLT

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

**KID CONNECT:
30 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Many of us remember a special toy or plush friend from our Toy Box that gave us comfort and companionship when we needed it. It's part of growing up. We were made to want someone with us. And that Someone is Who we will be talking about this month. He is the only One who can truly always be with us. We will say countless times this month, "**God is always with me.**"*

We want our preschoolers to believe it with all of their hearts. With this truth as a foundation, they can be brave and wise. They can have courage and strength. Then, when the times comes that their favorite toy, blanket, or pillow cannot be with them, they will know that there is Someone who loves them and will always be with them. No matter where they go or what they do, God is always with them...and you.

Story Focus: **God is with me so I can be wise.** Week two, we will learn about a remarkable leader named Deborah. God was with her. And, because of that, she was wise enough to lead God's people and tell them the right things to do. God is always with us so we can be wise, too.

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

All this month, our Kid Connect time will be spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE; BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE; BIBLE)

LGL: Hello my friends! How are you today? Come sit with me. I am so glad to see you here. I love being here with you!

Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*kids respond*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (*List rules while counting on fingers*)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

Can everybody follow those rules today? (*kids respond*) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let's say them all together! Are you ready?

1. **I am made by God.** What is it? (*kids repeat*)
2. **I am loved by God no matter what.** What is it? (*kids repeat*)

3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? (kids repeat)

LGL holds up Bible in front of him/her.

LGL: Do you know what this is? It's a Bible! (*hugging the Bible*) Oh, I love the Bible! It's so special. The Bible is God's Big Story, and it tells us all about God! We are going to hear a true story from the Bible today.

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: VERY BIG THINGS, WHEREVER, WHATEVER)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Apple [real or fake], Candy, Any Toy)

"Friends, I was wondering if you could help me? Every day I have to make all kinds of choices, and sometimes I don't know what is the right choice to make! I know that God wants me to make the *wise* choice. Can you help me make the wise choice with this?"

Hold up apple and candy.

You see, I want a snack later but I can't decide what I should eat. I really like both candy and apples. Candy tastes great, but I know that it's not very healthy for me...and sometimes it actually makes me really sleepy after I eat it. Apples are tasty too, and I know that they actually are good for me and will make me strong if I eat them often. What do you guys think is the WISE choice? (*Guide kids to answer with "apple"*) Yeah, you guys are so smart. The wise choice would be to eat the apple.

What about this, though? I just got this really awesome toy...

Hold up toy.

I really want to play with it by myself, but my younger sister wants to play with it too. Should I play with it by myself or should I share it and let her play with me? What would be the WISE choice? (*Guide kids to answer with "share"*)

Whew, it's hard sometimes to make the wise choice! You know, God is always with us and will help us make the wise choice. God helped a lady named Deborah make wise choices in our story today. Let's watch!

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"What an incredible story! "You can be wise and remember that God wants us to help people, share, and be kind. God was with Deborah and helped her be wise. God is always with you. He will help you be wise and do the right thing, too. When I ask, '**Who is always with you?**', I want you to say, [**Bottom Line**] '**God is always with me!**' Ready? **Who is always with you?**" (*God is always with me.*)

WRAP UP AND BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE, BOTTOM LINE)

“It’s a BIG thing to be wise and make the right choice. Our Basic Truth says, **‘I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit (who is God) will help me do big things now.’** God promises to help us do all kinds of big things – including being wise!”

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

(CG: MEMORY VERSE)

Let’s say our memory verse together. I will say it first and then you will say it with me.

“We have *(bend wrists and tap fingertips to chest)*
the Lord our God *(point up)*
to help us,” *(right thumbs-up on top of left palm)*
2 Chronicles 32:8. *(Open hands like a book.)*

Say it once while doing the motions and then invite the kids to do it with you.

PRAY

Let’s pray together. *(Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap”)*

“God, you are the One true God! You know everything. As we make choices this week, help us remember that you are with us and you will help us be wise! We love you, God. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *God is with me so I can be wise.* Deborah • Judges 4 and 5

Memory Verse: “We have the Lord our God to help us.” 2 Chronicles 32:8, NLT

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

WHICH HELPER ARE YOU?

(“Community Helper Template” Activity Pages – preassembled)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cut out and assemble the Community Helper paper hats and put them in the middle of the group.

During the Activity: Gather the children in your activity area. Point out the different hats and which hat represents which community helper. Explain that you will ask them questions and they will need to identify which community helper they could ask that question to. You will put on the correct hat.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come here with me! What do you see? Let’s see, this hat is for a doctor, this one is for a firefighter, this one is for a mail carrier, and this one is for a teacher. I’m going to ask you some questions and you tell me which hat I should put on to pretend to be the person that you would ask that question to.”

Say the phrases below and encourage the children to point to the hat that represents the person they could ask that question. When they get it correct, put that hat on. Ask one question at a time. Continue as long as there is interest.

- Doctor: *Do I have a cold? Can you help me fix my broken leg? Will you listen to my heartbeat?*
- Firefighter: *Can you put out the fire? Do you climb really tall ladders? Can I touch your big red truck?*
- Mail Carrier: *Do you have any letters for me? Do you have any stamps? Where is my package?*
- Teacher: *Can you read me a book? Are we going to play outside today? When is circle time?*

After the Activity: “You did a great job figuring out who we should ask each question. Today, we heard a story about a woman named Deborah who a lot of people visited to ask questions. She knew a lot of answers because she knew that God was always with her to help her make the wise and right choice. Who is always with you? **[Bottom Line] God is always with me.**”

5 MOVEMENTS AND A QUESTION

("Five Movements and a Question" Activity Page, Cube, Glue/Tape)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Five Movements and a Question", one set per activity. Cut apart and glue or tape to the sides of the cube.

During the Activity: Take turns rolling the game cube. If it lands on a motion, everyone does that motion. If it lands on a question mark, ask that child one or the questions below OR (if you feel like your group could handle how unstructured it is) the child who tossed the cube gets to ask a question. Continue until each child has had a turn. Repeat as many times as desired.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I have this game cube for us to play with today. Look at it. There are movements on five of the sides and a question mark on the other."

During the Activity: "We'll take turns tossing the cube. If it lands on a movement, we'll all do that movement. If it lands on the question mark, I'll either ask you a question or the friend who tossed the cube gets to ask a question. "Let's play! [Child's name], you go first. (Pause.) What did the cube land on? (Call out the movement or have the child who tossed it ask a question.) All right, next up is [child's name]. (Repeat with each child.) That was great! We did a lot of fun movements, and you had some good questions."

Questions to ask:

- Is sharing the right thing to do?
- Who can help me do the right thing?
- Who is always with you?
- Is using kind words the right thing to do?
- Is helping people the right thing to do?

After the Activity: "When the people in our story had a question, they would ask Deborah. Deborah knew God was with her and would help her be wise. God gave her the wisdom to tell the people the right thing to do. God is always with you, and He will help you be wise and do the right thing. Who is always with you? **[Bottom Line] God is always with me.**"

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster – 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying.

"We have (*bend wrists and tap fingertips to chest*)
the Lord our God (*point up*)
to help us," (*right thumbs-up on top of left palm*)
2 Chronicles 32:8. (*Open hands like a book.*)

PRAYER

Let's pray together. *(Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap")*

"Dear God, Thank you for the Bible. It is full of so many stories about people you have helped, like Deborah. You were always with her and helped her be a wise leader. We believe you are always with us and will help us, too. You are the best, God, and we love you. In Jesus' name, amen."

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.