

LOWER ELEM Flight Plan November 23rd

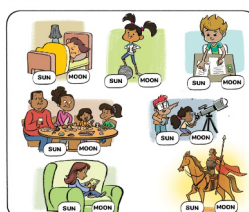


Lesson	Taking the Land
Bible Passage	Joshua 10-11; 24
Story Point	God made the sun stand still & gave His people victory.
Key Passage	Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know Him, and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6
Big Picture Q & A	What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.



Sun or Moon?

CONFIRMATION: Ask the word cards to more deeply understand how God's power is visible in the sky during each event or activity.



Teacher Read Aloud Pages
Lower ELEM - December 23
Taking the Land

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- The Israelites fought the Canaanites and won.
- The Israelites trusted God and were victorious.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How did you feel when you read this story?
- How did you feel when you read this story?
- How did you feel when you read this story?

PRAYER:

- Father, we thank you for the sun and moon.
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leader bible study

When Moses was the leader of Israel, God gave His people instructions about entering the promised land. Among those instructions was the command to drive out the nations living in the land of Canaan. (See Deut. 7.) These nations were corrupt, and God would judge them for their sin. (Lev. 18)

In the first battle, Israel marched around Jericho and the Lord gave them the city. As Israel moved to take the rest of the land, God pledged His presence to Joshua and reminded Israel of what He required: If you want to be successful in the land, you must obey Me. (See Josh. 1:7.) The Israelites learned from experience that disobedience to God would result in certain defeat, as Achan's sin brought about their downfall during the battle of Ai. (Josh. 7)

During the battles the Israelites faced in Canaan, Joshua (whose name means "the LORD saves") was not in charge; the Lord was. God determined whom Israel battled and how Israel would win. Joshua 10–11 describes Israel's defeat of five kings who attacked Gibeon, an ally of Israel. Miraculously, God sent hailstones and stopped the sun. He gave Israel the victory. God was with Israel as they conquered the rest of the land. Then He gave His people years of peace and rest.

Help the kids you teach see the bigger picture beyond Israel's individual battles against the Canaanites. God was keeping His promise to give His people the land. God answered the prayers of His people. He fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. God was glorified when His people loved and obeyed Him.

In the same way, God is glorified today when we love and obey Him. As sinners, we can look to God for victory over sin and death. Jesus defeated sin and death by dying on the cross and rising again.



Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

November Focus: Conquering the Land



Nov 2nd: Joshua and Caleb *Numbers 13-14*

Story point: Joshua and Caleb trusted God to give His people the promised land.



Nov 9th: Moses' Farewell *Deuteronomy 31-34*

Story Point: Moses reminded the people to keep God's covenant.



Nov 16th: Crossing the Jordan *Joshua 1-4*

Story Point: God held back the Jordan River for His people to cross.



Nov 23rd: Taking the Land *Joshua 10-11; 24*

Story Point: God made the sun stand still and gave His people victory.



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- **Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?**
- **How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?**
- **What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?**
- **In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?**

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPO and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Hook

Open in Prayer

Prompt kids to talk about their favorite day of the year. Ask if kids know what day is the longest day of the year. • The summer solstice—usually around June 21—is the day when the sun passes the highest point in its path across the sky, so there are more hours of daylight than other days. In today’s Bible story, God actually made the sun stand still!

Big Picture Question

First, can anyone tell me our big picture question and answer? *[Call on a volunteer. I’ll ask the question, and then you all say the answer together. **What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.*** Great job. Keep this question and answer in mind as we hear today’s Bible story.

Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the children to read together Proverbs 3:5-6.

- We disobey God when we trust in ourselves instead of trusting in Him. But as our key passage shows, God’s ways are better than our ways. Life works best when we trust God and obey Him.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

This week, we will learn about another large battle the Israelites fought against five kings and their armies. We will also see how God fulfilled His promise to give His people a land of their own. Our story is called “Taking the Land.”

Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **Joshua 10-11; 24** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

What an incredible story! God's people needed His help to defeat their enemies, and God provided them with help in a spectacular way. **God made the sun stand still and gave His people victory.** Isn't it wonderful to see God's faithfulness in story after story? No matter how unfaithful the people proved themselves to be, God remained faithful. He keeps all His promises. God's promise to give the people a land of their own was finally fulfilled at the end of Joshua's life. God gave them victory in the land and let them experience peace after years of fighting. But God's people, like us, often forgot God and sinned against Him by trying to glorify themselves. We will see in future weeks that, though they lived in the land God had promised, they did not perfectly obey God's rules about the land. Only Jesus loved and obeyed God perfectly. Only Jesus perfectly glorified God.



•Joshua's name means "The LORD is salvation." God fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. Sinners can look to God for victory over sin and death. God brought us salvation by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise again.

Taking the Land

Joshua 10-11; 24

**STORY POINT: GOD MADE THE SUN STAND STILL
AND GAVE HIS PEOPLE VICTORY.**

The Israelites came to a place ruled by five kings. The king of Jerusalem called to the other four kings in the land. He said to them, "Help me attack Gibeon because it has made peace with Joshua and the people of Israel." So the five kings joined forces and went up with all their armies to fight against Gibeon.

The men of Gibeon sent a message to Joshua: "Help us!" So Joshua and his whole army went to Gibeon.

The Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of the kings, for I have handed them over to you."

As the Israelites fought, God confused the kings' armies and helped Israel defeat them. The kings' armies fled. The Lord sent hail from the sky to stop them. The battle was not over. Joshua needed more time to fight before the sun went down. So Joshua prayed to God. The sun stood still and the moon stopped until Israel and Gibeon defeated the kings.

The Israelites took over many other cities. God fought for His people and helped them conquer the land. God gave the Israelites peace and rest from their enemies for many years. When Joshua was old, he reminded the Israelites about all the great things God had done for them. The people said, "We will worship the LORD because He is our God."



Christ Connection: Joshua's name means "The Lord is salvation." God fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. Sinners can look to God for victory over sin and death. God brought us salvation by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise again.

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help them use the table of contents to find Joshua 10–11; 24. Ask them which Old Testament division Joshua is in (*History*) and review that we use Bible divisions to help us organize similar books. You may also choose to discuss the other books in the History division, or the other divisions in the Old Testament. Lead the group to discuss:

1. **Who did the five kings attack first?** *(the people of Gibeon, allies of the Israelites; Josh. 10:5)*
2. **How did God help the Israelites win?** *(He confused the five kings' armies, threw hailstones at them, and stopped the sun from setting to give the Israelites more time to win; Josh. 10:9-14)*
3. **What did Joshua say to the people before he died years later?** *(He reminded them of all the wonderful things God had done for them and warned them to be faithful to God, Josh. 24:11-14)*
4. **How do you think the Israelites felt as they witnessed the daylight hours extended so long?** *Guide kids to discuss the amazing feeling they likely had as they saw God so clearly answer Joshua's prayer.*
5. **Before Joshua died, he reminded the people about their covenant with God, just as Moses did before he died. Why do you think he did that?** *Discuss the idea that it's easy to say we trust God when we see amazing things, but over time we tend to forget. It is good for us to be reminded often of God's goodness and faithfulness.*
6. **What can we do to help us remember God's goodness and faithfulness to us?** *Discuss with the kids different ways believers remember God's goodness.*

God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

-Powerful -Protector

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min

Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Freeze Dance

Sing a song or play music. Instruct the kids that they can dance and move to the music while it plays, but they must freeze in place when the music stops. Every so often, pause the music. Kids who keep dancing will sit down but may continue dancing in their seats when the music plays. The last kid dancing while standing up wins.

- When I paused the music, you had to stop dancing. Today we heard a story about a battle God's people were fighting. When the sun was about to go down, they needed more time to finish the battle. We learned that God stopped the sun from going down so they could win the battle.

Defeat Five Kings

Use tape to create an arena for a marbles game. Place five large marbles in the arena and scatter other marbles around them. Allow the kids to take turns flicking their own large marbles to try and knock the five large marbles out of the arena. After each turn, kids should retrieve the large marble they shot. The game ends when all five large marbles are knocked from the arena. Other marbles that are knocked out stay out but are not part of the goal.

- That was a fun game. Knocking out those five larger marbles was a challenge, especially with the army of smaller marbles protecting them. Today we learned about a time God's people faced five different kings and their armies.

Suncatcher Craft

Help the kids carefully remove the back of a sheet of contact plastic. Direct them to stick bits of tissue paper to the contact plastic. Then, carefully peel the backing from a second sheet of contact plastic and place it over the tissue paper to seal in the colorful paper. Allow the kids to cut around the edges to clean up the shape of the suncatcher. Then help them write the story point or big picture question on their suncatchers.

- You can place this beautiful suncatcher in a window where the sunlight can go through it to make beautifully colored shadows. When you see it, remember that God does amazing things, even stopping the sun, to help His people. He sent Jesus to die for our sin and make the way for us to live with Him forever. We can trust God to do what is best for us.

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Stand Still

Invite children to take turns seeing how long they can stand still in a certain position such as on one foot, holding both arms straight out, or on their tiptoes. Consider using a timer to record their time. Invite the rest of the group to cheer a preschooler on as she tries to remain standing.

Standing still can be hard. We get wobbly if we stand very long on one foot. We may need something to hold onto so we do not fall. In our Bible story today, God made the sun and moon stand still.

Play “Sun, stand still!”

Invite children to line up on one side of the room. Stand across the room holding a circle cut from yellow construction paper. Tell children that when you hold the sun up high, they can move toward you, but when you put the sun down, they must freeze in place. The first child to reach you gets to ask the group the big picture question. Lead the rest of the group to respond with the answer. Allow the child to hold the sun for the next round.

- Joshua and his army needed more time to battle the kings and their armies. When **God made the sun stand still**, they were able to finish the battle. God fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. God saved sinners by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death.

Show the Sun Cycle

Set a globe on a table and gather the children around it. Talk about how a globe looks like Earth. Dim the lights. Shine a flashlight as you turn the globe slowly. Talk about how the earth turns and the sun “moves” in the sky.

God made the sun stand still in the sky to give the Israelites victory. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death. **GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US.**



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide*.**

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space—a neighbor's house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus' light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

You're
ready
for
Sunday!

