

# UPPER ELEM Flight Plan

## October 12th



|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lesson</b>                | The Golden Calf                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Bible Passage</b>         | Exodus 32,34                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Story Point</b>           | God disciplined His people for worshipping a golden calf                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Key Passage</b>           | Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39 |
| <b>Big Picture Q &amp; A</b> | <p><b>What is worship?</b></p> <p>Worship is celebrating the greatness of God!</p>                                                                                                                                 |



**Stained Glass Secret**  
Fill in the spaces using the color key to reveal a secret word.

**Color Key:**  
1 red, 2 green, 3 blue, 4 yellow

**You Said It!**  
Match each statement with the name of who said it. Use your Bible to check your answers.

|                                            |                                                                                                             |                                                                                         |                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| "Make us a god to lead us."<br>Exodus 32:1 | "Please forgive them. Remember the great promise You made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."<br>Exodus 32:19-31 | "What did these people do to you that you have led them into such sin?"<br>Exodus 32:25 | "The Lord is a compassionate and gracious God... but he will not leave the guilty unpunished."<br>Exodus 34:6-7 |
| <b>God</b>                                 | <b>the Israelites</b>                                                                                       | <b>Moses, speaking to God</b>                                                           | <b>Moses, speaking to Aaron</b>                                                                                 |

GOSPEL PROJECT

# leader bible study

As the rescued people of Israel traveled toward the promised land, God gave them laws to guide them in how to live and to help them understand God's perfect holiness. God's laws covered every part of their lives and were summed up in the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments can be grouped into two categories: The first four laws deal with a person's relationship with God and the last six laws deal with a person's relationship with others. God did not give laws for the sake of giving laws; the laws had a purpose. Not only did they show what righteous living looks like, they were part of the covenant God made with Israel, known as the Mosaic covenant. (See Ex. 19:3-8.)

God had promised Abraham that all the peoples on earth would be blessed through him. (See Gen. 12:3.) "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him for righteousness" (Rom. 4:3). God's promise to Abraham would be fulfilled in Jesus. But God gave the law to guide people until Jesus came.

As you teach, avoid presenting the Ten Commandments as a burden—a list of laws they must try to keep to earn God's favor. God's rules are good and are meant to help us, but the Bible is clear that we are all sinful and fall short of God's standard for holiness. Our obedience can't save us.

Point kids to Jesus and help them understand that God is pleased with us because He looks at Jesus, who never sinned. Because of Christ, we have a right relationship with God. He gives us power through the Holy Spirit to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" and to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-39).



**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?

## October Focus: Toward the Promise Land



### OCT 5th: The Ten Commandments *Exodus 15-17*

**Story point:** God gave rules to show how to love Him and others



### OCT 12th: The Golden Calf *Exodus 32; 34*

**Story Point:** God's people worshiped a golden calf



### OCT 19th: The Tabernacle was Built *Exodus 35-40*

**Story Point:** God told His people to build the tabernacle



### OCT 26th: Rules for Sacrifice *Leviticus*

**Story Point:** God made ways to forgive His people



## 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.*

## Open in Prayer

### Hook

Prompt kids to think of a time it was really hard to wait for something special. What were they waiting for, and why was it hard to wait?

### Big Picture Question

When you hear the Bible story, think about this big picture question. This question helps us see the bigger picture of what God is up to. Here is the question: **What is worship?** A very good question! I'll tell you the answer, and then we'll look at the question and answer again after we hear the Bible story. **What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.**

### Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together Matthew 22:37-39.

When God rescued the Israelites from Egypt, He wanted them to be His own special people. They were going to be a new nation, holy and separate from other nations, living differently to bring glory to God.

### Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

For our story today, God's people were in the wilderness. Moses had gone up on Mount Sinai to speak with God. While Moses was on the mountain, God gave rules to show how to love Him and others. The Israelites camped at the base of the mountain. Even though Moses' brother Aaron was with the people, they were tired of waiting around for Moses. We'll hear what the Israelites did while Moses was away.

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 **Exodus 32, 34** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

Sadly, we see this kind of thing too often. People stop focusing on the right things and start focusing on the wrong things. That always leads to wrong choices. See, the Israelites grew impatient. They forgot our big picture question. Do you remember what it is? *[Allow kids to respond.]*

That's right! ***What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.*** The Israelites forgot that important truth. They took their eyes off the greatness of God and made a golden idol instead. They somehow thought that hunk of gold could do something for them. Boy, were they wrong! God is the One who loved them, rescued them, and had a plan for them. He needed to get their attention fast so they would put their focus—their worship—back where it belongs: on Him. That meant a time of discipline for the people. **God disciplined His people for worshipping a golden calf.** The Israelites seemed to have learned their lesson for a while.



•God used Moses to lead the people. Moses brought God's message to the Israelites and prayed to God for the people. He acted as a mediator, standing for them before God. Moses could not do anything to make up for their sin, but we have a better Mediator—Jesus. Jesus paid for our sin on the cross and stands for us before God. When we trust in Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

## The Golden Calf

Exodus 32; 34

**STORY POINT: GOD DISCIPLINED HIS PEOPLE FOR WORSHIPING A GOLDEN CALF.**

Moses was up on Mount Sinai for 40 days and 40 nights. Meanwhile, the Israelites at the bottom of the mountain were getting impatient. The Israelites went to Moses' brother, Aaron. "Make us a god to lead us," they said. "We don't know what has happened to Moses." So Aaron made a golden calf that they could worship.

God was angry because of their sin. God told Moses to go down the mountain. "I will destroy these people," God said. Moses said, "Remember the great promise You made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." So God decided not to destroy the people.

Moses went down the mountain. He saw that the people were dancing before the golden calf! He threw down the stone tablets. Then he destroyed the calf they made. The next day, Moses went back up the mountain to talk to God. "These people have sinned against You," Moses said. "Please forgive their sin."

The Lord said, "The LORD is a compassionate and gracious God ... but He will not leave the guilty unpunished." Moses worshiped God. "Lord, please go with us," he said. "Forgive our sin, and accept us as Your people."



*Christ Connection: God's people sinned against God, and Moses asked God to forgive them. Moses acted as their mediator, standing for them before God. Moses could not do anything to make up for their sin, but we have a better Mediator—Jesus. Jesus paid for our sin on the cross and stands for us before God. When we trust in Jesus, our sins are forgiven.*



Distribute a Bible to each kid and find Exodus 32; 34. Discuss the divisions of the Bible and where Exodus can be found. Explain the difference between the Old and New Testament and why the first five books are called the Law (which can be found in the Travel Guide). Lead the group to discuss:

1. **Being disciplined is never fun. But why is it necessary and even helpful?** Help kids recognize that discipline often helps us learn from our mistakes. It also helps us see the severity of our wrongdoing—the greater the offense, the greater the discipline. (Option: read Heb. 12:11.)
2. **How does God's discipline show that He loves us?** Help kids recognize that God disciplines us because He loves us. If He didn't love us, He wouldn't care what we did. He wants us to follow His rules because He knows what's best for us. (Option: read Prov. 3:11-12.)
3. **What would happen if we were never disciplined?** Help kids recognize that without discipline, everyone would do their own thing. There would be no order and no way to hold people accountable for their actions. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Prov. 12:15.)

**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:

**-Holy    -I Am**

## 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**

## Key Passage Activity

Print spare copies of the key passage poster and cut them apart to make puzzles. Form groups of three or four kids and allow them to work together to put the puzzles together. You may provide tape to hold the posters together. Read the key passage multiple times.

## Where'd He Go?

Show a picture or figure to represent Moses. Instruct the kids to close their eyes. Hide the figure somewhere in the room and challenge the kids to find it. Whoever finds it can hide it in the next round. Play as time allows.

- We learned last week that Moses would go up onto Mount Sinai to speak with God. At one point, Moses spent more than a month on the mountaintop with God! Sadly, God's people did not wait patiently for Moses to return. Instead, they chose to sin against God.

## Sculpture Garden

Provide the kids with play dough or modeling clay. Invite them to make sculptures of their favorite things, like toys, animals, or characters from TV or movies. Allow each kid a chance to share their work with the rest of the group.

- God gave us amazing brains so that we can do creative work, like making sculptures, painting pictures, or writing stories. However, it's important to remember that nothing God created and nothing people make is worthy of worship. Only God deserves worship and glory. Today we learned about a time His people chose to sin by worshiping a sculpture of a cow

## Beautiful Creations

Spread out the craft supplies for the kids to see. Challenge them to create something beautiful in less than five minutes. Kids may work as one group, form teams, or create individual designs. After five minutes, guide kids to present their creations.

- You are all so creative! While these creations are each unique and beautiful, they are not alive, and they can't do anything for us. It would be foolish to worship them. God is the only One who deserves our worship. Sadly, the Israelites didn't seem to understand this and made a terrible decision.

## Broken Commandments

Write the Ten Commandments on a dry erase board or chalkboard. Ask a volunteer to briefly summarize the Bible story. Then, invite the kids to discuss which commandments the Israelites broke. Mark them on the board in some way. Then discuss ways we break God's commands in our own lives. Share the good news of the gospel with the kids as a reminder that God shows mercy to sinners.

- God disciplined His people for worshiping a golden calf. God's people broke multiple commandments in one sinful choice. We often behave in similar ways. Thankfully, Jesus has already come. Jesus died for our sins and rose again to defeat death. When we trust in Him, we are forgiven and made new

## Who Will Help Me?

Before the session, write simple scenario statements on separate index cards that indicate a need that can be met by the helping items. Example: I fell down and my knee is bleeding requires a bandage.

Select a volunteer to be the helper. Distribute the cards to the rest of the kids. Position the helping items next to you for the helper to see. Invite kids to read their cards one at a time. The helper must come to you and ask for the most appropriate item for each need. When kids finish, thank the helper for getting each person what he or she needed.

- Our helper listened to your problem and came to me to find a solution. Our helper was like a mediator between you and me. In today's story, we learned how Moses was a mediator, standing before God on behalf of the Israelites.

## Play Freeze Dance

Encourage children to dance freely while you play music, but to freeze like a statue when the music stops. Tell children they must wait patiently for the music to begin again. Create longer pauses in each round. Consider using a device that will make it difficult for children to know when you are about to pause or play the music. Dance along with the boys and girls.

- Was it hard to wait patiently during our game? Today we learned about a time when God's people got tired of waiting for Moses. They even started dancing for a silly statue! Jesus always waits patiently to hear from God the Father, and Jesus talks to God the Father for us when we sin.



# 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.*

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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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.)

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**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!



