

“EPIC” - LESSON 1

“Shelter From The Storm”

Main Focus:

God will protect us in life's worst storms!



Power Verse:

“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.”

— Psalm 46:1



Whatchagaddaknow:

“When I’m In A Storm, God Will Keep Me Safe!”

LEADER’S INFO

Storms come in all kinds—tornadoes, thunderstorms, hurricanes—each one powerful and often frightening. They can bring destruction and chaos, leaving a path of damage behind.

But storms don’t just happen in the sky. Life is full of storms, too. They may not come with wind and rain, but they bring trouble, fear, and difficulty. These storms can shake us, just like real ones do.

In this lesson, kids will learn from Noah and his family. They chose to obey God, even when it didn’t make sense. Because of their obedience, they witnessed God’s incredible power and were saved from a major storm.

When we choose to trust and obey God, even in the hardest moments, we’ll see His miracles at work in our own lives.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Looks Like Rain”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Big Ray teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Surviving The Storm”



Bible Story

“Noah’s Ark”



Power Verse Video

“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.”

— Psalm 46:1



Call To Action

“Shelter From The Storm”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

God will protect us in life's worst storms!



Power Verse:

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— Psalm 46:1



Whatchagaddaknow:

“When I’m In A Storm, God Will Keep Me Safe!”

Lesson 1 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 1 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Wacky Wally” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Surviving The Storm” Graphics

Bible Story

- “Noah’s Ark” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 1 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Shelter From The Storm” Graphics
- A Comforter

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers
- Craft Sticks
- Assorted Craft Supplies (*Tape, Glue, Pipe Cleaners, Cotton Balls, Yarn, Construction Paper, Etc.*)
- Psalm 46:1 Print Piece

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Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today, we are starting a new series called “EPIC!” We are going to be learning from some of the most EPIC Bible Stories that will blow your mind!

Have you ever had really awesome plans to go somewhere and do something fun outside? You’d been planning it for days or weeks, and it was going to be EPIC! Maybe you were going to a really fun park, or to climb a mountain, or swimming at the pool, or going to an amusement park or somewhere else on vacation.

And then, all of a sudden, just when you were getting ready for your epic day, it started to rain outside! Before you knew it, it was a full blown storm! All of a sudden, your awesome, EPIC plans for a fun day outside were RUINED! Has that ever happened to you? *(allow response)*

Today, we are learning about a BIG storm that happened in the Bible! More importantly - we are learning about how God used Noah and protected him during that storm!

Let’s get ready to learn all about how God shelters us in the storms of life by checking out this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 1”)

Leader: Today, we’re learning that it isn’t easy to obey God’s commands. Sometimes, it can be hard to trust God in what He is telling us to do, but obeying God is always worth it! When we obey Him, we get to experience all that He has for us.

It’s especially important to obey God in the midst of life’s biggest storms. Difficult times come, but we must trust and obey through it all. You’re going to find out more about how important obedience during the storms of life is in your lesson today.

But, before we do that, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Wacky Wally” *(a mega-nerd who dreams of one day becoming a superhero! He usually wears a cape.)*

Wally: *(Runs on stage and stands in a superhero pose)* Fear not, citizens! Wacky Wally is here to save the day! What trouble do you need me to handle? How do you need saving today?

Leader: We all need saving! What is your specialty?

Wally: Well, it's very simple. If saving needs to happen, then I can make that saving happen.

Leader: Well, Wacky Wally, have you ever saved a cat from a tree?

Wally: Are you kidding?

Leader: I am not kidding.

Wally: Well, no. I tried once, but then the fire department had to come and get me out of the tree. But the good news is that the cat loved my cape and was all wrapped up in it when I was rescued. So, technically, yes, I have saved a cat from a tree! So ha! *(Stands in a superhero pose)*

Leader: Have you ever outrun a cheetah to save a gazelle?

Wally: Seriously?

Leader: Yes, seriously.

Wally: No, how could I ever do that? But I could outrun my grandma. She was fast, but I was so much more fastest! *(Stands in a superhero pose)*

Leader: You were so much more fastest?

Wally: Yeah! But if she put her teeth in, she could run really fast. It's a good thing I hid her teeth!

Leader: Seriously?

Wally: Oh, yes! To this day, we cannot find them. I was so good at hiding them that we lost them. And that was ten years ago.

Leader: How does she chew her food?

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CHARACTER SKIT *(Continued)*

Wally: Grandpa chews it for her.

Leader: Oh, gross! Enough of that. So, if you're a superhero, what is your greatest save to this date?

Wally: That's a tricky question! You know, because there are so many to choose from. I would have to say my greatest feat so far was when I saved a family from a roaring, crazy, out-of-control fire!

Leader: Wow! That's incredible, Wally!

Wally: Isn't it? I am pretty incredible!

Leader: Is there anything that scares you?

Wally: Only one thing... *(Whispers loudly)* STORMS!

Leader: *(Loudly)* You are afraid of storms?

Wally: SHHHHH! You will destroy my reputation.

Leader: It's ok, Wally. Lots of people are afraid of storms. I love a good storm, especially late in the night!

Wally: *(Screams and runs around the room)* Those scare me the most!

Leader: Oh, Wally. It's ok. Many of these kids are afraid of storms, too.

Wally: Really? *(To the kids)* Who is afraid of storms? ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT? *(Points at the kids)* They get me!

Leader: Actually, we are talking about storms in our lesson today. BUT we're talking about different kinds of storms, like trials and hard times.

Wally: Oh, those storms can be scary, too! They don't scare me like the kind with wind and rain, but they do take a lot of strength and courage! Whatever kind of storm you are in, you need to stay safe!

Leader: That's right! And today, we're learning that God can shelter us from the storm!

Wally: Well, we know who the hero is in the story today! I'll see you later, citizens! Until then, it's Up, up, and A WACKY WALLY AWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAYYY!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Surviving The Storm”

Items Needed For Game:

“Surviving The Storm” Graphics

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Preparation:

Start with the game title slide, “Surviving The Storm”. Choose an even number of boys and girls to compete against each other. This game can also be played with the whole group by dividing the kids into two groups.

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How To Play:

Explain that the captain of the ship they have been traveling on has gotten very sick and can no longer be in charge. It’s up to the kids to navigate the ship through the storm. Each team will get to decide which way to turn - either left or right. At each turn, the team will discover either a life jacket, sunshine, a life preserver, or a hurricane. If they find a life jacket, their team gets 25 pts. If they find sunshine, they get 50 points. If they find a life preserver, they get 100 points. However, if they find a hurricane they lose all the points they have accumulated so far and their turn is over.

Every time a team gets a correct answer, they can choose either to continue or pass to the other team. They can play as long as they like, but as soon as they hit a hurricane they lose all their points and their turn is over. The goal is to get correct answers and pass it on to the other team and try to make them choose a hurricane and lose their points.

The team that survives the storm and gains the most points after twenty rounds wins!



Bible Story

“Noah’s Ark”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Genesis 6-7; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in the book of Genesis in chapters 6 and 7. It’s the story of Noah and his family. God was saddened by all the sin in the world, so he decided to destroy the world with a flood. He searched the world to find someone who was righteous and living for Him. He found a man named Noah.



God spoke to Noah and said, (*show pic*) “I am going to destroy the earth and everything in it. I want you to build a giant boat and take your family along with two of every kind of animal into the boat. When the storm comes, I will keep you safe.”



Noah had never seen a flood before, so he didn’t know what to think. He didn’t know how in the world he was going to build a boat big enough to hold two of every kind of animal in the world. Besides that, how was he going to get all those animals to get into the boat?



All of these thoughts most likely went through Noah’s mind. It was probably the hardest thing he ever had to do. But Noah obeyed God. (*show pic*) He and his three sons began to gather tons of wood and build the giant boat. It took them many, many months to chop down the trees, cut the boards, hammer them together, and seal the cracks in the boat.



Then, the day came when it was time to get the animals on the boat. Noah wasn’t sure how he was going to do this. But he didn’t have to do anything. (*show pic*) God spoke to the animals, and they began to show up. Two by two they arrived - elephants, giraffes, donkeys, bears, every kind of animal in the world. WOW!



Then, the day came when God spoke to Noah and said, “Take your family into the ark. In a few days, I will send a storm upon the earth for forty days and forty nights. The entire earth will be destroyed.” (*show pic*) Noah listened and took himself and his family into the ark. People thought they were crazy! No rain had come, and they were inside a giant boat!

(*show pic*) But just as God promised, the rain began to fall from the sky and the earth began to flood. Noah and his family were protected because Noah obeyed God even when it was hard! (*show pic*) Many months later, the flood waters went down and the ark landed safely on top of a mountain. In your lesson, you are going to learn that when you obey God, He will shelter you in the storms of life!



Call To Action

“Shelter From The Storm”

Materials Needed:

The “Shelter From The Storm” graphics; A comforter

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Shelter From The Storm”



The Message: *(title slide)*

How many of you are afraid of storms? *(allow response)* Storms can be pretty scary sometimes! What is it about storms that terrifies you the most? *(allow a few children to respond)* Those things can be frightening - the wind, the pouring rain, the thunder and lightning, tornadoes, and flash floods. Storms can be pretty freaky!

Noah found himself getting ready for a HUGE storm. God told him He was not only going to send a big storm that would last for forty days and nights, but He was going to allow the rain to flood the entire earth. No part of the earth would be dry. No part of the earth would be able to be walked on. If you were going to make it, you'd have to be able to swim for over a month, nonstop, during rushing winds and pouring rain. Is it possible to swim for a month and a half straight in an ocean, while rain and lightning are coming down and waves are crashing over you? *(allow response)* Not at all! We could look at this story at this point and say, “Uh-oh! Noah is in trouble! What in the world is he going to do to survive this storm?”

Well, Noah was the only one on earth who lived for God and obeyed His commands, so God provided a way for Noah and his family to stay safe during the storm. In fact, it's the same for you and me when we face the storms of life!



In Life's Storms I Find Safety *(slide)*

We all face storms! Now, I don't mean thunderstorms with rain and lightning. I mean the storms of life - those times when things are really tough:

- When it feels like everything in life is going wrong
- When someone you know is sick or dies
- When you're struggling in school
- When your parents are getting a divorce
- When you're feeling lonely

Boys and girls, the storms of life are tough. It's easy for us to look at the storm we're facing and say, “Uh-oh! I am in big trouble! What in the world am I going to do to survive this storm?” Well, no matter what you're facing, if you are obedient to God, following His commands and putting Him first in your life, He will shelter you during the storms of life - no matter how tough they are.

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Call To Action (Continued)

What do you do when it's storming outside? Where do you go? What do you do? (*allow a few kids to respond*) Well, if you're like me when I was a kid, when a big storm comes, you run to your bed, hide under the blankets, and (*wrap comforter around you*) wrap your comforter around you. There's something about your comforter that makes it all better. Maybe that's why it's called a comforter - it comforts you. You feel safe.

Well, boys and girls, when you face the storms of life, you can run to God - He's your Comforter. God will comfort you and shelter you during the storms of life. He will provide safety in the middle of the scariest, biggest storms. God is our Comforter, and we find shelter in His arms! (*put down comforter*)

You might say, “You don't know how *BIG* my storm is! You don't know how impossible my storm is. There's *NO* way out of this one. I don't just need comfort - I need a miracle!” Well...

When I Obey God, I Experience Miracles (*slide*)



When you face impossible storms, God can help you. Remember - Noah needed a miracle. Noah didn't have the strength to swim in a stormy ocean for forty days and nights. Noah didn't know how to build a boat big enough and strong enough to last through the biggest storm the world has ever seen. Noah need a miracle!

Maybe that's how you feel. Maybe you're facing the biggest storm you've ever faced. For Noah, God gave him special plans to build a massive boat and survive the flood - that was Noah's miracle. God protected Noah. For you, it might be that God provides you with peace during a difficult time or someone to help you with your school work or a friend when you're feeling lonely. Maybe your miracle is peace when someone in your family is sick or dies. Maybe your miracle is your parents staying together. Maybe your miracle is your big brother or sister coming to church and getting saved.

No matter what you are facing, God can provide a miracle. When we obey God, He will do miracles in your life and protect you from the storms. Also...

God Is My Refuge And Shelter From The Storm (*slide*)



When you follow God's commands and put your trust in Him, He will shelter you from the storm! Noah obeyed God and used His plans to build that massive boat. The entire time the world was flooded, Noah stayed safe and dry in the ark. God sheltered Noah from the storm, and He'll do the same for you!

ALTAR RESPONSE: (*play soft music*)

Pray for any children facing a storm. Pray they would find safety in their Comforter and that God would provide a miracle and shelter them from the storm.



REWIND!

Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “When I’m In A Storm, God Will Keep Me Safe!”

2. How many of each animal came to the ark?

Answer: Two

3. Did Noah have to catch all the animals?

Answer: No

4. How many days and nights did it rain?

Answer: Forty

5. True Or False: Noah disobeyed God.

Answer: False

6. According to our lesson today, “In Life’s Storms, I Find _____.”

Answer: Safety

7. According to our lesson today, “When I Obey God, I Experience _____.”

Answer: Miracles

8. According to our lesson today, “God is My _____ And Shelter From The Storm.”

Answer: Refuge

9. True or False: Obeying God is never worth it.

Answer: False

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Psalm 46:1