

# Small Group Leader Guide

Materials Needed but Not included in the Activity Bags:

## 1. Bible Story Review: A Promise Kept

- blocks or duplos

## 2. Application Activity: Superheroes, ASSEMBLE!

## 3. Memory Verse Activity: Superhero Vision

- stapler
- scissors
- coloring supplies

## 4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

Pray for your group before they arrive.

Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Reflect on a time when God gave you courage when you faced a fear. Ask God to strengthen the kids in your group with courage when they face their own fears.

Pray they will remember that God is bigger than anything that makes them afraid! Ask God to give them faith like Joshua and Caleb, even when others around them doubt.

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

## Noah Genesis 6-9

Bottom Line

**You can trust God even when you don't understand.**

Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see. (Hebrews 11:1 NIrV)**

### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

# A Promise Kept

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Story Recap" Activity Page
- ☐ Blocks or Large LEGO®s

MADE TO  
↓  
Create



### Inclusive Pro Tips

For accessibility, consider doing this activity at a table to include any kids who cannot sit on the floor.

Think about the needs of your group. Offer various ways to participate by allowing kids to observe, help organize pieces, or build a smaller part of the boat.

Be patient with the kids and give extra time if needed to build as you recap the story.

Use clear and simple language while recapping the Bible Story. Repeat the questions twice before prompting kids to respond.

## What You Do

1. Sit with the kids in a circle or around a table.
2. Set the blocks or large LEGOs in the center.
3. Say, "Today, we're going to build a boat—just like Noah did! We'll pause to remember parts of the true story of Noah!"
4. Explain how to play:
  - Kids will begin building the boat—suggested building instructions are below.
  - The leader will say, "Freeze!" to prompt kids to pause building.
  - Show a picture from the "Story Recap" Activity Pages and read what it says.
  - Then, the kids will continue building the next part of the boat.
  - Continue in this way until all "Story Recap" Activity Pages have been reviewed.
5. Celebrate the kids for their work!
6. Ask:
  - "What do you think Noah was feeling while he was waiting on the boat?"
  - "What would you do if you had to wait like Noah?"

### Suggested Building Instructions:

1. Build the base (bottom of the boat)
2. Add walls or "rooms" inside (space for Noah's family and animals)
3. Add a roof (to protect them from the rain)

## What You Say

"I love the boat we built together! Noah didn't always understand what God was doing, but he trusted God anyway.

"Noah trusted God for a LONG time, decades and decades, as he built the ark. Can you imagine how much trust and faith it required to keep building? He trusted God a lot! Then, after all that work, it rained for weeks, and Noah still had to wait for God's 'Go!' before stepping off the boat. BUT, Noah kept trusting God, and God kept His promise to save Noah and Noah's family—God did exactly what He said He was going to do. God was faithful. that means God always does what He says.

"I'm so glad we have the Bible—it's full of true stories that show us God always keeps promises! God has made a lot of promises to us too! And He will keep every single one. God promises to save us through Jesus. God also promises to be with us all the time—that means even when we face big things. When you're doing something you've never done before, like going to a new school, or facing something scary and you don't know how it's going to turn out, like a big thunderstorm, remember: [BOTTOM LINE] You can trust God even when you don't understand!

[MAKE IT PERSONAL] Tell the group an age-appropriate time when you were experiencing something for the first time, and you had to trust God to see you through it. Maybe you faced a sudden move as a kid, you got a part in the church's Christmas play and it involved being in front of everyone, or you were going through a new lesson in school that was really challenging.

"We're all going to do things that we don't know the outcome of or that we've never experienced before. All Noah could lean on was God's promises when he was facing the big, scary flood that he had never experienced before. He knew that God had been good and would see him through what he was facing. God will always, always help us through what we are facing too."

# Superheroes, ASSEMBLE!

## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

No Supplies Needed

MADE TO  
↓  
Move



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Reassure the kids that there is no "wrong" superhero pose, and encourage them to have fun!

For versions with less movement, allow kids to sit while performing the motions.

## What You Do

1. Direct the kids to stand and spread their arms out to make space.
2. Say, "I'm going to say something that might not make sense. Then, you'll strike a superhero pose and say: 'You can trust God even when you don't understand!'" (This is the Bottom Line.)
- Before you begin, select a scenario to demonstrate to the kids. Pose with your arms crossed like a shield, or with your hands on hips)
3. Read the scenarios below, pausing each time for the kids to pose and say the Bottom Line.
4. Encourage the kids to get creative with their poses each time!
5. Gather the group to discuss.

### Scenarios

"When you're really tired, but it's a school day . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

"When you get in trouble . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

"When you fall and skin your knee . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

"When you don't understand the math worksheet . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

"When you forget your snack at school . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

"When someone you thought was a friend says something unkind . . .

(Kids pose and say, [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand.)

## What You Say

"Great job, superheroes! With God's help, we can face all kinds of situations that are hard or don't make sense to us. Just like with Noah, God is with us in everything we face. He promises! And God will see us through what we're facing. Noah's story reminds us that God is with us every step of the way. God was with Noah as he built the boat. God was with Noah as all the animals came. God was with Noah as it rained and rained. God was with Noah when it took so long for the wavy water to go down. God faced every new and difficult thing with Noah. And God promises to face everything with you, even if it is new or different. So, remember: [BOTTOM LINE] You can trust God even when you don't understand."

# Superhero Vision

## Memory Verse Activity

MADE TO  
↓  
Create

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Bible Marked at Hebrews 11:1
- ☐ "Memory Masks" Activity Page
- ☐ Prepared Mask Example
- ☐ Elastic String
- ☐ Stapler
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Coloring Supplies



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Be mindful of any sensory needs. Some of your kids may prefer to hold the mask instead of wear it. That's okay!

## What You Do

1. Call on an older kid to read Hebrews 11:1 from the marked Bible.
2. Talk through any possibly unfamiliar words or phrases, focusing on the meaning of the verse.
3. Repeat the verse together several times.
4. Share with kids:
  - "Faith is all about trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see."
  - "While we can't see God with our eyes, we can see all the wonderful things God made and remember all the wonderful things God has done."
5. Give each kid a mask from the "Memory Mask" Activity Pages.
6. Show the kids your mask example.
7. Point out the Memory Verse on the mask and lead the kids to repeat it again.
8. Invite the kids to use the coloring supplies to decorate their masks.
9. Use the scissors to cut the elastic string to fit each kid's head and staple it to the mask.
 

NOTE: Staple with the flat side facing in (so it doesn't scratch their heads).
10. Once everyone is finished, invite the kids to put on their masks!
11. Repeat the verse together again.

## What You Say

"I love your masks! They're unique and special—just like you!"

"The Bible is God's Word and when we memorize it, it helps us remember what's true. This verse from the Bible is all about faith. What are some things you can't 'see' but you know are there? Think about air or the wind. We can't see them, but we know they're there when we see the trees blowing, or when we take a breath."

"God is with us, friends. We may not 'see' God, but we can look at all the things God made and trust that God is near! We can also remember the wonderful things He has done, and that can help us trust Him too! God has always, always been good. Keep practicing this verse at home with a grown-up. For a real twist, practice saying it with your eyes closed. Remember: [BOTTOM LINE] you can trust God even when you don't understand."

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

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### What You Need

#### Optional

- ☐ Memory Masks from the Memory Verse Activity



## What You Do

1. Gather the kids in a seated circle.
2. Share with kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!  
Optional: If you made the Memory Masks, invite the kids to continue wearing them as you lead prayer.
3. Ask, "Is there anything that feels hard for you to understand right now?"
4. Provide examples:
  - "Maybe math is really tough."
  - "Maybe a friend is being unkind."
  - "Maybe your family just moved."
5. Encourage the kids no matter what happens, [Bottom Line] you can trust God even when you don't understand.
6. Close in prayer.

## What You Say

"Dear God, we love You! Thanks for reminding us today that You are always with us and that we can trust You no matter what. Thank You for the story of Noah, and so many other true stories in Your Word that remind us You are faithful to keep Your promises. When we face things that just don't make sense, help us to trust You more because You have always been good. Thank You for loving us so much—we want to trust You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition -> As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their Memory Masks with the Memory Verse and share the truth we learned this week that **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God even when you don't understand!

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



If kids don't want to share, allow them to pass without pressure.

Be patient with any kids who need more time to think. Let them know that you will come back to them.