

WEEK 1 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

God is with me no matter
what I go through.

BIBLE

Job is Tested:
Job 1–2:10

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Our travel adventures can get off to a bumpy start with flight delays, flat tires, or lost luggage, but doesn't that just add to the story? This week, we'll take a look at the life of Job, whose life hit quite a few unexpected bumps. Despite the pain and moments of despair, Job modeled this theme throughout his life— **God is with me no matter what I go through.**

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Pack Your Bags

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before kids arrive, set out various travel items (kids clothing items, toothbrush, mini toothpaste, bar of soap, towel, stuffed animal, hairbrush, and a few classroom toys, such as cars, crayons, and books) around the room in plain sight. Set out a small suitcase or duffel bag. Then, have kids look around the room and select items they'd pack to take on a trip. Allow each kid to choose one item from around the room, being sure to point out the "necessities" if they aren't collected.
- Today, we're going on a trip! Before you go on a trip, you'll need to pack a suitcase. You'll need to bring important things, but you can pack a few favorite toys, too!
- **What things do you think we'll need?**
- Wow, great job choosing things to go in our bag! I'm excited to see where God will take us. It's a good thing that God is always with us along the way.

ACTIVITY | Traffic Jam

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, have kids form four lines—two on opposite sides of the room facing each other. Assign one of four modes of transport to each line (plane, train, car, boat). Stand in the middle. Explain to kids that you are going to blow the whistle and call out a different vehicle each time. The kids in that line must advance one step at a time until you blow the whistle. They remain there until they are called again. Alternate among the different vehicles until all the "vehicles" have crossed completely to the other side of the room. Play again and ask if they want to try being a different vehicle. Have kids do the following motions and sounds as they move:
 - **Plane:** Spread out arms like wings and say, "Whoosh."
 - **Train:** Pump one arm and say "choo choo."
 - **Car:** Pretend to drive a steering wheel and say, "Honk!"
 - **Boat:** Pretend to row a boat and sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** You can do a simple activity of having kids imitate different vehicle

movements and sounds with you. Alternatively, set out toy vehicles for kids to play with. Offer plenty of vehicles so that each toddler has one.

- Wow, all the different vehicles were trying to cross at the same time. **What do you think would have happened if the traffic controller wasn't there to guide everyone?** It could have been a disaster!
- In today's Bible story, we'll meet a man named Job who did go through a whole lot of disasters. But he knew that God was with him the whole time!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Job 1–2:10 (Job is Tested)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below! For some theme-related fun, you can have kids seated in chairs or on the ground similar to airplane seating (rows of six seats, three on either side of an aisle).
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Remember, toddlers aren't able to sense other people's feelings and act empathetically. Model comforting for the toddlers so they can learn how to react when someone around them is sad or afraid.
- Hello friends! We are about to take off on an exciting journey!
- **How many of you like to travel?** We could travel in so many ways! We could drive a car, fly on a plane, take a train, or ride on a boat.
- Today, we are taking a trip to the land of Uz where we'll meet a man named Job. Let's pretend we are flying on a plane for our trip. Are you ready? Let's go!
- We learn about Job in the Bible. Job was honest and made good choices. He loved God and didn't like mean things.
 - He had a wife and ten children.
 - **Can you help me count to ten?**
 - He owned lots and lots of animals like sheep, camels, oxen, and donkeys. He also had lots of people working for him. He was a very important man.
- But one day, Job got some very bad news.
 - A messenger told Job that all of his animals were gone.
 - Another messenger told Job that there was a terrible windstorm that took all of his children away.
 - Not long after, Job got really sick, too.
- Job was very sad. Everything in his life went very wrong all of a sudden!
- **Can you show me what you would have done if you got this news?**
- But Job still loved God. He didn't say it was God's fault all these bad things happened. He knew God loved him.
- God is always with us, even if things don't go our way. We can trust God!

BIG IDEA | God is with me no matter what I go through.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write each word of the Big Idea on pieces of painter's tape. Fill a duffel bag, travel suitcase, or backpack (you can reuse the one from the Pack Your Bags activity) with regular travel items (travel pillows, t-shirts, socks, stuffed animals, slippers, books). Tape the words on some of the items. Have kids rummage through the bag and find all the items that have words. Once all the items are out, put them in order and recite the Big Idea together.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Feel free to shorten the Big Idea for toddlers and younger preschoolers. For this week, you could teach kids to say, "God is with me."
- Look, you discovered the Big Idea along the way! **God is with me no matter what I go through.**

- Let's learn our Big Idea together:
 - **God** (*put a pointer finger up to the sky*)
 - **is with me** (*point both thumbs to your chest*)
 - **no matter what** (*bring your hands up by your shoulders and shrug*)
 - **I go through.** (*walk in place*)

VIDEO | *Along the Way*, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Navigate The Weather

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, gather the group into a circle. If you have a large group, have multiple circles. Explain that all types of vehicles move through different types of weather. Demonstrate the motions for each weather scenario. Explain that you'll call out a different type of weather, and they should do the appropriate motion. Play as long as time and interest allow.
 - **Sunny:** pretend to put on sunglasses
 - **Rainy:** cover their heads
 - **Windy:** spin in a circle
 - **Foggy:** put hands over eyes as if looking through binoculars
- Car and train drivers, airplane pilots, and boat captains have to be prepared for any type of weather. No matter what, they want to keep their passengers safe.
- Job's life must have felt like he was in the middle of a really big storm. But God was with him through the sunny days and the stormy days ... and every other day!
- When we are happy or sad, God is with us. When we are angry or confused, God is with us. **God is with me no matter what I go through.** God is with you no matter what you go through.

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for always being with us no matter what we go through. Even when things might seem sad or scary, we are not alone. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Animal Crackers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out animal crackers.
- Today we heard about the different animals Job used to own.
 - **Do you have any animals at home?**
 - **What's one of your favorite animals?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sit in a circle together. Pass around the stuffed animal so kids can take turns answering questions. The person holding the stuffed animal gets to speak!
- **Who was the man in our story today?** Job
- **What did Job have a lot of?** Animals and kids
- **What happened to Job's animals and kids?** They died.
- **Who was with Job when he lost his animals and kids?** God
- **Who is always with us?** God
- **God is always with me no matter what I go through.**

ACTIVITY | Luggage Tags

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the [printable](#) on cardstock and give each kid one or both tags. Allow kids to decorate the luggage tag with stickers and markers. Help kids write their names and cut out their tags. Punch holes at the top of the tags and help kids thread yarn or a pipe cleaner through so they can attach it to a bag they have at home.
- We have luggage tags on our luggage to make sure we grab the right suitcases at the airport. We wouldn't want to take someone else's bag accidentally.
- But accidents do happen. Bags get lost at the airport. Bad things happen sometimes. But God is always with us. **God is with me no matter what I go through.**

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 121:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Happy Birthday" (include the Scripture at the end). You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- **"The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."**

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Let's Go!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out a variety of toy vehicles like planes, cars, boats, and train sets on a playmat with roads drawn on them. You could also draw your own roads on butcher paper or use painter's tape on plain mats or the floor.

ACTIVITY | Job's Home

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide Little People animals and people figures for kids to play with, reminding them that Job had lots of animals and kids.