

K-2 | August 17

Bible Story: God Chooses Abram • *Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-6*

Bottom Line: You can trust that God has a plan.

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

1. Opening Activity

What You Need:

- ☐ Offering Container

Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Express gratitude for God's Son, Jesus, who showed us what it looks like to look out for others, no matter what people may think. Ask God to give the kids in your group hearts that notice and care for others in need. Pray they will have the courage to be kind and stand up for what is right, even when it's hard.

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Gather the kids and tell them they'll be playing "Follow the Leader."
- Explain that their job is to copy exactly what you do!
- Lead the kids to travel around your group space, using fun superhero moves like:
 - Pretending to climb a tall building
 - Soaring through the sky like a superhero
 - Running in place REALLY fast
 - Using x-ray vision to look around
- After a few minutes, pick an older kid to be the new leader, and let them guide the group.
- Continue as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

"Amazing job, friends! To play this game, who did you follow? *(Pause.)* Yes, the leader!

[Transition] In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about someone who chose to follow God, even when he had NO idea where he was going. Let's go find out more!"

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. For any kids who need less physical activity, modify movements by offering seated versions like waving arms instead of running in place.
- You can reduce sensory overload by allowing the kids to perform the movements from their spot instead of traveling around the group space.

Lead your group to watch today's video lesson.

2. **Puzzled**

What You Need:

- ☐ Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1
- ☐ “Hebrews 11:1 Puzzle” Activity Page
- ☐ Markers/crayons/color pencils
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Zip-Top Sandwich Bags
- ☐ Permanent Marker
- ☐ Prepared Puzzle Example

What You Do:

- Choose a kid to open the marked Bible to Hebrews 11:1 and read the Memory Verse aloud.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Discuss any unfamiliar words with the kids.
- Give each kid a “Hebrews 11:1” Activity Page puzzle.
- Point out the Memory Verse, and lead the kids to read and recite it with you.
- Get the coloring supplies from the art shelf and have the kids color their paper however they want.
- Give each kid a pair of scissors, and direct them to cut along the lines to create a puzzle.
 - Have kids work together if they need help with cutting.
- Give each kid a zip-top bag so they can take their puzzle home.
- Use the marker to help kids write their name on their bag.

What You Say:

“The Bible, God’s Word, is true! It teaches us more about who God is, how God loves us, and why Jesus came. It’s good to memorize because it teaches us what is true! This verse is a good one to put in your heart because it reminds us this: Faith is trusting in what we can’t see because of what we CAN see.

“We may not be able to see God with our eyes, but we can see all the things God has done! I mean, God made the world and everything in it, including us. God made some really big promises to Abraham and we saw them come true. God also promised to send a Savior—and God did! God made a way for us to have a relationship with Him through Jesus. God is not like a friend who might not keep a promise, God will ALWAYS keep promises, so we can trust Him no matter what.

“God had a plan for Abraham and Sarah—even when they couldn’t see where they were going! Put this puzzle together at home and remember, even when you don’t know what’s next:

[Bottom Line] You can trust that God has a plan.”

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. If any kids are overwhelmed by scissors or the noise, offer an alternative, like coloring the verse box on the puzzle instead of cutting it out.

3. Trust Walk

What You Need:

- ☐ Floor Tape

Optional:

- ☐ Blindfold

What You Do:

- Direct kids to form groups of two (a group of three is okay).
- Designate a starting line and a finish line in your group space with floor tape.
- Invite the kids to form a line with their partner behind it.
- Tell the kids to identify who will be the “walker,” and who will be the “guide.”
- Blindfold the walker (if comfortable) or ask them to close their eyes.
- Explain how to play.
 - The “Guide” is to help the “Walker” move safely to the finish line using only their voice (no touching!)
 - They can say things like, “Take one step forward,” “Turn right,” or “Stop!”
- When the “walker” finishes, switch roles so both kids get a turn.
- Continue until every group gets a turn to walk.

What You Say:

“Awesome job, friends! It can feel a little scary to walk without seeing, right? I mean, you really had to trust your partner to guide you to safety!”

“In life, we don't always know what's coming next. Even though we can see, there are a lot of things we don't understand, like why it's taking us so long to understand math or if you're ever going to find friends again after your big move. Friends, we CAN trust God's plan for us because we can trust God. He is good and is always working for good! Nothing can stop God's plan to bring good out of hard things and to make everything right in the end. God loves us and knows what's best for us, and **[Bottom Line] you can trust that God has a plan** and it's a good one.”

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- For any kids who need extra processing time, encourage the “Guide” to speak slowly and repeat directions if necessary. Encourage them to be patient.
- Some kids might prefer predictable steps, especially with a blindfold. Walk them through the course before starting.

4. **Pray and Dismiss**

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a tight circle.
- Encourage the kids to think about the school year ahead. Ask if there's anything they're nervous or anxious about.
 - Remind the kids that while starting school can feel exciting, it's okay to feel a little nervous too!
- Remind kids that: **[Bottom Line] You can trust that God has a plan** even when they feel nervous or unsure.
- Let them know that God is going to go with them this school year and every year to come.
- Close in prayer, asking God to help them trust in Him and in His good plan as they go throughout this school year!

What You Say:

"Dear God, we are so thankful for this true story about Abraham and Sarah, and how when they obeyed You, we saw You carry out a good plan. Help us to trust You, like Abraham and Sarah did. We don't know the way in life, but we want to trust You and follow You. When we're nervous or anxious or unsure, help us to remember that You are with us and that we can always, always trust You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Give the kids extra time to process what they might be nervous or anxious about.
- Kids can participate nonverbally by nodding their heads when another kid shares something they resonate with. This allows them to stay engaged in the activity.

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their puzzles from the "Puzzled" Activity as they remember that **[Bottom Line] you can trust that God has a plan.**