

18-SESSIONS OF BIBLE STUDY FOR PRESCHOOLERS /

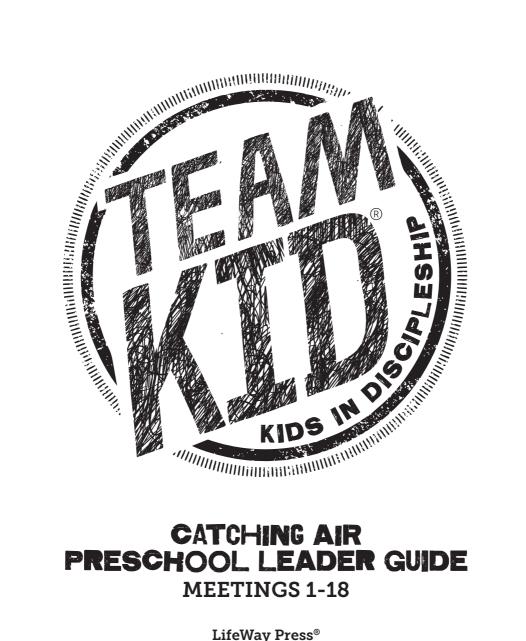


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LEADER GUIDE



PRESCHOOL LEADER GUIDE

LifeWay Press®

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We believe the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. To review LifeWay's doctrinal guideline, please visit *lifeway.com/doctrinalguideline*.

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DOES TEAMKID USE THE LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING?®

Absolutely! On the first page of each meeting, you will see both the Concept Area and the specific Level of Biblical Learning that session will cover for Younger Preschoolers and Older Preschoolers.

What are the *Levels of Biblical Learning? Levels of Biblical Learning* covers 10 biblical concept areas that children can learn as they study God's Word. The concept areas are presented through six different age ranges, from infancy through the preteen years, and reflect levels of understanding that follow how God designed children to learn. Learn more at *lifeway.com/levelsofbiblicallearning*.

- Levels of Biblical Learning Poster (Pkg of 10) 005817005 This handy Levels of Biblical Learning Poster is dual-signed, providing both a chart and infographic version of LifeWay Kids' Levels of Biblical Learning. The Levels of Biblical Learning concepts were developed by LifeWay Kids to provide teachers, parents, and ministers of preschoolers and children with milestones related to biblical knowledge from birth through sixth grade. The Levels of Biblical Learning concepts form the foundation for Bible study in the Bible Studies for Life: Kids resources.
- Growing in God's Word: Levels of Biblical Learning (Pkg of 10) 005817008 As preschoolers grow, their understanding of foundational truths grow with them. The Growing in God's Word: Levels of Biblical Learning booklet illustrates ten concepts that are the foundation of spiritual growth: God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Bible, Salvation, Creation, Church, People, Family, Community and World. Fourteen pages of content explain these foundations for Younger Preschool, Middle Preschool, Older Preschool, Younger Kids, Older Kids, and Preteens. Levels of Biblical Learning concepts also form the foundation for Bible study in the Bible Studies for Life: Kids resources.

DOES TEAMKID USE BIBLE SKILLS FOR KIDS?

Absolutely! On the first page of each meeting, you will see Bible Skills that session will cover for Younger Preschoolers and Older Preschoolers.

Bible Skills for Kids (Pkg of 10 posters and booklets) 005793619 — The 16-page Bible Skills for Kids booklet (9.5-x-7) provides information on how to teach Bible skills to preschoolers, handy lists of foundational Bible Stories for preschoolers and kids, the most important memory verses for preschoolers, and what to look for in a Bible for preschoolers. The Bible Skills for Kids dual-sided poster (7-x-19) provides both a chart and info-graphic format of Bible skill goals for four age groups: Younger Preschool, Older Preschool, Younger Kids, and Older Kids. Bible Skills for Kids was developed by LifeWay Kids to provide teachers, parents, and ministers of preschoolers and children with Bible Skill milestones.

HOW IS TEAMKID: CATCHING AIR PRESCHOOL DIFFERENT?

TeamKID is for the next generation of kids and preschoolers — with high energy games, a greater emphasis on missions, and more memory verses that help preschoolers apply Bible truths to real life — while preschoolers learn Bible truths foundational for every Christian.

TeamKid: Catching Air is the same title and topic for both Preschool and Children's TeamKid. Use Catching Air for both your Preschool and Children's TeamKID programs!

MORE BIBLE!!

- Bible Study: Each meeting includes a Bible story and teaching that helps preschoolers grow into disciples of Christ.
- Bible Memory: Each meeting includes a memory verse connecting to that week's Bible truth.

MORE MISSIONS!

- Missions Videos: Each week has its own missions video from Kids on Mission.
- REACH OUT: Each meeting includes a mission focus with reproducibles and extras from the DVD-ROM.

MORE FUN!

- More Rec Games: TOURNAMENT activities are bigger and better than ever, which means more fun!
- WARM-UP: Each meeting kicks off with a fun arrival activity to build interest in the Bible truth for the day.

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CATCHING AIR

WHAT IS CATCHING AIR?

The perfect jump. The longest throw. The highest leap. Every competitor longs for his best performance. This volume of TeamKID teaches preschoolers to soar in God's strength, as He helps them live for Him and tell others about His love.

ISAIAH 40:31

Those who trust in the LORD will renew their strength; they will *soar* on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint.

WHY CATCHING AIR?

Catching Air is a term athletes use to indicate their best performance for those who leap, jump, or ride—to soar!

TeamKID: Catching Air wants preschoolers to realize their strength will eventually fade, but those who trust in God will soar in His strength!

HOW DID YOU DEVELOP THE CATCHING AIR CONTENT?

TeamKID: Catching Air Preschool is designed as a next step in learning for preschoolers in discipleship. The content was developed to be complementary to the Disciples Path curriculum and *TeamKID" Catching Air* for children in grades 1-6. The 36 sessions of *TeamKID: Catching Air Preschool* naturally fit the Disciples Path (see p. 7).

For more information about Disciples Path for Adults and Students, visit *lifeway.com/disciplespath*.



TEAMKID: CATCHING AIR PRESCHOOL & DISCIPLES PATH

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MEETING 1: How Great Is God? MEETING 2: Does God Keep His Promises? MEETING 3: Who Is God? MEETING 4: Is God Loving? MEETING 5: Is God Good? MEETING 6: What Is God's Plan?

THE CALL: THE People called by God

MEETING 7: What Is God's Most Important Creation?

MEETING 8: What Went Wrong? MEETING 9:

Does God Love People Even Though They Sin? **MEETING 10**:

How Should People Respond to God's Love?

MEETING 11: How Did God Plan for People to Live in Relationship with Others?

MEETING 12: How Do Christians Work Together?

THE TRUTH: WHAT IS THE BIBLE? MEETING 13: Why Is the Bible True? MEETING 14: Why Do We Need the

Bible? MEETING 15:

Why Did God Give Us the Bible?

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MEETING 18: Why Is the Bible Important?

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How Does Jesus Relate to Believers?

MEETING 21: What Did Jesus Do While He Lived on Earth?

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THE LIFE: LIVE IT OUT

MEETING 25: How Do I Follow Jesus? MEETING 26: What Is Baptism? MEETING 27: What Is the Lord's Supper? MEETING 28:

What Does It Mean to be a Good Steward? **MEETING 29**:

Why Should I Study the Bible?

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THE MISSION: What are we to Tell others?

MEETING 31: Do I Have a Mission? MEETING 32: How Do I Live on Mission? MEETING 33: Where Do I Live on Mission? MEETING 34: How Do I Serve Others and Grow God's Kingdom? MEETING 35: How Does the Church Fit into My Mission?

MEETING 36: How Do I Share Christ with Others?





CLUB VERSE

Plan a regular time each meeting to say the TeamKID Club Verses: Proverbs 3:5-6 (in the version your club chooses).

INFORMING TEACHERS

Every meeting contains a Teacher Support PDF on the DVD-ROM.



WHAT ABOUT MUSIC?

Use your favorite upbeat Christian music for your club and during activities. The TeamKID Club Song is available from iTunes. You may also want to use songs from Classic TeamKID volumes that you own.

CLUB MOTTO

Plan a regular time in each meeting to say the TeamKID Club Motto.



CONNECTING

WITH PARENTS

MEETING 1

involved.

THE BIBLE

LIVING FOR JESUS

Every meeting

contains a Parent Connection to send home and keep parents

PROMOTING TEAMKID

Getting children to TeamKID should be your first goal. But how can you attract children and parents who have a busy schedule? Good, effective promotion is the key.

Your publicity may include phone calls, personal visits, mail-outs, displays, bulletin boards, posters, handouts, announcements, newsletters or newspaper articles, and a host of other approaches. See DVD-ROM Item 1 for clip art. Use the TeamKID banner to tell the community that TeamKID meets at your church (001301855).

TEAMKID DVD-ROM ITEMS

ROM MENU

Administration & General Use Item 1. TeamKID Logo Item 2. Sample Leader Application Item 3. Parent-Child Letter Item 4. Enrollment Card Item 5. Parent Letter Item 6. Bulletin Insert Item 7. Allergy Alert Poster Item 8. Leading Games with Children Item 9. Principles of Discipline Item 10. Referee the Game Item 11. Review Players Stats Item 12. Game Cube Item 13. Spinner Item 14. Bible Shapes Item 15. Keychain Cards Item 16. Cards Item 17. Answer Strips Item 18. Footprints Item 19. Game Target Item 20. TeamKID Administration Guide

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MEETING 36

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VIDEO MENU

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- 3. Deaf and Blind Schools
- 4. Total Surrender
- 5. My Obedience
- 6. Old Meets New
- 7. Home of Hope
- 8. Keep on Truckin'
- 9. Norway Needs Jesus
- 10. Who We Are
- 11. Shirleys in Suriname
- 12. Up a River
- 13. One Percent
- 14. Japanese Lesson
- 15. Learning the Stories
- 16. Scripture Songs
- 17. Scripture Planting
- 18. The Flook Life
- 19. Jesus People
- 20. Move Mountains
- 21. Dreams
- 22. Egypt Needs Jesus
- 23. Just a Kid
- 24. God, Goals and Good Times
- 25. School's Out
- 26. A Day with Rebha
- 27. Bumpy Roads
- 28. Meet Daniel
- 29. Being Bold
- 30. Everyday Phrases
- 31. A New Life for Abraham
- 32. Meet the Parra Family
- 33. Giving Matters
- 34. Margot's Henna
- 35. Missionary Kid Is My Day Job
- 36. Children Take the Lead

Videos 1-36 are used by permission of Kids on Mission. Track numbers correspond with meeting numbers.

MEETING () HOW GREAT IS GOD?

CONSIDER THE GRAINS OF SAND USED TO MAKE A SAND CASTLE. THE IMMEASURABLE VOLUME OF GRAINS OF SAND CREATED BY GOD HELPS PUT IN PERSPECTIVE GOD'S CREATIVITY AND DETAIL. THE GOD OF ALL CREATION IS GREATER THAN HUMAN COMPREHENSION. HE CREATED EACH GRAIN OF SAND FROM NOTHING, AND HE CREATED EVERY PERSON WITH UNIQUE GIFTS, PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS, AND PERSONALITIES. HE IS A CREATIVE GOD, THE ONE TRUE GOD WORTHY OF ALL WORSHIP AND PRAISE.

BIBLE VERSE

You, LORD, are the only God. Nehemiah 9:6

BIBLE STORY God Created the World (Genesis 1:1–2:3)

BIBLE TRUTH

There is only one true God. Only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

- Middle Preschoolers: God made everything.
- Older Preschoolers: God created everything.

BIBLE SKILL

- Middle Preschoolers: Knows the Bible is a book.
- Older Preschoolers: Knows there are two main parts of the Bible: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

TEACHER SUPPORT

Go deeper into the Bible story and life application by reading this meeting's Teacher Support (Item 23).

WARM-UP (5-10 MINUTES)

٢

PROVIDE: Bible, bean bag

- Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID as they arrive. Hold up the Bible and state: "The Bible is a special book. There are many books in the Bible." Show children Genesis 1 in the Bible and note that it is the very first book in the Bible. Remark: "Today, our Bible story tells us about how God created the world." Toss a bean bag to a child and ask the child to name something God created. Be prepared to prompt as needed (stars, sun, moon, animal, and so forth). Continue the activity until all children have a turn.
- Ask children to move like twinkling stars to Workout.

WORKOUT (15-20 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Bible, salt shaker (half full), masking tape
- Item 7: "Allergy Alert"
- Item 21: "Creation Cards"

TO DO:

- Mark the Bible story and Bible verse in the Bible.
- Use masking tape to seal the top of the salt shaker during the Bible story review.
- Cut out "Creation Cards."

Tell the Bible story.

Welcome the "twinkling stars" to Workout. Hold up the salt shaker. Say: "God created salt, and it is found on land and in the ocean. Pour a small amount of salt into your hand and allow children to touch it. Encourage them to not taste the salt. Allow preschoolers to describe what the salt looks and feels like. Say: "We are learning that our God is a great God. He created big things like mountains and tiny things like grains of salt. Let's hear what else God created."

Open your Bible to Genesis 1. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words. Use the following as a guide. Hold up a "Creation Card" as you cover each day from the Bible story.



GOD CREATED THE WORLD BASED ON GENESIS 1:1-2:3

In the beginning there was nothing. God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was dark, and it did not have any shape. God said, "Let there be light," and immediately, there was light. God called the light day and the dark night. God saw that the light was good. That was the first day.



On the second day, God said, "Let the waters separate," and the waters spread apart. God called the space in between the waters sky.

The next day, God said, "Let the waters under the sky gather together, and let the dry ground appear." God called the ground earth and the waters sea. God saw that the earth and seas were good. Then God said, "Let the earth produce plants and trees that have seeds," and there were plants and trees. God saw that it was good. That was the third day.

On the fourth day, God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night." God made the sun to shine during the day and the moon and stars to shine at night. These lights would mark the days and the years and the seasons. God saw that it was good.

The next day God said, "Let the water be filled with creatures and let the sky be filled with birds." Immediately, creatures filled the seas, and birds filled the sky. God saw that it was good. God blessed the sea creatures and the birds: "Be fruitful and multiply." That was the fifth day.

On the sixth day God said, "Let the earth be filled with animals." Livestock and crawling animals and wild animals filled the earth. God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let us make man in Our image. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature on the earth." God created people in His own image; He created a man and a woman. God blessed the man and woman and told them to rule and care for the world. God saw that all He had created was very good.

By the seventh day, God had completed His work. God said that the seventh day was holy, and He rested.

Review the Bible story.

- Place six of the "Creation Cards" in order on the floor. Point to the first card. Ask: "What did God create on Day 1?" Encourage preschoolers to hold up one finger as they answer. Continue with the other cards until all six days are reviewed. Ask: "What happened on Day 7?" (*God rested.*)
- Place the masking tape on the salt shaker to seal the top. Choose a volunteer to hold and shake the salt shaker while recalling a favorite part of the Bible story. Continue, giving each child a turn.

Practice a Bible skill.

- Hold up the Bible and state: "The Bible is a book. It has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament." Pinch together the books of the Old Testament and show them to the children. Say: "Our Bible story came from the Old Testament part of the Bible."
- Pinch together the books of the New Testament and identify it. Lead the children to stand and march in place as they sing with you to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat":

The Bible is a special book, It has two main parts. Old Test-a-ment, New Test-a-ment, It has two main parts.

Preschool TeamKID: Catching Air

Apply Bible learning.

- Allow one child to find a Bible in the room. Allow another child to help you turn to Nehemiah 9:6 in the Old Testament. Remind children that everything in the Bible is true and teaches us about God. Say the Bible verse: "You, LORD, are the only God. Nehemiah 9:6." Lead children to stand and say the Bible verse with you. Lead children to pretend to hold open a Bible and say the verse.
- Ask: "Is there more than one God?" (*No, God is the one true God.*) Remind children that the Bible teaches that there is only one true God. Only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator.

Pray.

• Lead the children to pray with you. Thank God for His special book, the Bible. Thank God for creating the world and everything in it. Say: "Only You, Lord, can create something from nothing. Thank you for your creation!"

Move to Stretching.

• Lead the children to stand like tall trees. Guide them to pretend to sway in the wind as they move to Stretching.

STRETCHING (20-25 MINUTES)

PROVIDE: Bible, activity pages, crayons or markers TO DO: Prepare the supplies for the activities.

These activities will reinforce today's Bible story. Before the meeting, collect the materials and supplies needed for each. Assign a coach to lead each activity.

ACTIVITY PAGE, SIDE 1: MATCH PICTURES FROM CREATION

- Distribute an activity page to each child. Identify each creation picture. Lead each child to touch one of the pictures with a crayon. Ask the child to find a picture on the page that is the same and touch the second picture. Guide the child to draw a line between the two pictures. Continue with the matching pictures on the page.
- As the children work, say: "Worship is our response to God for who He is and what He has done. What is one thing we learned about who God is from today's story? (God is great, and He is the Creator.) There are many ways we can worship God. When we see things in creation like a beautiful sunset or tiny baby birds, we can worship God." Conclude by re-stating the Bible truth: "There is only one true God. Only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator."

ACTIVITY PAGE, SIDE 2: COLOR THE OCEANS AND LAND

- If time permits, allow children to complete side 2 of their activity pages or encourage children to complete side 2 with their family at home.
- After the children have completed their activity pages, lead them to stand and march in place as they say the Bible verse, "You, LORD, are the only God. Nehemiah 9:6."
- Lead the children to march to Reach Out, reciting the Bible verse as they go.







REACH OUT (10-15 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Item 21: "Creation Cards"
- Item 22: "Amazon Animals"
- Bible, small bean bag, rubber band

TO DO:

Print "Amazon Animals."

- □ Gather "Creation Cards" used in Workout.
- Cue the video "Away from It All."
- After the children are settled, state: "Today we will hear about a missionary family who traveled all the way from a little town in Tennessee to a tiny village deep in the Amazon Jungle." Show the video "Away from It All."
- Place the "Amazon Animals" on the floor. Say: "We are going to play a game to help us remember to pray for the missionaries we just saw." Invite a child to toss the small bean bag onto the paper. Help the child identify the animal closest to where the bean bag landed. Next, ask the child to recall something from the video. Continue the game with other volunteers identifying an Amazon animal, then recalling something from the video.
- Hold the Bible as you pray for the Jansen family. Pray for God to help them teach the village people that there is only one true God. Pray for the people to learn that only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator.
- Show the children Day 6 of the "Creation Cards." Lead the children to choose an animal and act like it as they move to Tournament.

TOURNAMENT (15-20 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Activity 1: Bible, Item 21:
 "Creation Cards," 6 chairs, 6 index cards, glue stick
- Activity 2: Bible, beach ball
- Activity 3: Bible, laundry basket or wastebasket, 6 tennis balls

TO DO:

Activity 1: Use six of the "Creation Cards" and glue each one to an index card. Order the cards by the numbered days of Creation. Gather six chairs and place them at intervals around the room. Place a creation index card on each chair.

Lead these games one at a time so all children can participate. If you have less time, choose just one or two.

1. TRAVEL TO CREATION STATIONS

 Gather TeamKIDs and announce: "We are going to take a train ride." Line up children. Call out: "All aboard!" and chug around the room with the children chugging behind you. Chug around the room once, then call out: "We are approaching Station One!" Stop at the first chair. TeamKIDs will deboard the train and circle around the coach. Hold the index card and say: "Welcome to Creation Station One! Do you know what God created on Day 1?" Encourage a volunteer to answer. When a child answers "light" or "day," show the card. Ask a coach to read the Bible (Gen. 1:5) to verify. Cheer for the correct answer.

• Call out: "All aboard!" and resume the train ride. Travel around the room. Continue the game until all stations are visited. At the end of the train ride, ask the children: "What did God do on Day Seven?" (*He rested.*) Lead the children to rest.

2. BOUNCE A BEACH BALL

• Open your Bible to Nehemiah 9:6 and read, "You, LORD are the only God." Ask preschoolers to repeat each word after you, then say the whole verse. Bounce the beach ball with each word as the verse is recited by the group. Lead preschoolers to take turns bouncing the ball as the group repeats the verse.

3. TOSS AND RECALL

• Lead TeamKIDs to sit in a large circle. Say: "Let's see what you learned at the Creation Stations. You are going to take turns tossing balls in a basket. You can choose to toss 1-6 balls, but each person must toss a different number until all of the numbers are used." The group will count the balls as they are tossed. If 4 balls are tossed, ask: "What did God create on Day 4?" Continue with different days, based on number of balls tossed. Ask a coach to verify answers from the Bible. Conclude by stating: "God rested on Day 7."

COOL DOWN (10-15 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Item 7: "Allergy Alert Poster"
- □ Item 21: "Creation Cards"
- □ Item 24: "Parent Connection"
- Bible, animal crackers, cups of apple juice, napkins, scissors

TO DO:

- Post the allergy alert poster listing the snack. Print copies of "Parent Connection" (1 per child). Use "Creation Cards" (glued on index cards) from Tournament.
- Review the Bible story. Sit with the children. Open the Bible and review Nehemiah 9:6. Ask the children to pat the floor with their hands in a rhythm as they say the Bible verse together.
- Ask for a volunteer to name the two testaments of the Bible. Hold up the Bible and help the child to pinch together the testament she names. Repeat with the other testament. Recall the song learned in Workout and sing it together. Use the "Creation Cards" to review the Bible story.
- Pray. Thank God that He is great and the one true God. Praise Him for being the Creator and the only one worthy of worship.
- Serve a snack. When preschoolers finish, encourage them to throw away their trash and join a coach on the floor.
- Close the meeting. Lead the children to chant: "Who made everything? God made everything. Who made the animals? God made the animals. Who made the mountains? God made the mountains." Ask for other things from creation to use in the chant. Children may want to pat the floor to the chant's rhythm.
- Give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.



MEETING (2) DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?



THE WORD *COVENANT* MEANS "PROMISE." GOD MADE COVENANT PROMISES TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE. A VERY SPECIAL PROMISE FROM THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL AND ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES, EVEN WHEN WE ARE NOT FAITHFUL TO HIM. TAKE TIME TO IDENTIFY SOME OF GOD'S PROMISES. REMIND CHILDREN THAT EVEN WHEN WE ARE UNFAITHFUL, HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES.

BIBLE VERSE

Know that the Lord your God is God. Deuteronomy 7:9

BIBLE STORY God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:1-8; 15; 17:1-8)

BIBLE TRUTH

God is faithful to keep His promises.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

- Middle Preschoolers: God can do all things.
- Older Preschoolers: God can do all things.

BIBLE SKILLS

- Middle Preschoolers: Hears names of some of the books in the Bible.
- Older Preschoolers: Begins to pronounce the names of the books of the Bible.

TEACHER SUPPORT

Go deeper into the Bible story and life application by reading this meeting's Teacher Support (Item 27).

WARM-UP (5-10 MINUTES)

PROVIDE: Bible, craft stick

- Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID as they arrive. Comment that last week's Bible story was about God's creation of the world. Ask for a volunteer to name the book in the Bible where it tells about God's creation of the world. (Genesis) Ask a child to show you Genesis in the Bible. Lead her to touch the name of the book with a craft stick. Lead other volunteers to repeat this process.
- Lead the children to clap and chant:

Gen-e-sis, Gen-e-sis, Gen-e-sis in the Bi-ble. It is first, it is first, It is first in the Bi-ble.

• Invite the children to stand and tap their shoulders to the beat. Say the chant again with the children. Lead them to whisper the chant as they move to Workout.

WORKOUT (15-20 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Item 25: "God's Promises"
- TO DO:
- Cut apart the strips on the "God's Promises" sheet. Hide them near the Workout area.

Tell the Bible story.

Bible, scissors

- Note that today's Bible story teaches about God and His promises. Tell children the word *covenant* means "a special promise." Challenge TeamKIDs to hold up a hand each time they hear *promise, promised,* or *promises* in the Bible story.
- Open your Bible to Genesis 12. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words. Use the following as a guide.



GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM BASED ON GENESIS 12:1-8; 15; 17:1-8

Abram and his wife Sarai lived long ago. They lived near their relatives and friends. One day, something very unusual happened to Abram. God spoke to him! God chose Abram out of all the people in the world and made a covenant—a very special promise—with him.

God told Abram to move to a place he had never been. God said Abram would have many descendants. That meant Abram would have many children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. So many people



would be born into Abram's family that they would become a whole nation of people. They would have land to live on, and everyone would know who Abram was.

Abram obeyed God. He did not know how God was going to give him a big family, but Abram trusted God to keep His promise.

Another time, God spoke to Abram again. God promised to give Abram a great reward. Abram asked God, "Who will get that reward when I die? I have no children. Whatever I have will belong to one of my servants."

God took Abram outside. "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you can," said God. "That is how many descendants you will have someday." Abram was getting to be an old man! His wife was getting old too. How could she have a baby? But Abram believed it would happen because God said it would.

God promised to give Abram the land, too. God made a special ceremony to show Abram that He would keep His covenant. First, God told Abram to bring some animals: a cow, a goat, a ram, a turtledove, and a pigeon. Abram followed God's instructions.

When the sun had set and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch appeared and passed between the animals. God showed that keeping the covenant was His job, not Abram's job.

When Abram was 99 years old, God talked to him again. "I am changing your name to Abraham. You will be the father of many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren," God said. "They will become many nations, and some of them will be kings. I will give them the land where you are living, and I will be their God. My promises will last forever."

Review the Bible story.

 Ask the children to stand and pat their heads, touch their toes, turn around two times, and then sit down. Explain that you have hidden six strips. Ask for a volunteer to find one of the strips and bring it to you. Read the word *promise*. Ask the children if they can remember the word that means "God's special promise." (*covenant*) Note that this Bible story is about God's covenant with Abraham. Continue with the remaining five strips to help children recall details of God's promises from the Bible story:

God promised Abraham would have a big family. God promised Abraham that his family would be as numerous as the stars. God promised to give Abraham the land. God promised Abraham that some of his descendants would be kings. God promised Abraham that his descendants would make up many nations.

Practice a Bible skill.

- Explain to the children that when they hear you say the name of a book of the Bible, they are to pat their knees. Say: "Banana, toothpaste, puppy, Genesis." Repeat the game several times, including Genesis and other Bible books in a different place in the short list of words.
- Conclude as children chant with you:

Gen-e-sis, Gen-e-sis, Gen-e-sis in the Bi-ble.



It is first. It is first. It is first in the Bi-ble.

Apply Bible learning.

• Refer to the Bible and note the Bible tells us about God. Open the Bible and say the verse: "Know that the Lord your God is God. Deuteronomy 7:9." Lead children to stand and say the verse. Lead them to point up and say the verse. Lead them to point to the Bible and say the verse. Ask: "Who is God?" (*The Lord, your God is God.*)

Pray.

Thank God for friends, food, and family. Thank Him for the Bible that teaches us about His promises. Thank Him for promising to care for each of us.

Move to Stretching.

Say Deuteronomy 7:9 together. Lead the children to softly recite the Bible verse several times as they continue to hold hands with a friend and move to Stretching.

STRETCHING (20-25 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

Bible, activity pages, pencils, crayons

TO DO: Prepare supplies for activities.

All these activities will reinforce today's Bible story. Before the meeting collect the materials and supplies needed for each. Assign a coach to lead each activity.

ACTIVITY PAGE, SIDE 1: COMPLETE A MAZE

- Remind the children that God told Abram in the Bible story to bring a cow, goat, ram, turtledove, and pigeon for a special ceremony. Explain that the special ceremony would help Abram remember that God could do all things and is faithful to keep His promises.
- Show each child the maze on side 1 of the Activity pages. Ask the children to each put a finger on Abram. Explain that Abram is at the beginning of the maze. Challenge each child to use a finger to trace from Abram through the maze to the animals at the end of the maze.
- After a child has traced with a finger, allow her to use a pencil to trace the path again. She may enjoy tracing the path a third time with a marker. As the children work, ask: "Is God faithful to keep His promises?" (Yes, God always keeps His promises).

ACTIVITY PAGE, SIDE 2: TRACE LETTERS

- If time permits, allow children to complete side 2 of their activity pages or encourage children to complete side 2 with their family at home.
- Review the animals that God asked Abram to bring: a cow, goat, ram, turtledove, and pigeon. Ask the children to make a cow sound with you. Invite the children to choose one of these animal sounds and make it on the way to Reach Out.



REACH OUT (10-15 MINUTES)

PROVIDE: Item 26: "Kazakhstan Photos" Bible TO DO: Cue the video "God's Big Plan."



- Allow each child to tell what animal sound he made on the way to Reach Out. Explain that all of these animals are found in the country you will hear about today—Kazakhstan. Show the video "God's Big Plan."
- After the video, look with the children at the "Kazakhstan Photos." Ask for volunteers to recall something they remember from the video.
- Remind the children that God made several promises to Abram. Recall some of those promises. (Abram would have a big family. His family would be as numerous as the stars. God would give Abram and his family the land. His family would make up many nations.)
- Note that the Bible includes many promises from God including that God will care for us. Missionaries depend on God's promises as they teach others about Jesus. Pray for the missionary family in Kazakhstan. Ask God to care for them and help them tell others about Jesus.
- Lead the children to move like goats to Tournament.

TOURNAMENT (15-20 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Activity 1: Bible, bean bags, masking tape
- Activity 2: Toy animals, masking tape
- Activity 3: Construction paper (various colors), paper strips, cup, scissors (optional)

TO DO:

- Activity 1: Place two chairs a few feet apart along one wall of the room. Tape a starting line that is 2 feet in front of each chair. Place a bean bag in each chair.
- Activity 2: Tape a line of masking tape on the floor. Place toy animals on either side of the line.
- Activity 3: Lay different colored construction paper in a path on the floor. Designate a start and finish. Cut or tear strips of paper to match each color along the path. Place the strips in a cup.

Lead these games one at a time so that all children can participate. If you have less time, choose just one or two.

1. MAKE A PROMISE AND PLAY "BEAN BAGS"

- Lead children to form two lines. Say: "This game is about keeping promises. The first person in each line can run to the beanbag, only after making a promise. The coach will ask either 'Do you promise to go get the bean bag?' (or) 'Do you promise to take the bean bag and throw it on the chair?'"
- The first child in a line answers question, then runs to the chair, picks up the bean bag, and runs back. The second child answers the appropriate question, runs to

Preschool TeamKID: Catching Air

the line, tosses the bean bag onto chair, then runs back. Continue until all have played. Conclude by saying: "Sometimes we cannot keep a promise, but God always does." Recite together: "God is faithful to keep His promises."

2. WALK THROUGH ANIMALS

- Lay out toy animals on either side of a masking tape line on the floor. Leave room for preschoolers to walk on the line without touching any animals. Form a line at one end of the masking tape. Explain to TeamKIDs that they must travel through the line of animals one at a time doing the action you call out. Possible actions include: walk with baby steps, walk with giant steps, jump, hop, or crawl.
- When a child has walked through the animals, he should return to the back of the line. Remind preschoolers that God promised to bless Abraham. Say: "During the time Abraham lived, if people made a covenant, or promise, with each other, they would have a special ceremony. That was their way of saying they would keep their part of the promise. In today's Bible story, God passed through the animals as a torch and a smoking fire pot. God was saying that keeping the covenant was His job, not Abraham's job."

3. LIFE-SIZE BOARD GAME

- Form a line at the start of the path. Explain to children that they will be the game pieces. Lead children to take turns drawing slips of paper. As a child selects a paper, she must advance to that color square that comes next on the path. Continue play until each child reaches the finish. Explain the colors preschoolers drew from the cup showed where to go. In our Bible story today, God told a man to leave his home and go to another land that God would show him. Who was the man God spoke to? (*Abraham*)
- Lead children to form a G, O, or D with their hands and arms as they move to Cool Down.

COOL DOWN (10-15 MINUTES)

PROVIDE:

- Item 7: "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Item 28: "Parent Connection"
- Bible, activity pages, graham crackers, water, napkins, table tennis ball, basket

TO DO:

- Complete and post the allergy alert prior to the meeting.
 Print copies of the "Parent Connection" (1 per child).
- Review the Bible story. Open a Bible to Genesis 12; briefly review the Bible story. Ask a volunteer to recall something from the Bible story, then to gently toss the ball in the basket. Play with several volunteers until the story is reviewed.
- Pray. Thank God for the snack. Thank Him for always keeping His promises.
- Serve a snack. When preschoolers finish, encourage them to throw away their trash and join a coach on the floor.
- Close the meeting. Recall that God always keeps His promises. Play a guessing game by describing something God provides us. For example: "It comes in little pieces. I add milk and eat it for breakfast." (*Cereal. God provides food.*) Give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.





HOW GREAT IS GOD?

MEETING

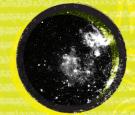


MATCH THE ANIMALS

TeamKID Catching Air

Only God is the one true God. He created everything from nothing. Find two pictures that are the same and draw a line to connect the two pictures.











BIBLE STORY: God Created the World (Genesis 1:1-2:3) **BIBLE VERSE:** You, LORD, are the only God. Nehemiah 9:6 **BIBLE TRUTH:** There is only one true God. Only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator.

COLOR THE OCEANS AND LAND

God created the world in six days. Use a blue crayon to color the oceans and a green crayon to color the land.



Your child learned that there is only one true God. Only God deserves worship because He is the true Creator.

This week, lead your child to look and find examples of what God has created. Make a list together and write this week's Bible verse at the top of the list (Nehemiah 9:6). Pray with your child, thanking God for being the Creator and the one true God. Thank Him for everything on the list and all His wonderful creation.

DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?

MEETING







BIBLE STORY: God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:1-8; 15; 17:1-8) **BIBLE VERSE:** Know that the Lord your God is God. Deuteronomy 7:9 **BIBLE TRUTH:** God is faithful to keep His promises.





Your child is learning God is faithful to keep His promises. While in the car this week, recall some

of God's promises from the Bible. Share these promises with your child. At bedtime, review this week's Bible verse (Deuteronomy 7:9). Pray with your child, thanking God that He can do all things and is faithful to keep His promises.

God gives us many promises in the Bible. Use a pencil to trace the dotted lines for each letter of the word PROMISE. Talk about what the word *promise* means. Decorate the letters with other colors of markers or crayons.