

Faithful

God Story

A Roman Shows Faith
Luke 7:1-10

Big Idea

We can experience God's love when we are faithful.

Key Verses

...[God] is the Father who gives us tender love. All comfort comes from him. He comforts us in all our troubles. Now we can comfort others when they are in trouble.
Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIRV).

Leader Tips

Prepare for the activities before the kids arrive, so you can lead with confidence and enthusiasm! Remember to pray for your group, too.

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

2 MINUTES

Lead into today's lesson by talking about things the kids have gotten better at with practice.

2. Intro Activity

5 MINUTES

Introduce this week's Big Idea, then use sticky hands to try to hit a bullseye. Discuss questions printed on the rings of the target.

God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video

12 MINUTES

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

My Story

4. Small Group Activity

12 MINUTES*

Read and discuss Proverbs 3:5-6. Work on a colour-by-numbers to reveal a hidden message.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

8 MINUTES

Create bracelets or anklets to wear as reminders of what the kids learned. Close in prayer together.

Our Story

6. Dismissal

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

Leader Tip

- Use this time to welcome everyone, build community, and set the tone for your group's time together.

Supplies

- None

Instructions

- a. As the kids arrive, gather them together.
- b. Ask: Can you think of something you got better at the more times you did it? Why did you improve?
- c. Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2. Intro Activity

Supplies

- Target with questions printed on it
- Wall-safe tape
- Masking tape
- Sticky hands

Before the Activity

- Before the kids arrive, hand the target on a wall using wall-safe tape.
- Based on the ages/skill of your group, decide where they'll stand to aim their sticky hands at the target. Make a line on the floor with masking tape.

Instructions

- a. Gather everyone by the target.
 - b. Introduce this week's Big Idea: **We can experience God's love when we are faithful.**
 - c. Explain that one of the meanings of faithfulness is sticking with something. That's why the kids are using sticky hands in this activity!
 - d. Guide them to take turns standing at the line and aiming their sticky hand toward the bullseye on the target.
 - e. If a sticky hand lands on a question, read it aloud and discuss it as a group.
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God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video **Instructions**

Supplies

- Video file

a. Play the video. It includes:

- Host segment
- God Story (A Roman Shows Faith | Luke 7:1-10)
- Key Verse segment
- Life Story (Mark Bilstra states that God saw the little boy fall out to Him, and he came through and saved him).

b. Discuss:

- What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - How do you think these two stories and today's Big Idea (**We can experience God's love when we are faithful**) connect?
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My Story

4. Small Group Activity

Supplies

- Bibles
- Colour-By-Numbers activity page
- Markers

Leader Tip

- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

Instructions

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Ensure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- Guide the kids to look up Proverbs 3:5-6.
- Read the verses together.
- Explain that when we place our trust in God, he shows us the way to go. As we faithfully and consistently pay attention, we'll experience God's always-there-for-us love!
- Emphasize that we don't need to do anything to get God to love us. We simply become more aware of God's love when we are faithful.
- Give each person an activity page.
- Place the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Direct the kids to colour-by-numbers on their pages.
- Tell them that as they stay faithful to the task, a message will be revealed!
- As they colour, review the Big idea (**We can experience God's love when we are faithful**). Make the connection that when we choose to be faithful, we will know God's love and care for us more clearly.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

Supplies

- String
- Large heart beads

Before the Activity

- Place the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it.

Instructions

- Remain in your small group and sit in a circle.
- Give each person a length of string and a heart bead.
- Direct everyone to thread their bead onto their string to create a bracelet or anklet.
- Help everyone knot together their string.
- Encourage the kids to wear it as a reminder to be faithful to following Jesus' example. The heart can help them remember that **we can experience God's love when we are faithful**.
- Pray for your group. Thank God for his faithful love and ask him to help the kids choose to be faithful. Invite anyone who's comfortable to pray, too. If they need guidance, suggest they say something like, "Jesus, please help me to be faithful in following you and to notice the ways you show your love to me."

Our Story

1. Dismissal

Supplies

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse Colouring pages

Leader Tip

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

Instructions

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
 - b. Give everyone a weekly take-home card as well as the monthly Key Verse card and colouring page.
 - c. Remind the kids to take their crafts.
 - d. Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.
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