



Date: _____

Series: Pass the Promise
Summer Year 1, Lesson 11

God Goes With You Wherever He Leads You

Primary Scripture: John 10: 4-5

Key Verse: Isaiah 30:21, "You will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way. Follow it, whether it turns to the right or to the left.'"

How does this address a need in our kids' lives?

Kids need direction in their lives that leads them in the way God would have them go. Kids need to learn that if they choose to follow God, there is a blessing even if it is not apparent at the time. God is personally interested in them and wants to lead them. God talks to them personally in the Bible and also makes his ways known through godly parents, teachers, and others who can influence them. God also uses everyday occurrences to remind us of his care for us and our need to trust him. Just as Abraham was led by God and grew to trust him, so can we learn to trust him and follow his ways.

How does Jesus fill this need?

Jesus for us: Jesus died and rose again so that our wayward wanderings might be forgiven and we would be empowered to follow him.

Jesus in us: God's Holy Spirit dwells within us so that we might hear God's voice and follow him.

Jesus through us: As we follow God, we become an example for others, and God uses our lives to lead others to him as well.

Stamp of Excellence:

Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.



Invocation:

Let kids bring the worship symbols forward such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Attention Grabber:

Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.

Supplies:

- road map

When you are traveling somewhere, how do you know which way to go?

Hold up a road map and say:

Have you seen your parents use one of these on vacation or a trip? To get to a destination, we usually follow a map or signs along the way.

The Bible is like our road map to life, and signs along the way are ways we see God in our lives. Today we will talk about Abraham. God told him to take his family and move to a far away place. He didn't have a map when he made his journey. But he learned to trust God to lead him along the way.

One place God leads us is to him. Worship is our way to show God we love him.

Songs of Worship:

Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!

Your choice of music.

The Power of the Cross:

Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.

Supplies:

- *picture that demonstrates how God comes after us to rescue us or lead us—for example, there is a painting of a lamb on a rocky cliff and a shepherd reaching over the edge or climbing down to rescue the lamb*

How many of you accidentally took a detour and got lost or separated from your parents at a mall or amusement park? How did it feel to not be in the right place? Scary or lost? When we disobey God it can be like walking away from his protection. That can feel quite scary. But God always comes after us. We are reminded of that when we pray.

Lead the children in a prayer of confession. Perhaps you have a picture to show that will demonstrate how God comes after us to rescue us or lead us.

Jesus desires that we repent and turn to him. Luke 19:10 says, “Indeed, the Son of Man has come to seek and to save people who are lost.”

Song of Response:

Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.

Offering:

Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.

If we follow God, he calls us to have faith and to give back to him a portion of what he has given us. God calls us to give our offerings so others can be helped.



The Word

Learning Game:

Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.

Supplies:

- *blindfold*

Pick one person to be blindfolded. This person will try to navigate through “bumpers” from one side of the room to the other. He can pick a friend who will be his helper.

Have the rest of the kids spread throughout the room. These kids will act like bumpers in a pinball machine. They must remain stationary with their arms folded across their chests.

The blindfolded child must also fold his arms across his chest. His friend will call out directions for him so he does not run into any bumpers. The bumpers have the job of calling out false directions that, if followed, will lead the blindfolded person to run into other bumpers.

The adult leader needs to place the friend giving true directions at least ten feet away from the blindfolded person and move him from time to time. This is so that his friend will learn to discern his voice out of the rest of the crowd.

Let several others try to navigate through the maze and then discuss how easy or difficult it was.

Did the directions from your friend help?

Read John 10:4-5.

“After he (Jesus) has brought out all his sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they recognize his voice. They won’t follow a stranger. Instead, they will run away from a stranger because they don’t recognize his voice.”

How was the game we played like this Bible verse?

Bible Presentation:

Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.

Read Isaiah 30:21.

“You will hear a voice behind you saying, ‘This is the way. Follow it, whether it turns to the right or to the left.’”

In today’s video, we will see a number of ways Abraham listened to God’s voice and obeyed him. Sometimes it was difficult. But Abraham trusted that God was always with him and God blessed Abraham for his faithfulness.

Application:

Supplies:

- *video: ABRAHAM, TESTAMENT: The Bible in Animation (Diamond Entertainment Corporation, 2000)*

Show the video. The running time is approximately 30 minutes.



Witness

Witness and Tell:

Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.

Have kids tell about a time they were in a scary or new place and God helped them.

Prayer:

Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.

Blessing:

Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.

Song of Sending:

Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.

Supplies:

Attention Grabber:

- road map

Power of the Cross:

- picture that demonstrates how God comes after us to rescue us or lead us—for example, there is a painting of a lamb on a rocky cliff and a shepherd reaching over the edge or climbing down to rescue the lamb

Learning Game:

- blindfold

Bible Presentation Application:

- video: *ABRAHAM, TESTAMENT: The Bible in Animation* (Diamond Entertainment Corporation, 2000)—order from <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0000AYL2Y/103-2452802-8726231?v=glance&n=130>

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