



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: Meet the Amazing Jesus  
Winter Year 3, Lesson 40

# God Will Be With Us—We Can Help Others

**Primary Scripture:** Exodus 2:11-4:23 Moses is sent

**Key Verse:** Exodus 3:10, “Now go! I am sending you to Pharaoh so that you can bring my people Israel out of Egypt.”

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

Can God use children to help others? Moses was surprised that God would choose him to help others. Perhaps our children will be surprised, as well. It is true, though, that God can use them to help others. Just as God sent Moses to help his people, God is sending our kids to their friends to help them. As God does this, he says, “I will be with you.” Both kids and adults need to hear God’s voice encouraging them so that they might reach others with his love.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** We all have been held captive by the slavery of our own selfishness. Since Jesus gave his life to die for our sins, we are set free through faith. We are no longer slaves of our own selfishness.

**Jesus in us:** Moses had God’s promise of companionship. It is even more personal for us when Jesus promises to literally be in us through our faith in him.

**Jesus through us:** Through the strength he gives us, we can proclaim the good news of friendship with God.

## 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.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols 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 needed: a four-foot rope*

Hold up the rope. *(It will later be used for the gospel illusion part of the message.)* Invite a child forward and say:

**This is a friendship rope. It is a very special rope because it shows that if one person is holding one end of the rope and another person is holding the other end, they are friends. One friend can even lead another friend, just like I am leading my friend *(child's name)* on the other end of this rope.**

After you have led one child by the rope for a short while around the room, say, **“Let's switch.”** Then attach someone else to the rope in your place, and have the first child lead the new one around. As they meander in and amongst their peers, talk about how good it is to have more than one friend. Some of us might even have a whole bunch of friends.

Then say, **“Switch,”** again and have a third kid take the rope from the first while the second child becomes the leader. Have them make their way to the front, then take the rope from them as they return to their seats.

**Did you know that when you are worshiping God, you are telling him how wonderful he is? That is just like letting God hang on to the end of this rope and pull you toward heaven. In worship, we find out more about who God is and how he loves us and helps us. After we are through worshiping, God uses the friendship rope to lead us out into our everyday lives. It is there that he helps us learn how to help others.**

## **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 needed: the same four-foot rope*

**Do kids ever let each other down or hurt each other's feelings? How?**

You should have lots of responses. After a few have shared, ask:

**Have *you* ever let a friend down or hurt a friend's feelings? Who would like to tell us about it?**

Let one or more kids respond.

**We all have done something like this at one time or another, haven't we? In fact, maybe we hurt someone's feelings in the last week, or even the last day or two, or even already this morning. When we do, it can hurt.**

Ask for a volunteer to come forward. Wrap the rope one time around his arm, gently, then snug it up – not so tight that it pinches him.

**When we let our friends down, it can really hurt them. If I pulled real hard on this rope, do you think it would hurt \_\_\_\_ (*child's name*)? You bet it would. It could even injure him. Pulling too hard on this rope is what it's like when we treat our friends and loved ones in the wrong way. It can really hurt them.**

**Let's give these things to God and ask him to forgive us.**

Pray a prayer asking for God's forgiveness and for his help to better care for our friends and family. Then announce God's forgiveness.

**Isn't it wonderful that all we have to do is tell God we are sorry and ask his forgiveness, and it's as though we never did any of these things in God's eyes? Now we've got a chance to start over and try to do it right. And every time we fail, God stands ready to forgive. Let's sing of God's wonderful grace right now.**

## **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.*

*Supplies: the rope*

Place the friendship rope in a circle. Let the children stand in the circle when they bring their offerings forward. Offerings are a symbol of us giving our whole selves to God. As the kids bring their offerings, you might have them offer their hearts as well by pantomiming taking their hearts from their chests and "pouring them out" into the offering basket.

As one by one they offer their money and their hearts to God, review your current mission project and how close/far you are from the goal you've set.



# 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 needed: long jump ropes*

### **“Jump Rope Friendship”**

Have the kids jump rope (*one kid at both ends and another jumping between them*) to illustrate cooperation and how one person can help another learn to jump rope. An older child can help a younger child learn to jump rope by teaching them to run into the swinging rope with good timing. Larger groups will need a large room and several ropes going at once.

The learning point is that God is with us, just like the friendship rope, so we can help others.

## 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.*

*Supplies needed: the video *The Animated Stories from the Bible: Moses* from Nest Entertainment. Advance video to begin at the nine-minute time frame.*

Show the last section of the video which covers Moses fleeing from Egypt, encountering the burning bush, and God sending him back as his rescuer. This segment lasts approximately twelve minutes and begins nine minutes into the video.

OR

Read Exodus 2:11-4:23 in a dramatic or creative way.

Discuss how the power of God gave Moses all he needed to help others.

## **Application:**

*Supplies: "The Friendship Rope" (see appendix), name tags for God and Adam, scissors, magic rope*

"The Friendship Rope" (see appendix).



# 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.*

Let children talk about ways that they can help others and how God is with them to do that.

## 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.*

Tell kids that prayer is one of the very best ways to help others, because God has power to do things we can't. Invite kids to bring God's power to bear on people's lives as they pray for them now.

## 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.*

# **“The Friendship Rope”**

## **“The Friendship Rope”**

*This is a gospel illusion trick that can be purchased. The illusion is that the rope that was cut somehow is restored perfectly without the knot. Order the Magician’s Rope from Dock Haley Gospel Magic at (615) 885-4800: <http://www.gospelmagic.com>*

**We will need two volunteers. One will pretend to be the first man that God ever made – Adam. The second will pretend to be God.**

Pick two volunteers from the audience and have them come forward. Put a nametag with “God” on one child, and a nametag with “Adam” on the other.

**Now this is the story. When God first made man, they had a perfect relationship. God and Adam were best friends. It was like being connected together by a friendship rope. Wherever Adam went, he knew that God would be right there. They used to walk in the Garden of Eden together and be buddies. They did things together that best friends do. They laughed, played, and talked nicely to each other.**

**But a terrible thing happened to the wonderful friendship that God and man had. Man decided that he didn’t want to go along with God’s way anymore. He wanted to do his own thing. He rebelled against God and sinned. Do you know what that did to the friendship rope? That’s right. Sin cut the friendship rope!**

Cut rope.

**Now man was free to go his own way and be without God.**

Have “Adam” move away.

**But man really did need God’s friendship. Man found out that life really wasn’t all that fun without God.**

Have Adam make a sad face.

**God decided to do something about their broken friendship. God promised that he would someday send a Savior into the world. In Genesis 3:15, God promised that someday a Savior born of a woman would destroy the power of sin and completely mend the friendship rope. This promise of God to send a Savior was like tying a rope together!**

Tie rope.



**When people now trusted in God's promise to send a Savior, they were friends with God once again.**

**People waited for hundreds of years for God to fulfill his promise and send a Savior.**

Show rope.

**People remembered this friendship rope and how it was perfect. They wanted it to be perfect again. When did God keep his promise and send a Savior? The day finally came. On Christmas morning, Jesus, God's own Son, was born into the world.**

Direct one of the volunteers to place the paper over the knot on the rope.

**Now someone here needs to bring this special paper and lay it on the knot. What's so special about this piece of paper? It has a cross on it. Why is that? The cross is there to remind us of how God mended the relationship between himself and man. Jesus suffered and died on the cross for all of our sins so that the friendship rope between God and man would be (unveil the knotless rope) made perfect again!**

# Supplies:

## *Attention Grabber:*

- 4' length of rope

## *Learning Game:*

- jump ropes

## *Bible Presentation:*

- video called *Animated Stories from the Old Testament: Moses*, from Nest Family Entertainment — order from: <http://www.nestfamily.com>

## *Application:*

- The Friendship Rope—order the Magician's Rope from Dock Haley Gospel Magic at (615) 885-4800: <http://www.gospelmagic.com>
- name tags for God and Adam
- scissors
- paper with a cross on it

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