



WEEK FOUR – AUGUST 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Live to Tell (Abraham to Isaac) • Genesis 12-21*

Bottom Line: *Trust and obey even if you don't know how it will work out.*

Memory Verse: *“The way we show our love is to obey God’s commands. He commands you to lead a life of love. That’s what you have heard from the beginning.” – 2 John 6 (NIRV)*

Life App: *Obedience—trusting who’s in charge by doing what you’re asked to do.*

Basic Truth: *I need to make the wise choice.*

Summary: In Genesis 12–21, we discover how God promised Abraham that his descendants would become a great nation. He tells Abram to pack up his family and move. Abraham wasn’t exactly sure how things would all play out, but he obeyed, trusting that God would keep His promise. God made a covenant with Abraham. And through many ups and downs, God stayed faithful to Abraham and gave him reminders along the way that He would stay true to His promise.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: A box of space prizes

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Show kids the box and tell them that there is something inside for each of them and you'll give it to them when the time is right.
- Prompt them to guess what it is.
- Keep the suspense high by not providing any clues or hints. Instead, encourage kids to make their guesses as specific as possible, and maybe even let them say what they HOPE it is. (You think it's candy? What kind of candy? Oooh. That sounds good. Are they all the same flavor? You think it's a toy? What kind? Cool! Do you think they're all the same toy?)
- You won't reveal the prizes until the end of Groups time, so if kids start getting frustrated, redirect them and start the next activity.

2. T-Minus 0

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Guide kids (ahem, astronauts) to put on their spacesuits using the astronaut sequence from Week 2:
 - Put on your communication cap.
 - Pull on your spacesuit pants.
 - Float up into the spacesuit top, and put your arms through the sleeves.
 - Put on your left glove.
 - Put on your right glove.
 - Put on your space helmet.
- Next, lead astronauts to climb into the space shuttle and lie on their backs. (This is the position astronauts are in before launch.)
- "Strap" all of your astronauts into their seats.

- Use the conversation below to guide your astronauts through a shuttle launch! Encourage lots of imagination!
 - “Mission Control to Space Shuttle [your environment’s name]. We’re at T minus nine minutes, and we’re a go for launch.”
 - “T minus 7 minutes 30 seconds. Retract the orbiter access arm.”
 - “T minus five minutes. Start the auxiliary power units.”
 - “T minus two minutes. Close your visors.”
 - “T minus 31 seconds. Auto sequence start.” (Astronauts feel and hear thumping as the rockets come to life.)
 - “T minus six seconds. Start main engines.” (The shuttle rumbles and vibrates as the engines start.)
 - “T minus zero seconds. Solid rocket boosters, ignite.” (You feel a huge kick from behind as the rockets ignite, lifting you off the ground.)
 - “Liftoff. We have liftoff.” (The shuttle shakes and vibrates as you zoom into the sky.)
 - “Soon, you’re traveling so fast that it feels like a giant gorilla is sitting on your chest!”
 - “A few minutes later, the main engines stop and immediately you feel weightless. You’re flying in space!”

What You Say:

“Wow! That was a great liftoff. I don’t know how this mission will work out, but here we are, in space. [Transition] Let’s go to the space station—I mean, Large Group—to learn more.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out. For kids, sometimes they’ll face moments of obedience where they don’t know if the outcome will be worth doing what they’re told. It could mean needing to move to a new school and having a good attitude or finding out you have allergies and suddenly not being able to eat your favorite meal anymore. We can trust that God has a plan for our lives and will care for us along the way.*

SMALL GROUP

1. To the Stars & Back

[Memory Verse Activity]

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Bibles; “To the Stars and Back” Activity Pages; markers or crayons

What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up and “read” (follow along as you read) 2 John 6 together.
- Give each kid an Activity Page.
- Guide kids to point to the large star. Lead them to find and follow the path with one star.
- Set out the markers or crayons and guide kids to trace the path they found.
- What do they see? (a heart)
- Help kids follow the path to “read” the verse.

What You Say:

“Did Abraham obey God’s commands? Yes! Abraham showed his love for God by trusting Him and doing what He told him to do. For 25 long years, Abraham followed and trusted God—even though he had NO idea how God would keep His amazing, incredible promise. And in the end, every one of God’s words came true: Abraham and Sarah had a son, they had more kids and grandkids and great–great–great–great–great–grandkids than all the stars in the sky, and God blessed people everywhere through Abraham by sending His Son, Jesus.

*“Does God keep His promises? Yes! God always, always, ALWAYS keeps His promises. That’s why you can **[Bottom Line]** trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out, because God loves you and you can trust Him no matter what!*

[Make It Personal] (Tell about a child–appropriate time when God gave you a promise that seemed impossible. Share how God came through on His promise or how you’re still trusting God for His answer. Tell how your relationship with God has grown as a result.)

*“So remember to **[Bottom Line]** trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out.”*

2. Trust & Obey

[Application Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Space Helmets” Activity Page; craft sticks; tape; markers; star stickers, alphabet stickers, or space-themed stickers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Space Helmet.”
- Invite kids to decorate their helmets as they choose.
- Help kids add handles by taping craft sticks to the back of their helmets.

- Invite kids to “role play” astronauts on a mission and receive orders from mission control.

What You Say:

“In order to successfully complete their missions, astronauts need to follow the directions that mission control gives them. Whose directions do YOU need to follow? (God’s, my mom’s, my dad’s, my teacher’s, etc.) Why is it important to trust and obey those in charge? (They know more; they know what’s best; they love me.) Why is it important to trust and obey God? (He knows what’s best; He loves me; When I obey Him, I show Him that I love Him.)”

*“So remember: **[Bottom Line] Trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out.** Because when you do, you’ll show the people in charge that you love them, and you’ll show God that you love Him, too!”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Prizes from Earlier Arriver

What You Do:

- Lead kids to restate their guesses about what’s in the box.
- Open the box and distribute the prizes.
- Congratulate kids for waiting so long to find out what the prizes were!

What You Say:

“Did you know how my promise to give you something would work out? (Pause.) Did Abraham know how God’s promise to him would work out? (Pause.) Abraham trusted and obeyed God even though he didn’t know how things would work out.

*“Just like Abraham, you won’t always know how things will work out, either. Sometimes that may make you feel excited, and other times that may make you feel scared. But you can show God and the people who lead you that you love them by trusting them and doing what they ask you to do. So remember to **[Bottom Line] trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out.** Let’s pray.” (Lead kids in prayer. Thank God for His love. Thank him that we can trust Him no matter what. Ask Him to help both you and the kids **[Bottom Line] trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out.**)*

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell their parents today’s Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] Trust and obey even if you don’t know how it will work out.**