



WEEK ONE – SEPTEMBER 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Dream On* • Genesis 28:10–22; Genesis 25:19–34; 27

Bottom Line: *You can trust God no matter what.*

Memory Verse: “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.*” – Proverbs 3:5 (NirV)

Life App: *Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on.*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: We start the month with Jacob. We find his story through various passages in Genesis 25, 27, and 28. Jacob might have wondered how God felt about him after swindling his brother’s birthright and blessing out from under him. But in a dream, God reminded Jacob that He loved Jacob and could be trusted. God renewed the covenant that he started with Jacob’s grandfather Abraham. God always keeps his promises.

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: N/A

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
- Ask kids to share about any crazy dreams they've had. (*Note: You might need to set a time limit and/or remind kids to keep things appropriate.*)

2. Going Camping

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Play a game like “Going on a Picnic,” but instead you’re “Going Camping.”
- Tell kids to sit in a circle.
- The first kid says, “I’m going camping, and I’m taking [item].”
- The second kid says, “I’m going camping, and I’m taking [first kid’s item] and [item].”
- This continues all the way around the circle.
- If you want to play again, feel free to switch it up with one or more of these ideas:
 - Each kid’s item must start with the last letter of the previous kid’s item.
 - Kids must play the game with their eyes closed.
 - Kids must do an action along with their word.

What You Say:

“That’s always such a fun game. I loved hearing the items people came up with. [Transition] Let’s go to Large Group, where we might hear some more about camping, and we’ll learn what this month’s Life App is!”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *You can trust God no matter what.* From being powerful enough to create the universe to being personal enough to love each one of us through Jesus, God has proved that He can be trusted in any and every circumstance. We pray that kids will discover they can trust God with whatever they face in their own life.

SMALL GROUP

1. Even When...**[Application Activity]**

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

What You Need: “Even When” Activity Page cards, construction paper, markers, glue

What You Do:

- Hand out construction paper.
- Tell kids to write: “I will trust God no matter what—even when . . .” at the top of their paper.
- Explain that there are many times in our lives when it might not be easy to trust God.
- Tell kids that these “Even When” cards list some of those times. Read each situation aloud.
- Scatter all the cards face-up in the middle of your group.
- Instruct kids to each take three or four cards that apply to them (or have recently applied to them). They can also take a blank card and write a different situation on it.
- Instruct kids to glue their cards to their papers.

What You Say:

*“People can let you down. Your mom might say she’s going to do something and then she doesn’t do it. Or maybe you catch your friend making fun of you behind your back. But you can ALWAYS trust God. **[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids about a tough situation in your own life and how you know you can trust God even when it’s hard. remember to keep all stories age-appropriate.) [Bottom Line] You can trust God no matter what, and so can I!”*

2. Echo Verse**[Memory Verse Activity]**

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Help kids look up Proverbs 3:5 using the tips below.
 - **Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders:** *Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Proverbs in the list under “Old Testament.” When the kids find Proverbs, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Proverbs. Help the kids find the page. When they find Proverbs, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 3. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 3.*
- Say the verse together several times.
- Divide the kids into two groups.
- Guide the groups to stand in two lines facing each other across your space.
- Stand with one of the groups.
- Explain that you will say the first word of the verse.
- The group across from you will echo it back, then your group will echo it back a little softer, and so on.
- Repeat this with each word. Feel free to say the words in different ways or in various accents to keep things interesting.
- After each word has been echoed, let the groups switch sides.
- Repeat the game, but this time do it with the sentences in the verse, instead of just one word at a time.
- Finally, let groups echo the entire verse back and forth.

What You Say:

*“You can always trust God. You can trust Him when life doesn’t seem to make sense. You can trust Him when you feel all alone. You can trust that He’s with you when you’re afraid or under pressure. [Bottom Line] **You can trust God no matter what.**”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Kids’ papers from the “Even When . . .” activity

What You Do:

- Hand out kids’ papers from the “Even When . . .” activity.
- Tell kids to each silently make a prayer out of the words on their papers.
 - For example: “God, I will trust You no matter what—even when I get in trouble for something I didn’t do, my grandma is in the hospital, and I didn’t get invited to the party. Amen.”

What You Say:

*“There are times in our lives when everything is going great, and it’s easy to trust God. But a lot of the time, we have reasons we might not trust Him, but we know we ALWAYS can, because God is ALWAYS trustworthy. He knows exactly what He’s doing, and He loves us. So remember, [Bottom Line] **you can trust God no matter what.**”*

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids about the situations on their papers and what they know about God that can help them during those times. Also, don’t forget to hand out this month’s content overview to each parent!