



3PK

Sept 6-7, 2014

DATE

Gideon

LESSON TITLE

Judges 6

WHERE TO FIND IT

God Wants to Help Us

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:

Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Snack and Small Group

Finish early? Repeat the activity! Kids this age learn through repetition. Or, check out the end of the activities section to find an idea for this week.

tips

Help kids clean up their stuff. Make it fun. Tell them each to pick up 10 items, or act like you're a robot while picking up, or come up with your own creative idea to engage them in clean up.

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents why they colored a picture of a cave.

large group heads up

Today, we are learning the story of Gideon. Gideon was afraid to lead God's family to safety because he didn't realize that God would help him. God showed him that he would! The great news is, God loves to help us too.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line up.
- Tell kids that we're going to hear a story about how God loves to help his family. Then have some fun.
 - Play the ***Kids' Club CD***
 - While the music plays, pass around the ***beach ball***
 - Pause the music every now and then and have kids freeze!
 - Yell "God loves to help _____" (name of kid holding the ball)
 - Then begin again
 - Before you go in, stop the game and practice putting on your listening ears. You may even want to whisper "God loves to help us" as quietly as you can to calm kids down.

If the music hasn't started yet, remind kids that when their listening ears are on, their mouths should be closed tight. Then practice that together! For fun, hop into Large Group like HOPS.



instructions

Goal: to help kids review the story by acting it out

Why? This story can be hard to understand, but acting it out this way will reinforce how serious God was about helping Gideon

Tip: If kids want to take their cotton balls home, let them glue them onto their cave coloring page (you should have a couple extra glue sticks in your bin).

small group

****Start today with a review activity:***

REVIEW ACTIVITY

Review the context:

1. Where was God's family hiding? (in caves)
2. Why did they have to hide? (a huge army was chasing them)
3. Who did God ask to rescue his family? (Gideon!)
4. How did Gideon feel when God asked him to save his family? (make a scared face to show kids Gideon was scared)

Act it out:

*Hand each kid a cotton ball. Ask them to flatten it (they can unroll it or just pull it a little).

Then act out the story:

- Gideon asked God to make some wool wet and the ground dry. Then he went to sleep. (Kids should pretend to sleep). As kids "sleep," use a paper cup in the room to drop a little water on their cotton ball. Then say, "Wake up!"
- Wow, do you guys have wet wool? (Give them a moment to look)
- Say, "That means God will help!" Ask kids to repeat: "God will help!"
- But...uh oh, Gideon still felt scared! (Kids should make a scared face)

*Hand each kid a second cotton ball. Ask them to flatten it. Then act out the rest of the story:

- So Gideon asked God to make some wool dry and the ground wet. Then he went to sleep. (Kids should pretend to sleep). As kids "sleep," use a paper cup in the room to drop a little water *next* to their cotton ball. Then say, "Wake up!"

- Wow, do you guys have dry wool? (Give them a moment to look)
- Say, “That means God will help!” Ask kids to repeat: “God will help!”

***Serve kids a snack as you continue on the following page:**

5. Say, God will help _____ (use kids’ names).
6. How will God help us? (suggest things like share, eat all our food, clean up our toys, be kind to our brothers or sisters, etc.)

***Pray with the kids, thanking God for helping Gideon—and us!**

Extra time? Have kids HELP you find items in the room by playing I Spy: Say, “I spy something with the color _____” and let the kids guess. Or say, “I spy something shaped like a _____” and let the kids guess. Let the kids come up with their own objects too. To mix things up, ask the kids to find something in the room with a certain color or shape and bring it to you. (Don’t make it a contest to find an object first—just have fun seeing many examples of colors and shapes!)

special notes

Use tone today to show specifically how Gideon asked God to show that he would help.

presenter tips

Make sure you use lots of eye contact and muster as much energy as possible as you present. Kids love it when you act silly and over-the-top, so go for it. They'll love it and it will help the lesson to stick.

script

Presenter: Hi Friends! Welcome to Kid's Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today in Kids' Club.

Video: HOPS 3 Put On Your Listening Ears (*about 1 minute*)

REVIEW

Presenter: (holding up the Bible for kids to see) This is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important. It's God's Rescue plan.

Remember how God made the whole world and everything was good? The world was perfect! Give me a smile and a thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone): But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sadness and death came into the world... Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond) This was *really* sad.

But even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God...God loved them anyway! And he planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—can be close to God again. **And he decided to send the rescuer through a family!**

GOD'S FAMILY IS IN TROUBLE

But one day, God's family was in trouble! A huge army was coming to fight them. They had to leave their houses and runaway to hide in caves, like this: (**show kids a picture of the cave**). See, they would crawl into the dark opening to hide.

Now, close your eyes for a second. (Let kids close eyes). Imagine what it would feel like to live inside that cave. It would be dark. You'd have to sleep on the rocky ground. You might have to hunch over because some caves are small (hunch over together). And imagine what a cave would sound like with dripping water and howling wind. Or maybe it sounded something like



script continued

this: (play looping video with hollow dripping noise).

And I bet there were bugs! Everybody, use your hand to tickle your other arm (model). Pretend there is a creepy, crawly spider inching up your arm! (Model and let the kids pretend.) Ewww—yuck!

Whew! Go ahead and open your eyes. I would NOT want to live in a cave, would you!? (Let kids say: no!) Well, neither did God's family. **(Go to the next slide so the cave sounds don't distract kids)**

And God didn't want this big huge army to chase his family and attack them, so he chose a guy named Gideon to help his family. Can you guys say, "Gideon"? (Let kids say Gideon)

GIDEON IS AFRAID

Now, when God asks us to do something, should we say "yes" or "no"? (Let kids say: yes!) Can you guys practice saying yes with me? (Let kids say: yes!) That's right, we should always say yes to God.

(Lower your tone): But when God asked Gideon to rescue his family, Gideon said....*no*. Uh-oh! He didn't think that God would help him and he was scared of the army chasing God's family into caves!

GIDEON TESTS GOD ONCE

Gideon tried to figure out if God would *really* help him. So he took a piece of wool. It might have looked something like this **(hold up the piece of wool)**.

He put the piece of wool on the ground, outside the caves. He said something like, "God, if you're really going to help me, when I wake up in the morning, make this wool wet with water, and make the ground dry."

Then Gideon went to sleep (pretend to sleep—feel free to snore and even lay on the ground!). Can you guys snore with me? (Let kids snore. Then stand and stretch.) Alright, let's wake up! Stand up and stretch. (Stretch with the kids). Great job! Let's sit down and see what happened.

(make your tone excited) And guess what? When Gideon woke up, **(hold up the wool)** the wool was wet...and the ground was dry! That meant that God was going to help him! Let me see a thumbs up (let kids respond.)

GIDEON TESTS GOD AGAIN

(make your tone sound skeptical) But you know what? Gideon was still afraid that God wouldn't *really* help him. He said something like, "God, if you're really going to help me, when I wake up in the morning, make this **wool** dry, and make the **ground** wet with water." (emphasize words so kids can hear what is different about the second test)



script continued

Then Gideon went to sleep (pretend to sleep again). Can you guys snore with me again? (Let kids snore. Then stand and stretch.) Alright, let's wake up again! Stand up and stretch. (Stretch with the kids). Great job. OK, now let's see what happened...sit down.

(hold up the wool again) When he woke up, the wool was *dry*...and the ground was wet! Again, that meant God would really help him!

GOD LOVES TO HELP US

And this time, Gideon believed God! Do you guys think God helped Gideon rescue his family? (Let kids say: YES!) Yes, he sure did!

God loves to help his family! That means God loved to help Gideon. And that means God loves to help YOU. Everybody point to yourself and say, "God loves to help me!" (Let kids say: God loves to help me!)

Great job! Now let's pray together and thank God that he loves to help us. (Pray, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases).

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for helping Gideon. Thanks for helping me. I love you! Aaaaaa-MEN.

WORSHIP

Now let's stand up! (Let kids stand.) Let's dance and sing to thank Jesus for helping us.

Song: Be Strong

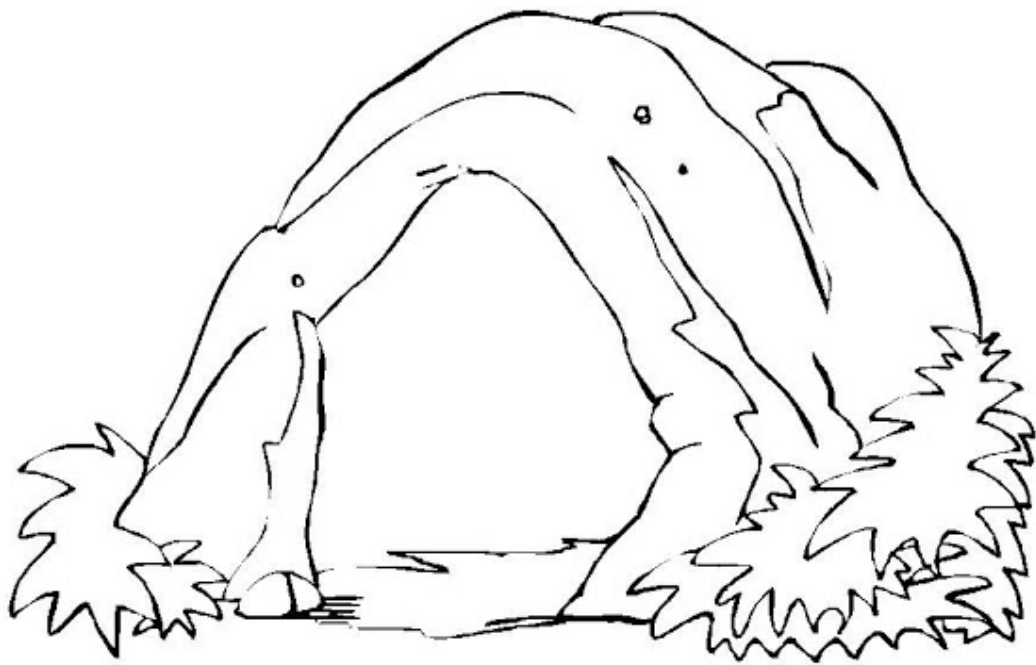
Song: King of the Jungle

Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop to their groups.)



script continued

name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per room

Kids' Club CD and working CD player

small group supplies

Per Kid

Coloring pages

2 cotton balls per kid

Per room

Beach ball

Water (enough for two small drips per kid)

Per group

glue sticks

large group supplies

One piece of sheep's wool, large enough for kids to see (approx. 2'x2', can use something like this:

<http://www.amazon.com/Faux-Long-Piled-Mongolian-Sheep/dp/B006QNX9TY> or something from this site:

<https://www.fabricdepot.com/index.php?page=CatalogPage&pageid=44>)

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1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
 2. Video: HOPS 3 Put Your listening Ears On
 3. Image: cave (jpeg in curriculum folder)
 4. Sound clip: inside a cave loop (Use from 0:27-9:56 of <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj8XbFOYylc>; may have this from last year)
 5. Song: Be Strong
 6. Song: King of the Jungle

connect questions

Tell me about Gideon.

Why did God help Gideon?

parent page

Daily Talk Starters printed separately