



# 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

August 15-16, 2015

DATE

The Day the Sun Stood Still

LESSON TITLE

Joshua 10; Proverbs 3:5-6

WHERE TO FIND IT

God fights for us.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (20 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (10 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

Many kids will be starting school soon. For some of them, it'll be a new situation and may be scary. It's a perfect day to talk to them about that. Ask them what they're most excited for...and what they're least excited for.

## check-in/out

Encourage kids to share their "fights" with the adult who picks them up. It might be helpful for adults to understand what their kids face.

## large group heads up

God fights for his family. It doesn't mean we sit back and do nothing, but it DOES mean we trust him to work miracles when we're too weak to overcome a struggle ourselves. Today's story is a pretty incredible example of that.

## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### **SUN UP, SUN DOWN**

*\*This is probably most fun played as one whole group.*

- This is basically Red Light, Green Light, except the person calling holds up either a sun or a moon when they call out the change:
  - Line kids up against the back wall (or the longest wall).
  - One volunteer is “it.” When he/she says “sun up” and holds up a **piece of paper with a SUN**, kids should take GIANT steps toward the leader as fast as they can (while the leader turns to face away from the kids).
  - As soon as the leader says “sun down” and holds up the **piece of paper with the MOON**, he/she whirls around to face the kids—and kids must freeze. If the leader catches anybody moving, he/she must go back to the wall and start over.
  - **THE TWIST:** If kids have to go to the wall, stop and see if any “frozen kids” want to switch places with them (this would completely self-sacrificial).
  - Once somebody reaches you, he/she is “it” if they want to be.
- **Debrief:**
  - Has anybody ever fought for you (stuck up for you, stood by you, helped you do something difficult)? What was it like? (If not, that's OK.)

**Before you go to Large Group, you can remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) retell the story of the day the sun stood still, (2) recognize that God fought for Joshua and (3) understand that God fights for us.

**Why?** Knowing what God can do for us can make us brave, just like it made Joshua brave.

**Tip:** Be really intentional about talking to kids while they work. Ask them what they face and encourage them to go to God with it. Remind them that he doesn't do everything we want but he *does* love us deeply and we can trust that he will help us.

## small group

### REVIEW THE STORY

(Hold up the **title fight card featuring Joshua vs. the 5 kings**)

1. Who was Joshua? (they can list all they remember)
2. What fight or battle was he facing? (5 kings who wanted God's family out of the Promised Land)
3. Why couldn't he win this battle on his own? (it was getting dark)
4. What did Joshua do when he realized he faced a tough fight? (asked God for help)
5. How did God fight for Joshua and his family? (sent a storm; stopped the sun)
6. Why does God want to fight for us?

### MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Think of one big "fight" you are facing (could be what kids came up with during Large Group).
- Hand each kid **their own blank title fight card** and give **markers** to the group
- On one side, have kids **draw** themselves. (They can give themselves a fighter nickname if they want!)
- On the other side, have them write/draw a fight they'd like God to help them with
- If they're willing, share. (As they work, ask them about what they're drawing.)
- **Then ask:** What are some ways God has fought for you before? (*Take a minute and celebrate what God has already done in kids' lives. Remind them that Jesus came to take all of our punishment—he won the fight vs. sin for us!*)

**\*Pray together, asking God to help each kid (refer specifically to title fight cards).**

*Extra Time? Play Sun Up Sun Down again from Connect Time. See if more kids are willing to fight for each other! Or grab a group game and bring it to the table. If you can't find games in the room, use paper and play Pictionary.*

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## special notes

This story is pretty remarkable, and it may raise questions for kids. Before you teach it to them, read Joshua 9-10 in the Bible, so that you know the whole story and are prepared to discuss it more in depth.

## presenter tips

Today's main story video can be previewed here:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAuky\\_uNCOgU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAuky_uNCOgU).

## script

**\*Click to play intro music**

### **WELCOME AND INTRO (2 min.)**

Hey everyone, welcome to Kids' Club! We're so glad to have you here this week. We just got finished playing a pretty fun game, but before we get to that, let's have some fun! Right now we're in the middle of a series called "Believe it or Not." So the first thing we're going to do is watch a video that about a dog that can do something incredible. Tell me, how do dogs walk? (Let kids respond.) That's right. Well, check this guy out:

### **Video: Dog Walking on Paws**

That's pretty cool, isn't it? But do you know where you can hear about some of the most incredible things that have ever happened in the world? A book called the Bible! It's filled with some of the most amazing things that the world has ever seen, and they didn't happen in a world far, far away or to superheroes that can jump tall buildings in a single bound; they happened to everyday people like you and me who listened to God and called on Him for help.

### **SUN STOOD STILL INTRO (4 min.)**

Today, we're going to be talking about one of the most incredible acts of power God has ever performed in the Bible. But first, let's see if you can guess what it is. I'm going to read you four options and you show me your vote by going to a corner of the room (assign each corner a number; then read kids their options):

**(Click to show slide with the following question): Do you think God....1. Split a huge sea down the middle? 2. Made a donkey talk? 3. Stopped the sun right where it hung in the sky? 4. Collapsed the walls of a big city using nothing but the sound of trumpets?**

(Let kids go to the corner they think is correct. Then continue:) Well, to be honest, this is kind



## script continued

of a trick question! Do you know why? (Let kids guess.) Yep, because God did all of these things to help his people! But if you guessed #3, that God stopped the sun right where it hung in the sky, you've guessed the story we're talking about today!

Go ahead and sit down. (Let kids sit.) Think about that for a second: could you imagine asking God to stop the sun right in the middle of the sky, and then watching it happen? Why does that seem unbelievable? (Let a couple kids respond.) Yeah, the sun stopping affects quite a lot of people. But God did it for a guy named Joshua.

### **JOSHUA (8 min.)**

**(Click to show map.)** We've talked about Joshua before. He helped another guy named Moses lead God's family in the wilderness and when Moses got too old to lead them into the home God had promised, Joshua became the leader. This was their route, which took forty years (refer to map with route).

You can see where Joshua led the Israelites across the Jordan River into the land. Once they were across, God told them to march around the big walls of a city called Jericho. When they obeyed God, he tore down the walls for them with just the sound of trumpets. The problem is, there were still lots of other people living there who didn't want God's family around.

In fact, only *one* group of people, the Gibeonites (point Gibeon out on the map) made peace with Israel. And that's because they tricked Joshua into believing they didn't really live in the land God had promised for his family! So in our story today, Joshua is up against 5 angry kings. He knows he can't possibly win this fight without God's help.

The good news is, no battle is too big for God! Today, we're going to watch a video about how God actually *fought for* Joshua. As you watch, see if you can figure out what God did.

### **Video: The Day the Sun Stood Still (about 3.5 min.)**

Wow, so how did God fight for Joshua? (Let kids respond.) That's right, he sent down strong hail to get rid of the Israelites' enemies. He also stopped the sun so it would stay light long enough for them to keep battling!

But you know what the *most* incredible thing about that story is? It isn't the hail or the sun. The most incredible thing is that God was there when Joshua called. God fought *for* Joshua and his family!

### **GOD FIGHTS FOR US (4 min.)**

Joshua was a regular person, like you and me. But he got to see something incredible because he followed God and trusted His power! Let's think about that for a second: Remember in our Connect Time game how some of you were supposed to go back to the starting line...but somebody else took your place? Raise your hand if that happened to you (let kids respond). That person fought for you to win! How did that feel? (Let a few of those kids share.)

Think about when you get stuck in a tough situation in life. How would it feel to believe God



## script continued

can—and wants to—help you? (Pause.)

While we know that God doesn't just do whatever we want, Joshua reminds us that God *will* help us in some of the most incredible ways when we need it most. He's not just **a** god. He's not just **the** God. He is **our** God, and He will fight for us!

To help us remember that, let's check out our verse for this month, Proverbs 3:5-6. It's all about trusting God, which means BELIEVING that he is real and that he is in control. Let's read our verse together to declare that we trust God with our whole hearts.

**SLIDE: Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.**

### **RESPONSE AND PRAYER (5 min.)**

God cares about our paths, just like he cared about Joshua's. Think about a fight you're facing. Maybe you made a mistake that upset your friends and you don't know what to do. Maybe a bully or even someone you thought was a friend is talking about you behind your back or threatening you. Maybe you have schoolwork that's just too hard for you. God cares about the battles we face. These next few moments are for you and God. Just sit back and talk to him while the next song plays.

### **Song: Brave Ones**

(When it's over, pray for the kids:) God, thank you for being big enough to do anything. Thank you for loving us enough to fight for us. You've heard the prayers these kids have been praying. Please be with them this week, let them trust you and show them which path to take. Amen.

### **WORSHIP (4 min.)**

Now, let's stand and worship God, which means telling him we adore him. One way to worship him is by singing.

### **Song: Alive**

*\*Dismiss kids to small groups.*



**script continued**

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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

### Per Room

Image of sun

Image of moon

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## small group supplies

### Per kid

1 blank title fight card

### Per group

1 Joshua title fight card

Markers

1 Adventure Bible

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## large group supplies

Adventure Bible

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## a/v needs

1. Slide: Believe It or Not! loop
2. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
3. Video: Dog Walking on Paws (<https://vimeo.com/28025906>)
4. Slide with this copy:  
Do you think God....
  1. Split a huge sea down the middle?
  2. Made a donkey talk?
  3. Stopped the sun right where it hung in the sky?
  4. Collapsed the walls of a big city using nothing but the sound of trumpets?
5. Image: map of route
6. Video: Day the Sun Stood Still (pre-saved; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAukyuNCOgU>)
7. SLIDE: Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.
8. Music Video: Brave Ones (<https://vimeo.com/126214265>)
9. Music Video: Alive (Hillsong Young and Free; on server)
10. Slide: Believe It or Not! loop
- 11.

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## connect questions

Tell me about Joshua.

How did God fight for his family?

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## parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate document