



3PK

August 8-9, 2015

DATE

Crossing the Jordan

LESSON TITLE

Joshua 3-4

WHERE TO FIND IT

Give God thanks

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

tips

When a kid is disruptive during Large Group, take the opportunity to connect with the kid yourself instead of leaving discipline to the presenter. Redirect the kid's attention by sitting next to them, or ask them to do something with their hands or feet that is quiet.

check-in/out

Ask kids about one thing that they are thankful for?

large group heads up

God chose Joshua to lead his people to a new home, and today we're learning about their journey across the Jordan River. God helped his people in their time of need, and they gave him thanks for it! We want kids to understand the importance of thanking God for what he does for us.



connect time

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

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line Up
- Tell kids, “Raise your hand if you ever have...” and tell them to do a motion with each thing:
 - Food (*rub your tummy*)
 - Water (*pretend to take a drink*)
 - A friend (*give someone a hug*)
 - Hands to help you hold things (*hold your hands up*)
 - Feet to help you walk (*stomp your feet*)
 - Eyes to help you see (*point to your eyes*)
 - A nose to help you smell (*tap your nose*)
- Tell kids, “God gave us all these things because he loves us!” Tell kids to say “Thank You God!” after you list each thing again:
 - Food (*Thank you God!*)
 - Water (*Thank you God!*)
 - A friend (*Thank you God!*)
 - Hands (*Thank you God!*)
 - Feet (*Thank you God!*)
 - Eyes (*Thank you God!*)
 - Nose (*Thank you God!*)

As you walk into Large Group, encourage kids to put on their listening ears! Remind that HOPS will be showing us how we should act in Large Group, so we have to listen!



instructions

Goal: To help kids (1) understand how God helped Joshua and the Israelites cross the Jordan River and (2) recognize that we should give thanks to God for everything he does.

Why? We all take God's provision for granted sometimes. We want kids to understand that when God gives us what we need, we should always give THANKS.

Tip: Ask kids what they're thankful for throughout the lesson. You can never thank God too much!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Who did God choose to help lead the Israelites? (Joshua)
2. What was in their way when they tried to find their new home? (The Jordan river)
3. What did God make the water do when the Israelites crossed? (He stopped the water)
4. What did the Israelites do after they crossed the river? (Thanked God, made a pile of stones as a reminder)
5. Who helps us do hard things? (God)

THANKFUL MUSICAL CHAIRS

- Set chairs facing outward around each table. Have kids stand at each chair.
- Tell the kids that you're going to play music, and while it plays, they can walk around the chairs in a circle.
- Every time the music STOPS, they have to sit down in a chair.
- When they sit in a chair, tell them on the count of 1-2-3, to shout out 1 thing they are thankful for (you could tell them some suggestions beforehand, like family, food, friends, church, God, animals, etc.) Count to three and let them shout!
- When the music starts playing again, they can start moving until you stop the music. Repeat the "thankful exercise" every time they sit down.

***Pray together, specifically giving thanks to God!**

Extra time? Have kids do a coloring sheet. After that, have kids find their favorite toys in the room, pick them up, and say, "Thank you God!"

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special notes

Use special effects! Today's story has a rushing river, so use noises and motions to demonstrate how scary it would be to cross a big river. Then emphasize how amazing it is that God was able to stop it!

presenter tips

We'll be watching this video about Joshua and the Israelites crossing the Jordan River:

<http://whatsinthebible.com/video-archive/dvd-4-joshua/>

script

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 Share with Others! (*about 1 minute*)

(Hold 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. Do you know what it's called? (Let kids respond: The Bible!) That's right, the Bible! It's God's Rescue plan. This book shows us how he rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.

In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. And it was all GOOD. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)

But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and all the wrong things came into the world. Things like sadness and death. Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.)

Even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God, God loved them anyway! He planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—could be close to God again! Do you know who the rescuer is? (Let kids say: Jesus!) That's right! Jesus!

INTRO: JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES

We've been learning all about God's special family. They're called the Israelites. Can you all say, "Israelites"? (Let kids respond.) Great job! God loved his family very much, and he promised to give them a special home. They had to travel a long, long way to get there, though. Let's all stomp our feet on the ground to pretend like we're walking a long way! (Sit down and pat your feet on the ground along with kids to demonstrate.) Okay, let's put our feet down.



script continued

God picked out a very special person to help the Israelites find their new home. He was named Joshua. Say, “Joshua”. (Let kids respond.) Good job! The Israelites needed a lot of help getting to their home, because there were lots of things in their way!

JOSHUA AND THE JORDAN RIVER

After that, they walked some more. Let’s pat our feet on the ground again. (Let kids pat their feet for a few seconds.) They walked, and walked, and walked in a desert. It was so hot, and they were tired. Let’s put our feet back down. One day, they came across something in their way! This time, it was a RIVER. It was called the Jordan River. Let’s all say that together. (Say “Jordan River” along with kids.)

This wasn’t just a tiny little river. It was a big, rushing, dangerous river! It probably looked like this. **(Click to play video.)** You couldn’t just swim across it. They didn’t have any boats either!

Let’s watch a video to see how they crossed the Jordan River. As you watch, see if they did it all by themselves, or if they got help.

VIDEO: What’s in the Bible/Joshua

What an amazing story! Did the Israelites cross the river all on their own, or did they have help? (Let kids respond, “They had help”, “God helped them”, etc.) You’re right! God helped them cross the river, and he told Joshua how to do it. God said, “I will make the river stop flowing”, and HE DID! He made the water pile up, so that they could walk right across the dirt!

After the Israelites crossed the river, Joshua said they should ALWAYS remember what God did for them, and they should give thanks to him for it! So Joshua and the Israelites did something special to show how thankful they were to God. They went back to the river, got 12 big stones, and made a big pile! Whenever they looked at the pile of rocks, they said, “Thank you God!”

Do you know who else should give thanks to God? US! We should thank Him, because he helps us too. If you think you can give thanks to God, raise your hand! (Let kids respond.) Good job.

Let’s look at some things we could give thanks to God for! **(Click to show slides and let kids respond to your questions.)**

- Animals (Can we thank God for animals? Yes!)
- Friends (Can we thank God for friends? Yes!)
- Food (Can we thank God for food? Yes!)
- Church (Can we thank God for church? Yes!)

PRAY (Break it down into small, repeatable phrases)

Dear God. We love you. Thank you for helping us. Thank you for loving us. A-men!



script continued

WORSHIP

We should always show thanks to God, and one way to do that is to worship! Let's all stand up and sing songs to show Him how thankful we are for him!

Song: Thank You Lord

Song: Jesus Loves Me

Song: Be Strong (extra song if you have time left over)

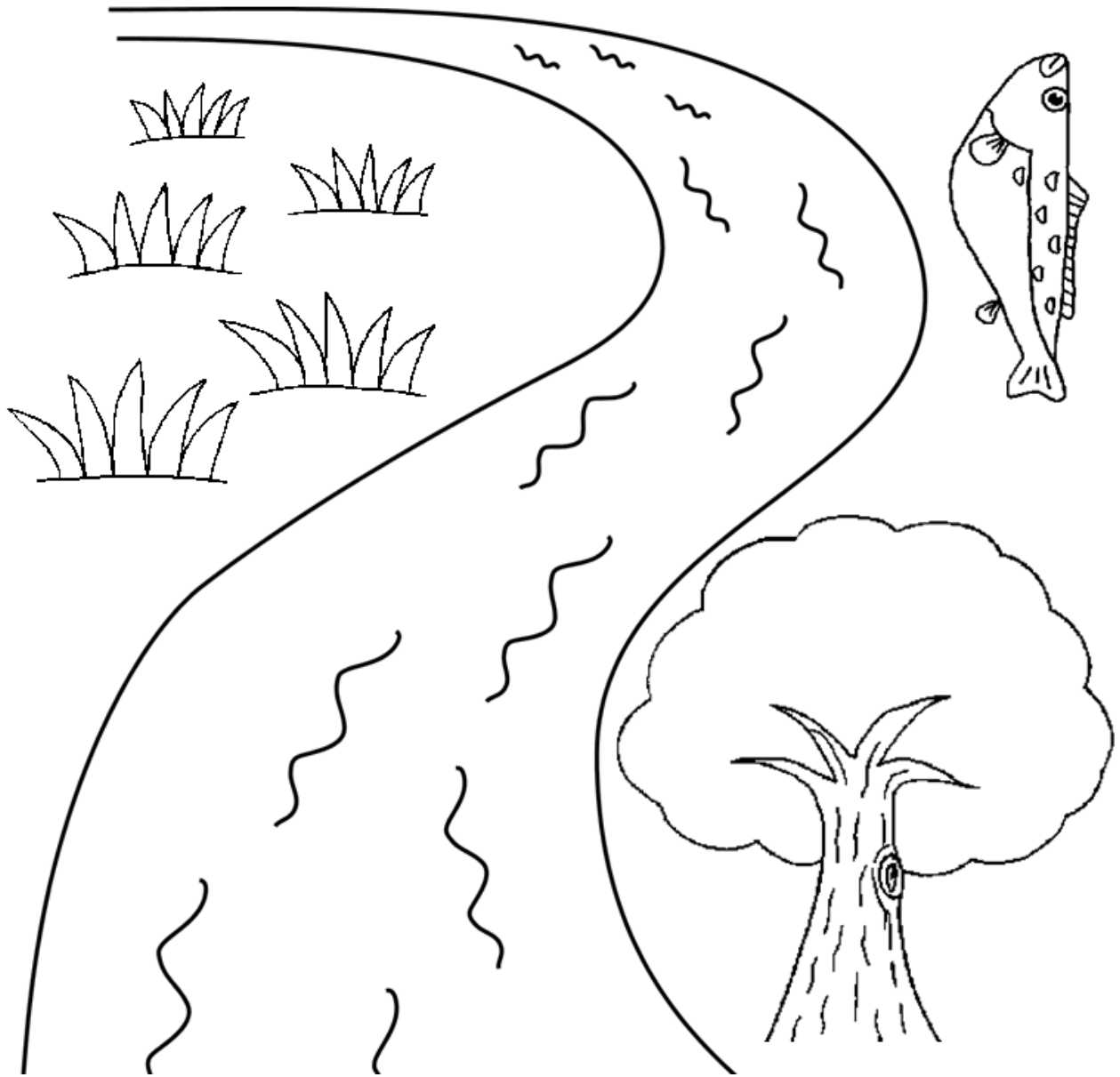
Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop to their groups.)



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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

“Raise your hand if you ever have...” game – no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per kid: Coloring Page

Per room: Any Kids’ Club Music

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: HOPS Share with Others! (<https://vimeo.com/67408014>)
3. Video: Sounds of a raging river (10 seconds) (videos>miscellaneous)
4. Video: What’s in the Bible: Crossing the Jordan (videos>What’s in the Bible folder)
5. Slide: Animals
6. Slide: Friends
7. Slide: Food
8. Slide: Church
9. Song: Thank You Lord
10. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (hand motions)
11. Song: Be Strong

connect questions

What did the Israelites do after they crossed the Jordan River?
What can you thank God for?

parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate document