

# PREK & K Flight Plan August 16th



|                              |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lesson</b>                | <b>Philip and the Ethiopian</b>                                                                                   |
| <b>Bible Passage</b>         | Acts 8:26-40                                                                                                      |
| <b>Story Point</b>           | <b>Promise Keeper</b>                                                                                             |
| <b>Key Passage</b>           | Psalm 23                                                                                                          |
| <b>Big Picture Q &amp; A</b> | <p><b>How can we know what God is like?</b></p> <p>We can learn more about what God is like through the Bible</p> |



## Where Do You Read?

INSTRUCTIONS Circle the place where you have read a book before.



## KEY NOTES: RAINFOREST FALLS SUMMER

Discovering God's character is a great adventure! Every story in the Bible shines a light on who God is—His love, power, faithfulness, and grace. Every story we explore this summer will show us amazing truths about God that are revealed to us in the Bible. The more we learn about our Creator, the more we understand who we are and how deeply we are loved. It gives us confidence to trust Him in every moment.

Let's explore the nature of God!

Grace Airways Rainforest Falls Curriculum in Children's Ministry will focus on discovering God's character through Bible stories. Each story chosen highlights a specific attribute of God.

**SUMMER PSALM**—let's all learn Psalm 23 to give the students consistent excitement and practice each week! We will practice all summer to create a video to share with the rest of Grace Community Church at the Fall-Kick off (Sept 13th) on the big screen.

### Key Dates:

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** GCC BBQ (baptisms)

**Aug 23rd** All Sunday Teams Fall Training

**Aug 30th** Film all classes doing the Summer Psalm

**Sept 13th** FALL KICKOFF

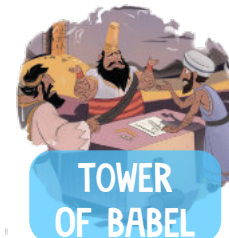
### **Gospel—Centered Preparation:**

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

### **After your study ask yourself:**

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: \_\_\_\_\_
- Where is the gospel in this story?

## THE BIBLE TEACHES US ABOUT GOD'S CHARACTER



## Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co -Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co -pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?
- How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?
- What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?
- In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?

### Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

### Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

### Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with \_\_\_\_\_.
- You really helped me while I was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Thank you for being \_\_\_\_\_'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

The believers in the early church faced intense persecution, especially after Stephen was killed, and many followers of Jesus were forced to leave Jerusalem. Even though they were scattered, they did not stop sharing the good news about Jesus. This shows that God is a **promise keeper**. He had promised that the gospel would spread to all nations, and even difficult circumstances like persecution became part of how He fulfilled that promise. One man, Philip, brought the message to Samaria, where many people listened, believed, and experienced great joy, proving that God's promises bring life and hope wherever they go.

In today's Bible story, Philip was instructed by an angel of the Lord to go to a desert road, and he obeyed without hesitation. This moment reminds us that God, as a promise keeper, is always working to accomplish His plans. The Holy Spirit led Philip to an Ethiopian official who was reading from the prophet Isaiah but did not understand it.

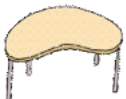
As Philip explained the Scripture, "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter..." He helped the official understand that these words were about Jesus, the promised Messiah. This is a powerful reminder that God keeps His promises perfectly. What He spoke through Isaiah hundreds of years earlier was fulfilled in Jesus. The Holy Spirit guided Philip's words and also worked in the official's heart, helping him believe and respond in faith. The man was baptized, showing that God's promise of salvation is for all people, not just one nation.

After this encounter, Philip continued sharing the gospel wherever he went. He didn't rely on his own plans; he trusted the Holy Spirit to lead him. In the same way, we can trust that God, our promise keeper, will guide us and use us to share His truth with others. Just as He kept His promise to send a Savior and to spread the good news, He will continue to keep every promise He has made.

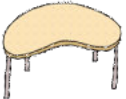
## Morning Routine



Stay with this order.  
Adjust pictures on schedule according to your plan.  
Review schedule with the children at the start of the morning.

|                                                                                     |                                                                              |                                                                                   |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
|    | <b>Take Off</b><br>VBS song<br>Prayer<br>BPQ & A                             |  | 5 Min  |
|    | <b>Journey</b><br>Worship & Wiggles<br>Psalm 23<br>Bible Story<br>Discussion |  | 15 Min |
|    | <b>Flight Lab</b><br>Bible Story Activity                                    |                                                                                   | 10 Min |
|  | <b>Free Play</b><br>Inside or on<br>playground                               |                                                                                   | 10 Min |

At congregation last song—clean up/move inside

|                                                                                     |                                                                   |                                                                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
|  | <b>Pilot's Log</b><br>Prayer<br>Take Home Page<br>Settle & Review |  | 5 Min |
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## 5 min Take Off

*Celebrate & being here! Introduce the morning*

### Gather

As the children enter, have them gather at the TV to begin with worship/singing. Have your co-pilot check attendance.

### Song

Do a VBS song or 2 of your choice as time allows to help children prepare for the lesson.

### Summer Truth: We can explore the nature of God

This week we will look at the story of **Philip and the Ethiopian**

### Summer Psalm

Practice the **Psalm 23 song during Worship & Wiggles**

Encourage and build excitement for memorizing, we will video the children on Sunday, August 30th

### Transition to the Bible Story

Clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy, use a finger play, etc...  
Set expectations for the children: “my turn to talk, your turn to listen, eyes on me, hands in your lap”

Choosing the same transition every week works super well with child and kindergarten ages.

## Bible Connection Ideas

### Bible FingerPlay:

1, 2 (hold up fingers) The Bible is true (hands like book), God loves me (cross arms, point to me) and God loves you (cross arms, point to class)

### Bible Foundation Motions:

- The Bible is **True** (*thumbs up*)
- The Bible is How God **Speaks to Us** (*cup hands around mouth as if you were shouting*)
- The Bible is **Different** from other stories (*cross your arms and point in opposite directions*)
- The Bible points to **Jesus** (*ASL sign for Jesus*)

## Fingerplay Ideas

### Open Shut them:

*Hold hands in front as you open and shut them while saying:*

Open shut them, open shut them, give a little clap

Open shut them, open shut them, lay them in your lap.

Creep them creep them, slowly to your chin

Open wide your little mouth (pause), but do not let them in!

### Active Preparing to sit and listen:

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I jump up from the ground.

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I turn myself around.

I stomp my feet , I clap my hands, I sit myself right down

I stomp my feet (*while sitting*) , I clap my hands, I do not make a sound (*finger over lips, spoken in a whisper*).



# 10 Min Journey

*Where we travel into God's word*

## Introduce the Bible Story

Use our Bible Finger play each week to transition to the Story.

• The Bible tells us true stories about God. Today's Bible story is from the Book of Acts. **Point to the Bible story picture on their timeline.** The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Tell the Bible Story

Using the pictures, tell the Bible Story or watch the video (*This lesson is in It's All About Jesus Bible Storybook on page 272*). Tell the story using your own words keeping eye-contact with the children.

• Philip told the Ethiopian man that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He is alive. The man believed Philip and was baptized! This story shows us that He is a promise keeper. Jesus had promised that His good news would spread to the whole world, and God kept that promise by sending Philip to someone from a faraway country. God also kept His promise by sending a Savior, His promise to help His people share the gospel, and His promise to build His church.

What movement-based activity can I use?



## Talk about the Bible Story

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions.

1. **As we explore God's nature in this story, what attribute of God do you see?** God is a **PROMISE KEEPER**
2. **What did Philip ask the Ethiopian man?** (Do you understand what you are reading?)
3. **Who were the words Isaiah wrote about?** (Jesus)
4. **What did the Ethiopian man think about the good news about Jesus?** (He believed and went home happy.)
5. **How can we know what God is like? We can learn more about what God is like through the Bible**

**God's attributes-** In today's story we see that God is:  
**PROMISE KEEPER**

Have a student place the story picture on the 'timeline'

## Age Appropriate Bible Story

*Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you*

### Philip and the Ethiopian — Acts 8

One day, an angel told Philip to go to a desert road. So Philip went.

On the road, Philip saw a man from Ethiopia. The man was an important official who worked for the queen of Ethiopia. He was riding in a chariot and reading the words of the prophet Isaiah.

The Holy Spirit led Philip to go to the man. Philip ran up to him and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

The man said, “I need someone to teach it to me.” Then he invited Philip into his chariot.

Philip sat with the man, who was reading these words from Isaiah: “He was led like a sheep to be killed, and just like a lamb is quiet when its wool is cut, He does not say anything. What happened to Him was not fair. His life was taken away.”

The man asked, “Was Isaiah talking about himself or someone else?”

Isaiah was talking about the Messiah—Jesus! Philip began to tell the man the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled down the road, they came to some water. The man asked the chariot to stop. He wanted to be baptized because he believed in Jesus. Philip baptized the man in the water and the man went home happy.

**Christ Connection:** *The man from Ethiopia knew what the Bible said, but he did not know the Bible is about Jesus. The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the man understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He is alive.*

## Picture Card Lesson

*Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you!*

### Philip and the Ethiopian — Acts 8

**Card 1:** One day, an angel told Philip to go to a desert road. So Philip went. On the road, Philip saw a man from Ethiopia reading the words of the prophet Isaiah.

**Card 2:** The Holy Spirit led Philip to go to the man. Philip ran up to him and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” The man said, “I need someone to teach it to me.” Then he invited Philip into his chariot.

**Card 3:** The man was reading Isaiah’s message about the promised Messiah. Philip told the man the good news about the Messiah—Jesus!

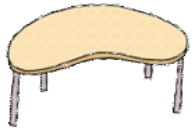
**Card 4:** As they traveled down the road, they came to some water. The man asked the chariot to stop. He wanted to be baptized because he believed in Jesus. Philip baptized the man in the water and the man went home happy.

**Card 5:** God is a promise keeper! God keeps His promises by loving everyone and helping people learn about Him, no matter where they are.

**God’s attributes-** In today’s story we see that God is:  
**PROMISE KEEPER**

#### Bible Storytelling Tips

**Listen in a chariot:** Line up chairs in several rows to form a large “chariot.” Wrap cardboard or large sheets of craft paper around the outside edges of the rows to create sides for the chariot. Cut wheels from cardboard or draw them on the craft paper. Invite children to sit in the chariot while you tell the Bible story.



## 15 min Flight lab

*Learning the story in an interactive way*

*Choose from below or use your own idea-however the Lord leads.*

*Then go into free-play.*

### **Make letters in play dough**

Cut drinking straws into 1-inch long pieces. Write Jesus' name on a sheet of paper. Encourage a child to flatten a piece of play dough on the table. Guide the children to stick the straw pieces upright into the play dough to make the letter *J* or spell *Jesus*. Listen to songs about Jesus as you work. Children may also choose to spell their own name with the straws and play dough.

- J-e-s-u-s. Jesus! The man from Ethiopia learned that the Bible is about Jesus. Philip told the Ethiopian man about Jesus. Who tells you about Jesus? We spelled Jesus name using the straws and listened to songs about Jesus. I am glad we can gather as a church and learn about Jesus together.

### **Make a Bible Scroll**

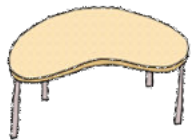
Write the story point in the center of a large piece of paper. Attach two dowels securely to the ends. Roll the scroll out on a table or the floor. Encourage children to decorate the scroll with pictures of Jesus from Bible story picture posters from past sessions, stickers of crosses and hearts, and their names. When the children are finished decorating the scroll, let them help you roll it up and tie it closed with a ribbon. Consider showing the scroll during snack and review.

- We made a big scroll! People in Bible times didn't have printed books like we do. They wrote on thick paper and rolled it up like this scroll. The man from Ethiopia was reading a Bible scroll. The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the man. Philip told the Ethiopian man about Jesus. Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He is alive.

### **Chariot Races**

Before the session, gather two lightweight cardboard boxes. Make holes in the sides of the boxes and thread yarn or ribbon to make reins. Invite children to pull baby dolls or other toys in the chariots. Retell the Bible story.

- The Holy Spirit told Philip to go to an Ethiopian man in a chariot. Philip told the man the good news about Jesus.



## 5 Min Pilot's Log

*Where we prepare to go home*

After flight lab, allow the children to play. **When congregation begins last song, move to the tables.**

### **Pause and settle**

- Signal the end of free play, (use the time-timer to count down)
- Sing the clean-up song and guide children to clean their areas. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer if needed.
- Have children sit around the table.

### **ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.**

**This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.**

- After prayer, hand out the activity/coloring page. Direct children accordingly to complete the page. Remind children of what they can take away from today's lesson.

If a child finishes the activity/coloring page while waiting for mom and dad or is not interested, only offer options that can be completed at the table (playdough, puzzle, select a book to examine, practice the verse, etc) **Keep children at the table to maintain a calm and quiet environment for easy transition to mom and dad.**

When parents pick up their children, as appropriate share something their child enjoyed doing or did well during the morning.

**Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents. Have your Co-Pilot encourage parents to use this to talk to their kids about what they learned in class today.**

### **PREK/K Prayer Extra Ideas:**

**Prayer Chain** — in small groups, ask children for their prayer requests and have the Pilot or Co-Pilot write them on a few strips of paper. Connect strips into a chain and display our growing conversation with the Lord. Feel free to revisit old prayer requests as well.

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**Pointing to a Globe** — Have a child or Co-Pilot spin the globe and place their finger on a country. Place a star sticker on the place(s) and pray over it as a group. We will provide a PreK/K age geography book to help guide discussion and prayer. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus, light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

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**Looking out the Window** — Grab a dry-erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry-erase marker, write or draw these things on the window then pray over them.

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**Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers**— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

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**Head Shoulders Knees and Toes**—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)