**K- 2 October 2022, Week 5**

**Today’s Bible Story:** When You Believe (Israel Goes through the Red Sea) • *Exodus 13:17–14:31*

**Today’s Bottom Line:** Hold on because God is still in control.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.* Galatians 6:9 *(NIrV)*

**Monthly Virtue:** Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

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

*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Praise God for being ultimately in control of everything! Pray that kids would find comfort in knowing that the Creator of the universe knows about, cares for, and is in control of all things. Ask God to help kids find strength and encouragement in the knowledge that the One who loves them most is still writing their story.*

**Please collect all coloring supplies and pages prior to starting the lesson.**

**Introduce this month’s virtue.** In addition, introduce this week’s bottom line and the Bible passage(s) we will be using to hear God’s word and learn the virtue this week.

Share which books of the Bible this week’s lesson will be from using the Books of the Bible binder as a reference.

# **1.** **Opening Activity**

*Made to Imagine:**an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

* Guide kids to line up behind you, then lead them in a game of “Follow the Leader.”
* Move through your environment pretending to be:
  + a train—blow your “whistle,” leave the “station,” chug down the track, and enjoy the scenery.
  + a racecar—accelerate for the “green flag,” speed around the track, swerve to avoid a crash, and take the checkered flag.
  + an airplane—“take off,” soar in the sky, and “bank” to fly around mountains.
* Help keep interest high by changing your moves regularly and adding sound effects!

**What You Say:**

“That was fun to be a train, racecars, and airplanes! Who controls a train? *(the engineer)* Who controls a racecar? *(the driver)* Who controls an airplane? *(the pilot)* ***[Transition]* In our Bible story video we’ll hear Who is ALWAYS in control. Let’s go learn more!”**

Lead your group to watch Story Lab

**GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)**

**2. God Is Still in Control**

**[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]**

*Made to Imagine:**an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

**What You Need:** “Pillar of Cloud” Activity Page, Bible marked at Exodus 14, and a “staff” *(optional)* headdresses, robes, or other props - 2 red sheets

**What You Do:**

* Invite a volunteer to open the Bible to Exodus 14.
* Ask prompting questions to briefly review the Bible story.
* Try to touch on the following points:
  + Pharaoh finally let the Israelites go free. The Israelites traveled slowly, with their families, flocks, and herds. God led them every step of the way. He appeared in a pillar of cloud during the daytime and a pillar of flame at night. At last, the Israelites came to the Red Sea.
  + Back at the palace, Pharaoh changed his mind. He led an army of chariots and horsemen across the desert and chased after the Israelites.
  + The Israelites could see Pharaoh’s army coming. They were trapped! Moses said, ‘Don’t be afraid . . . The Lord will fight for you. Just be still.’ (Exodus 14:13-14, *NIrV)*
  + God told Moses to hold his walking stick over the water. God’s presence in the pillar of cloud moved from the front of the Israelites and stood behind them to protect them from the Egyptians.
  + Moses obeyed God and reached his hand over the sea. Through the night, God sent a strong wind to push back the waters, and the waters were divided. The people went through on dry ground with a wall of water on their right and on their left!
  + The Israelites made it across. God told Moses to reach out his hand again. As Moses reached out his hand, the sea rushed back into place, washing over the Egyptian army.
* Choose one kid to be Moses, two to six kids to be the Red Sea, and the remaining kids to be the Israelites.
* Give “Moses” the staff.
* Help kids put on the headdresses and robes if provided.
* To make the Red Sea, guide those kids to form two parallel lines facing each other - each row holds a red sheet that touches the other sheet.
* Stand at one end of the “sea,” holding the “Pillar of Cloud” Activity Page. Lead Moses and the “Israelites” to stand behind you.
* Prompt Moses to raise his staff, then move behind the kids.
* When Moses holds up his staff, guide the Red Sea kids to step apart, and wave the sheet over their heads to make the walls of water!
* Guide Moses and the Israelites to cross , walking between the two sheets.
* Prompt Moses to stretch his hand over the sea.
* Lead the Red Sea to come together again and pretend to cover Pharaoh’s army.
* If time allows, invite kids to switch roles and play again.

**What You Say:**

“When the Israelites were stuck between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army, how did they feel? *(Pause.)* Yes! They were terrified! But God was with them and in control!

“When are times that you might feel scared? *(Invite but don’t force kids to share.)* ***[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you felt scared as a kid. You may have been lost in a store, away from home, or alone in the dark.)*** When you feel scared, you can remember that God is still in control. God LOVES you and will HELP you. God may not make your problems go away, but you can trust that God is WITH you. So remember to ***[Bottom Line]* hold on because God is still in control.”**

**3. Red Sea Painting**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Made to Create:**an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

**What You Need:** Prepared zip-top bags (blue paint inside) (taped closed) butcher paper to cover table, and tape

**What You Do:**

* Give each kid a bag.
* Help them tape it to the butcher paper on the table.
* Invite kids to experiment by gently “painting” with their fingers.
* After a minute or two, encourage kids to draw a time when God was with them.
* ***[Make It Personal]* *(Draw a child-appropriate time you held on because you knew that God was still in control. It may have been when your parents divorced, when someone you loved was really sick, or when a friend treated you badly.)***
* Invite volunteers to talk about what they drew. ***[Make It Personal] (Talk about your drawing, too.)***
* *Collect the bags so they may reuse them during the next service.*

**What You Say:**

“God helped the Israelites and will help you, too! God is ALWAYS with you. God will always LOVE you. And God is always in control. So no matter what happens, ***[Bottom Line]* hold on because God is still in control.”**

**4. Crossing the Red Sea**

**[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]**

*Made to Play:**an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

**What You Need:** Paper plates, Bible, masking tape, prizes

**What You Do:**

* Invite a volunteer to open the Bible and read Galatians 6:9, or if no kid is comfortable, you read it to the group.
* Guide kids to line up at one end of your environment.
* Tape a finish line at the opposite end.
* Give each kid two river rocks (paper plates).
* Challenge the kids to think of a way they can get to the other side by stepping ONLY on the two plates.
* Give kids plenty of time to think about how to solve the problem.
* Ask questions to spur them along only if necessary.
* One solution:
  + Kids set one “river rock” down and step on it.
  + Next, they set the second rock down a few feet away and step or jump to it.
  + Then they pick up the first rock and put it a few feet in front of them, continuing until they reach the other “shore.”
* When every kid crosses the finish, recite the verse together.
* Give each kid a prize.

**What You Say:**

“In today’s Bible story, how did Moses not become tired of doing good? *(He obeyed God; he told the Israelites not to be afraid.)* What good happened because he didn’t give up? *(God used him to help get the Israelites across the Red Sea.)*

“Sometimesliving the way God wants you to live can be hard, but God can give you the strength to keep doing the right thing. When can YOU do the right thing? *(be nice to sibling even when they’re mean; be honest; be kind to the kid that the other kids make fun of, etc.)* Great ideas! And when you keep doing good and don’t give up, you show others who God is and what God’s like! So remember, don’t become tired of doing good. ***[Bottom Line]*** **Hold on because God is still in control.”**

**5. Pray and Dismiss**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

* Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids in prayer.

**What You Say:**

“When the Israelites were stuck between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army, they thought it was impossible for them to escape. But for God, it wasn’t impossible at all. It was just a chance for everyone to see that God was still in control!

“When you face something hard and you feel stuck, you might feel scared or even angry. But remember that ‘nothing is impossible with God.’ *(Luke 1:37, NIV)* God may not make your problem go away, but you can trust that God is ALWAYS with you, LOVES you, and is still IN CONTROL. Let’s pray.

“Dear God, thank You that no matter what we’re going through, You’re still in control. When we’re scared, You’re still in control. When we’re frustrated, You’re still in control. When we feel stuck, You’re still in control. We can trust You NO MATTER WHAT! You are ALWAYS with us. Thank You for loving us MORE than we could ever imagine. We love You, Lord. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell their parent today’s Bottom Line. ***[Bottom Line]*** **Hold on because God is still in control.**