

First Look | September 13

Today's Bible Story: Hagar and Ishmael • Genesis 21:14-20

God always hears me.

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Memory Verse: "God is with you wherever you go." • Joshua 1:9 NLT

1. Video on Jellyfin

Lead the children in worship to the September Worship song and then watch today's video lesson.

2. Pray

"Let's open up today in prayer. Dear God, thank You that You always hear us. You are bigger than the whole sky, but You listen to our small voices. Please listen now as we talk to You. Thank You for being with us and hearing us all the time. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

3. Desert Sand Rubbings

What You Need:

- ☐ "Desert Sand Rubbing" Activity Page
- ☐ Regular computer paper
- ☐ Sand Paper
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Desert Sand Rubbings" on regular computer paper, one per child.

Tape a strip of sand paper to the back of each child's paper. Set out the crayons (no markers) on each table. Write each child's name on his/her paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to use their crayons to do colored rubbings onto their paper. They will see that part of their paper comes out textured like sand!

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come on over to the table friends. Let's create some special story art. Our story today happened in a hot, sandy desert, and our picture is going to look just like it!"

During the Activity: “In our Bible Story, a mom named Hagar and her son, Ishmael, were lost in the desert. They were so sad and thirsty because they had run out of water. But God heard them! God sent an angel to show Hagar a well of water.

“Color your picture with lots of beautiful colors. *(Allow children time to color.)* Do you notice that when you’re coloring the ground, it looks textured just like sand?! Your pictures look wonderful! You made a real sandy desert picture!”

After the Activity: “Your desert pictures look amazing! They can help you remember our story. Even when Hagar and Ishmael felt all alone in a big, hot, sandy desert, God was with them. He heard them, and He helped them. God always hears us, too, no matter where we are. **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me.**”