

Be Like Jesus

Week 4

BIG IDEA

God is Faithful and Good

BIBLE

Faith (Hebrews 11)

WELCOME

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our Spotify playlists to play background music while kids play OR stream the main worship service on your classroom TV to participate in the worship happening in the Auditorium.*

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins.*
 - *This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*
 - *Have kids go to the bathroom prior to class beginning*
 - *At the end of Free Time, play the Countdown Video and have kids work together to clean up toys/activities and then join you for the lesson - either on risers or on the floor.*

MEMORY VERSE | Prizes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, kids may say their memory verse from the past week to any leader in the room. Place a dot sticker on their name tag to signify that they've said the verse. Give a memory verse prize **AT PICK UP** to any kids with dot stickers.*

WELCOME QUESTION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This question will be written on the board as a conversation starter during free time.*
 - **What is something you've hoped for?**

INTRO

TALK

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play the Countdown Video to signify time to clean up. Gather kids on the floor or on the risers. It's always fun to have everyone count down the last 10 seconds together!*
- **Welcome to church today, friends! I am so glad to be here with all of you.** *Gather kids together and have them spin around in a circle three times, give a friend a fist bump, and sit down. Ask several kids to share their responses to the Welcome Question: **What is something you've hoped for? How long did you have to wait for it to happen?***
- **Today, we're going to look at the lives of faithful people in the Bible who hoped and waited for something just like you! They didn't know when but they knew it would happen: they had faith that God would come through. But first, let me tell you a little about what our time together is going to look like!**
 - *This is a great opportunity to let kids know what the time together will look like! Walk them through the schedule and go over the class rules.*

DECLARATION

- **Before we get started, I have an important reminder that's true for ALL of us. Let's say this together by repeating after me!**
 - **Thank you, God, that You are good!** (Kids repeat)
 - **You made me on purpose, for a purpose.** (Kids repeat)
 - **I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat)
 - **You know me, love me, and lead me.** (Kids repeat)
 - **You are always faithful.** (Kids repeat.)
 - **Thank You for keeping Your promises.** (Kids repeat.)
 - **My life can tell of Your wonder!** (Kids repeat)

WHAT? What are we talking about today

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words:*
 - **God, You are so faithful and good. You always keep Your promises. Thank You for always doing what You say You will do. We invite Your Holy Spirit to teach us how to increase our faith in You. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

BIBLE STORY VIDEO

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play the Faith Big Story Video.*
 - *NOTE: This short video will teach the Bible Story and give you a jumping off point for the rest of the teaching. If you split into smaller group for the re-telling of the Bible Story, watch the video together as a large group before doing so.*

BIBLE STORY | Hebrews 11 (Faith)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell kids that today's story comes directly from the Bible, God's Word.*
 - *FOR OLDER KIDS: Show them how to find [Hebrews 11](#) in the New Testament. Remind kids to look for the book of Hebrews after Philemon and before James, and tell them to flip to the eleventh chapter. Encourage volunteers to help kids find the passage. Read [Hebrews 11:1, 7-13](#), and [39-40](#) aloud to kids as they follow along in their Bibles.*
- *Pre-select three leaders (or other adult or teen volunteers) to play the faithful followers in today's story: Noah, Moses, Abraham, and Sarah. Each volunteer should begin offstage and wear a different colored cape with their initial taped to their chest.*
- **Get up on your feet, because in today's story, you're playing the part of a faithful follower of God!**
- **Faithful followers believe God and His promises, even when it's hard! And they put their belief into action by the way they live their lives. Faithful followers know that God is the only true superhero!** *Have kids stand up.*
- **Show me your best faithful follower action pose.** *Kids show an action pose. For example, they might stand with one arm and fist pointing powerfully to the sky or with their feet apart and hands on their hips. Show me another one! Faithful followers, go!* *Kids show a new faithful follower action pose. I think you're going to be great at this!* *Invite kids to take a seat and wait for their cue.*
- **During the story today, when I say, "Faithful followers, go!" you need to quickly jump to your feet and get into your best action pose. Then, you'll repeat after me. Let's give it a try!**
- **Faithful followers, go!** *Have kids do their superhero poses while shouting out "Way to go, God!" Ask kids to sit back down.*
- **Faithful followers, it's time for our story to begin!**
- **Hebrews 11:** *the chapter in the New Testament that tells the stories of men and women who followed God faithfully, even when things got really tough. Their names and stories must be told, for their stories are stories of faith—faith in what they hoped for and in what they couldn't see. Theirs was a confident faith. No matter what, these faithful followers trusted in a God who would never let them down. They knew He is a God who always keeps His promises. They knew He is a God who is faithful and good.*
- **Now, my fellow faithful followers, it's time! I introduce to you our faithful follower: Noah!** *Have*

the Noah volunteer run on stage and freeze in a faithful follower action pose.

- **Faithful followers, go!** Kids jump up to an action pose and repeat, "Yes, God did that!" Give Noah an air fist bump and have the kids sit down.
- **Noah listened to God when no one else would and built an ark before one drop of rain fell from the sky. Then when a flood destroyed all other life on earth, God spared Noah and his family. Yes, God did that!** Invite Noah to sit down.
- **I introduce to you our faithful follower of God: Moses!** Have the Moses volunteer run on stage and freeze in an action pose.
- **Faithful followers, go!** Kids jump up to an action pose and repeat, "That's my God!" Give Moses an air fist bump and have the kids sit down.
- **In faith, Moses led God's people out of Egypt and through the Red Sea. I'm sure that had to have been a scary time! But Moses had full confidence that God would keep His promise and, of course, God did! Wow ... that's my God!** Invite Moses to sit down.
- **I introduce to you our third and fourth faithful followers of God: Abraham and Sarah!** Have the Abraham and Sarah volunteers run on stage and freeze in action poses.
- **Faithful followers, go!** Kids jump up to an action pose and repeat, "Huzzah for God!" Give Abraham and Sarah air fist bumps and have the kids sit down.
- **God promised Abraham that He would make Abraham the father of a great nation. The nation of Israel—the Hebrew people—would be Abraham's descendants, and he would have more children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren than he could ever count! Abraham and his wife Sarah were already very old, but they had faith and waited. Then waited some more ... and some more. They considered God faithful and knew He would be true to His promises. Finally ... it happened! Abraham and Sarah had a baby. And from that son, God gave them many descendants, as many as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Huzzah for God!** Invite Abraham and Sarah to sit down.
- **There is one more thing you should know about the faith of these faithful followers and our own faith.**
- **Sometimes, in our lifetimes we don't see all God will do. Abraham didn't receive the land God promised while he was alive, but his kids did! Other faithful followers in the Bible didn't see God's promises completely fulfilled while they were alive, but God is always faithful and good. God's ultimate promise was fulfilled through Jesus, for them and for you and me today! God really is the true superhero!**
- **We can trust God and believe that He will do what He has promised, for God is faithful and good.**
- **Faithful followers, go!** Kids jump up to an action pose and repeat, "God is faithful and good!" one more time.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

BIG IDEA | God Is Faithful and Good

- **Great job following along!**
- **Today in God's big story, we talked about several faithful followers in Scripture who had deep faith in God.**
- **Even though they couldn't see God, they believed in who He is and that He always keeps His promises. Their faith wasn't based on what God could do for them.**
- **Their faith was all about who God was to them. God loved them and cared for them. God protected them and was by their side every step of the way. These faithful followers were sure about what they hoped for and sure about what they couldn't see because they trusted in a**

God who is always faithful and good.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the Big Idea slide on the screen or the poster on the white board while you have kids repeat after you.
- **Let's say the Big Idea together: God Is Faithful and Good!**
- **Think about it! The same God who was faithful and good to Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and Noah is the same God who is faithful and good to you. God loves you. He cares for you. He protects you and is by your side every step of the way.**

MEMORY VERSE | Galatians 5:22-23a (ISV)

- **Today, we've learned that God is faithful and good. We've been working together to learn a verse from the Bible that explains what kind of people we become when we follow Him.**
- **Here's what the verse says:**
 - **"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23a**
- **Let's practice our verse together.**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the verse to the kids, then encourage them to stand and repeat after you with the following motions:
 - **The the fruit of the Spirit is** (Draw a large S in the air)
 - **love,** (Pat your hands on your heart)
 - **joy,** (Put your arms up as if celebrating)
 - **peace,** (Hold up two fingers in "peace sign")
 - **patience,** (Point to a pretend watch on your wrist)
 - **kindness,** (Pretend to give someone a hug)
 - **goodness,** (Make two thumbs up)
 - **faithfulness,** (Make two fists and start with the one fist on top of the other, then switch to stack the bottom fist on top, then switch again, as if stacking bricks)
 - **gentleness,** (pretend to gently rock a baby)
 - **and self-control** (Point to self with both thumbs)
 - **Galatians 5:22-23a** (clap hands together, then open like a book)
- **Nice work, friends! God always keeps his promises and he always finishes what he starts. As you follow him, he will help these things grow in your life.**
- **When the fruit of the Spirit shows in your life, people will get to see God's faithfulness and goodness when they look at you.**
- **Now, we're going to have a chance to talk with our friends in small groups about everything we learned today and ask any questions you might have.**

SMALL GROUPS

DISCUSSION | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** If you haven't already, split kids into smaller groups, ideally by grade.
- **Who did the faithful followers in today's story put their faith?**
- Read [Hebrews 11:1](#) together. **There are two parts to having faith. One part is being sure of what we hope for, but what is the other part?**

- **God promised Abraham a family, so Abraham had faith that God would remain true to His promise. How many family members did God give to Abraham?**
- **Why do you think having faith in God matters?**
- **How has God been faithful or good to you or your family?**
- **Who is someone you know who has a deep faith in God?**
- **God always keeps His promises. We can put our faith in Him because He will always do what He says He will do—He is faithful and good! Let’s talk to God and thank Him in prayer.**

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite kids to find two friends and share how God has been faithful and good to them or their families. In their group, have them designate one kid who is comfortable praying out loud to pray over what was shared. Encourage the other kids to pray silently.*

CLOSING

EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY | Stir the Fruit Salad

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *In this game, every kid will be assigned a fruit. When the person in the middle calls that fruit, the kids will get up and switch spots with someone else in the circle. Have kids sit in chairs in a circle and select one kid to go to the middle of the circle. Choose three or four different fruits and assign one to each kid, such as orange, strawberry, apple, banana. The person in the middle of the circle will call out one or two fruits and the kids with that fruit assigned to them, along with the caller in the middle, must get up and run and sit in an empty seat. The last kid left goes into the middle and calls out another one or two fruits.*
- **We're going to play "Stir the Fruit Salad!"**
- **To play, you are all going to be given the name of a fruit! Be sure to remember which fruit I give you!**
- **One of us will be in the middle of the circle. The person in the circle is going to call out one or two of the fruits.**
- **If your fruit is called, you are going to get up and run to another seat in the circle. You have to be quick, though, because the person in the center of the circle is going to try to steal a seat too!**
- **If you end up without a seat, you will be in the middle of the circle and you will get to shout out the name of a fruit! If you want everyone to get up and change seats, you can say, "Stir the fruit salad!" If this is called out, you cannot move to the seat directly next to you.**
- *When kids are tired or the time limit for the game is up, call the game to a close. **Good job, everyone! We have some quick moving fruits here! As we leave today, let’s also remember an even better kind of fruit salad, made with fruits of the Spirit that God gives to each and every one of us!***