

August 27-28, 2016

DATE

Gideon

LESSON TITLE

Judges 6

WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants to help us.

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

Don't just supervise; get on the floor and play with the kids! Meet them at their level. They'll feel less intimidated, and it will help you connect with them better.

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them what they did with wool today!

large group heads up

Today, we're learning about the story of Gideon. He was afraid to lead God's family to safety because he didn't think God would help him, but God showed him that he would! The great news is that God loves to help us, too.



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.
- **Say:** God ALWAYS wants to help us! I'm going to ask you some questions, and if you think the answer is yes, stand up and say "Yes!" (*Have kids sit back down after they stand up for each of the following questions.*)
- **Say:** "Can God help us..." before each of the following:
 - Be nice to our friends? (Yes!)
 - When we're scared? (Yes!)
 - Run a race? (Yes!)
 - Be nice to mean people? (Yes!)
 - Clean our room? (Yes!)
 - Go to school? (Yes!)
 - Do scary things? (Yes!)
 - When we're sad? (Yes!)
 - When we're happy? (Yes!)

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



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand how God showed Gideon he would help him and (2) recognize that God wants to give us help too!

Why? God doesn't HAVE to help us, he WANTS to. It's important for kids to understand that God desires to be a part of our lives!

Tip: If kids want to take their cotton balls home, let them glue them onto their cave coloring page!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Where was God's family hiding? Why? (In caves; a huge army was chasing them.)
2. Who did God ask to help rescue his family? (Gideon.)
3. How did Gideon feel when God asked him to save his family? (He was afraid and said, "No!" at first.)
4. Did God help Gideon? (Yes!)
5. Does God want to help us too? (Yes!)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Hand each kid a **cotton ball**. Show them how to flatten it (Unroll/pull it apart a little.)
- Act out the story:
 - **Say:** "Gideon asked God to make some wool wet and the ground dry. Then he went to sleep." (Kids should pretend to sleep.)
 - As kids "sleep," use a paper cup in the room to drop a little water on their cotton ball. Then say, "Wake up! Do you guys have wet wool? (Let them look.)
 - Say, "That means God will help!" Ask kids to repeat: "God will help!"
 - Say, "Uh oh, Gideon still felt scared!" (Kids should act scared.)
- Hand each kid a **second cotton ball** and have them flatten it. Then act out the rest of the story:
 - **Say:** "Gideon asked God to make some wool dry and the ground wet. Then he went to sleep." (Kids should pretend to sleep.)
 - As kids "sleep," use a paper cup in the room to drop a little water next to their cotton ball. Then say, "Wake up! Wow, do you guys have dry wool? (Give them a moment to look.)

(Continued on following page.)

- **Say:** “That means God will help!” Ask kids to repeat: “God will help!”
 - Go to each kid and say, “God will help _____.” (Use kids’ names.)
 - **Ask:** “How will God help us?” (Suggest things like: to share with others, to eat all our food, to clean up our toys, to be kind to our brothers or sisters, to say we’re sorry when we do something wrong, etc.)

*Extra time? Give kids a **coloring sheet**. After that, let them play hide and seek with the wool!*

special notes

Sometimes talking *quietly* can have just as big of an impact as talking loudly!
Use your voice in different tones to help communicate different emotions within the story.

presenter tips

There's no video in today's lesson, so it's a little longer than normal! Make sure you're familiar with the story so you can tell it yourself.

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review the beginning of God's story and rescue plan.

Notes:

- ***Click to play intro music.**
- **Say:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS.
- **Video: HOPS Have fun!**
- **Say:** (Holding up the **Bible**.) *This* is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this 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. It shows us how He rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.
- **Say:** In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. He created the sun and the moon, the water and the land, the plants and the animals, and people like you and me! Everything was good. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)
- **Say:** 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.)
- **Say:** 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!)

GOD'S FAMILY IS IN TROUBLE

Main Goal: Understand why God's family had to hide.

Notes:

- **Say:** One day, God's family was in trouble! A huge army was coming to fight them. They had to leave their houses and run away to hide in caves.
- **(Click to show image of a cave.)** They had to crawl into the dark opening to hide!
- **Say:** Close your eyes for a second. (Let kids close eyes.) Imagine what it would feel like to live inside that cave. It would be dark. You'd have to sleep on the rocky ground. You'd have to listen to the sounds in the cave. It might have sounded something like this!
- **(Click to play loop of hollow dripping noise.)**
- **Say:** There were probably bugs too! Everybody, use your hand to tickle your other arm and pretend there is a creepy, crawly spider inching up your arm! (Model and let the kids pretend.) Ewww—yuck!
- **Say:** Okay, go ahead and open your eyes. I would NOT want to live in a cave, would you? (Let kids say: No!) Well, neither did God's family.

INTRO: GIDEON

Main Goal: Introduce Gideon and see how he reacted when God spoke to him.

Notes:

- **Say:** God didn't want the big huge army to chase his family and attack them, so he chose a guy named Gideon to help them. Can you guys say, "Gideon?" (Let kids say Gideon.) Good job.
- **Ask:** Now, when God asks us to do something, should we say, "Yes"? (Let kids respond.) Definitely! We should always say yes to God.
- **Say:** But when God asked Gideon to rescue his family, Gideon said... "No." Uh-oh! He didn't think that God would help him, and he was scared of the army chasing God's family into caves! Say, "Oh no!" (Let kids respond.)

GIDEON TESTS GOD

Main Goal: Understand how and why Gideon tested God.

Notes:

- **Say:** Gideon tried to figure out if God would really help him. So he took a piece of wool. It might have looked like this.
- **(Click to show image of wool.)** He put the piece of wool on the ground, outside the caves. He said something like, "God, if you're really going to help me, when I wake up in the morning, make this **wool wet** with water, and make the **ground dry.**"
- **Say:** Then Gideon went to sleep (Pretend to sleep.) When he woke up, the wool was wet...and the ground was dry! That meant God would really help him! Say, "Yay!" (Let kids respond.)

GIDEON BELIEVES GOD

Main Goal: Understand why Gideon tested God again, and see how God showed him that he would help him!

Notes:

- **Say:** But you know what? Gideon was *still* afraid that God wouldn't really help him. He said something like, "God, if you're really going to help me, when I wake up in the morning, make this **wool dry**, and make the **ground wet** with water."
- **Say:** Then Gideon went to sleep (Pretend to sleep again.) When he woke up, the wool was dry...and the ground was wet! Again, that meant God would really help him! Say, "Woohoo!" (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** This time, Gideon believed God! And do you guys think God helped Gideon rescue his family? (Let kids say: Yes!)
- **Say:** Yes, he sure did! God loves to help his family, and God loved to help Gideon! And that means God loves to help YOU. Everybody point to yourself and say, "God loves to help me!" (Let kids say: God loves to help me!) Great job! Now let's pray together and thank God that he loves to help us.

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Help kids interact through prayer and worship!

Notes:

- **Pray:** (Break into small, repeatable phrases.) Dear God. We're so glad you love to help us. We love you. Aaa-men!
- **Set up worship:** Are you ready to thank God for helping us? (Let kids respond.) Me too! Let's stand up worship with him singing and dancing!
- **Music Video: Deep and Wide**
- **Music Video: Jesus Loves Me**
- **Song: King of the Jungle**

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--like Hops--to their groups.)

PREP needs



connect time supplies

“God helps us” game - no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per group: Bible, markers

Per kid: Coloring page, 2 cotton balls

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 Have fun! (<https://vimeo.com/25767958>)
3. Image: Cave
4. Loop: Hollow dripping noise (0:00-0:10; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZ2GanJIGbk>)
5. Image: Wool
6. Song: Deep and Wide(KC/SM media videos songs>songs>songs with slides)
7. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (<https://vimeo.com/44164426>)
8. Song: King of the Jungle (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>songs with slides)

connect questions

Tell me about Gideon.
How did God show Gideon he would help him?

name

