



Pre-K & Kindergarten

Unit 6 - Promised Land

Story 14.B - Twelve Spies (Numbers 13-14)

Some Pre-K kids may arrive at the beginning of the service. Do these two activities with them:

TABLE ACTIVITIES - Start with play-doh, puzzles, pop beads, or coloring from the cabinet.

WORSHIP - At 8:45 / 10:30 have kids clean up and gather on the carpet for music. Sing songs with them as you feel led. You may use the CD player and song sheet or sing a song of your choice.

WELCOME - About 15–20 minutes after service starts, have kids sit in a circle on the rug. Consider welcoming them with the following song, to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.”

We're glad you're here today (*clap*), we're glad you're here today (*clap*),
Wave your hands and say hello (*everyone waves*), we're glad you're here today (*clap*).
God loves you, so do we (*hug yourself*), God loves you, so do we (*hug yourself*),
We are all a family (*everyone puts hands in the middle*), God loves you, so do we (*hug yourself*).

Set behavioral expectations with the following questions:

Where are we? *We're at church.*
Why are we here? *To learn about God and worship him.*
How should we act in this special place? *Listen carefully and respect each other.*

Go around the circle and let each kid introduce themselves and answer the Question of the Day. (At your discretion, pass a stuffie around during introductions.) *Have you ever had to do something that you were scared to do?*

BIBLE SKILLS - Get out the Bible. Explain that the Bible is our greatest treasure because it is the Word of God. (Pre-K will find the Bible in the Treasure Box). Explain how God, the creator of the world and everything in it, teaches us about himself in this special book. Go over the Bible knowledge points below:

The Bible came from God.
The whole Bible says that God loves us and sent Jesus to be our Savior.

Let kids pass the Bible around the circle, with each of them patting it gently and saying, “The Word of God.”

MEMORY VERSE - *"The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures." Psalm 23:1-2a*

- Show them where the words are in the Bible to help them understand that it is a part of God's Word.
- Practice the verse together - Consider using one of the activities on the Memory Game List

BIBLE STORY - Have the kids move to the center of the rug if they are not already there for storytime. Using the pictures provided tell the story for today.

Last week we learned about how the Israelites were wandering around in the desert for over a year. *What does it mean to wander?* They were walking and walking, but they didn't have a home to go to. They finally came to a land called Canaan. God told them that he was giving them the land, so Moses sent 12 spies to find out what it was like. *Do you remember what they saw?* They saw a lot of food like these huge grapes. (*Show*

picture). Do you remember what they had been eating ever since they left Egypt? (*Show them the scraps of tan paper*) They were eating little tiny flakes of bread called manna that they gathered from the ground every morning. Even though they weren't hungry, I bet the people thought those huge grapes looked pretty good.

They also saw something that they didn't like in the land. What was it? They saw a lot of strong people who were in big cities. (*Show picture*) The spies knew that the people would not want to leave such a great land. When they came back to the camp and saw Moses, ten of the men said that they should not go to Canaan because the people were too strong and scary. Who said that they would get the land? God did. If God said that he was giving them the land, did they need to be worried about the people who were living there? No! God is stronger than any person, even a giant one.

Only two men named Caleb and Joshua said that the Israelites should obey God and go to Canaan. The other ten men went around to many people in the camp and told them that they shouldn't go. The men are too big, they said. The city walls are too high, they said. We seemed like grasshoppers to them, they said. The people listened to the ten men and not to Caleb and Joshua. They said that they wanted to go back to Egypt where they were slaves instead of going to the promised land of Canaan. (*Show picture of slaves in Egypt*)

Joshua and Caleb spoke to the people. They told them that the land was good for growing food and raising animals. They said the Israelites could have a good life there. "Don't be afraid of the people of the land, we will swallow them up. The Lord is with us, so nothing can save them. Don't be afraid of them." (Numbers 14:9) said Joshua and Caleb. They told the people that they shouldn't refuse to obey God. This made the people very mad and they threatened to throw stones at Joshua and Caleb. Ouch!

When this happened, the glory of the Lord appeared at the tent of meeting. The Lord talked to Moses and told him that he was angry with the people because even though he brought them up out of Egypt and did many miracles for them like giving them manna to eat every day, they still refused to obey him and believe in him. The Lord said that not one of the people who were alive today would get to go to the promised land. Only Caleb and Joshua would be able to go. God told Moses that the Israelites must go back to the desert to live and wander for 40 years before they could go into Canaan. (*Show picture of wandering in the desert.*)

God made a promise to Abraham that his family would get the land of Canaan. When the Israelites saw how big the people in Canaan were, they disobeyed God because they were afraid.

Big Truth: Trust God. He keeps his promises.

5. SNACK & REVIEW - Pass out snacks and water at the table (**check allergies on attendance roster**). Ask kids if they have any prayer requests and pray before eating. As they're eating, review the story and take some time getting to know them!

6. CRAFT: - Hand each child a sheet of grapes. Remind them that the Israelites had been eating manna in the desert that they scooped off of the ground for more than a year. When the 12 spies went into Canaan they saw a place with a lot of food. They even found grapes that took two men to carry. Have them use the dots to color in the grapes on their picture. Remind the kids that God promised his people that he would give them the land of Canaan, but they didn't trust him. Give them the label with the Big Truth to place on their paper.

7. PLAYTIME If time allows, kids may play with toys or do a community game until their parents come.