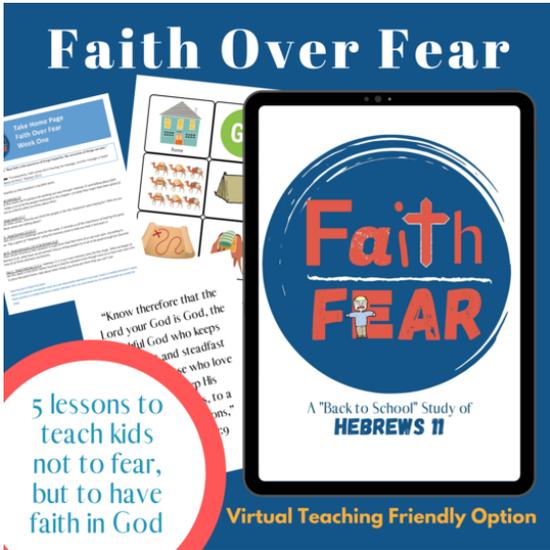




A "Back to School" Study of
HEBREWS 11



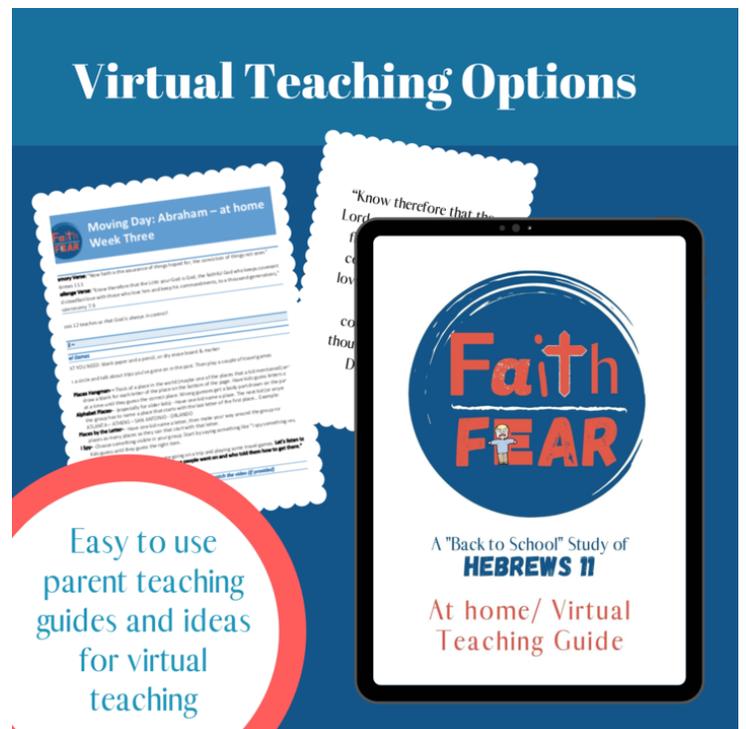
“Faith Over Fear” is a 5-week Sunday School series designed to point your kids to God as their hope and refuge. In these 5 lessons, students will be introduced to the concept of faith through the stories of some of the heroes of faith that we read about in Hebrews 11.

You are viewing the free sample lesson. You can purchase the complete series from the Sunday School Store.

<https://sundayschool.store/collections/curriculum/products/faith-over-fear-curriculum-hebrews-11>

The lessons you will find in this unit are:

1. Faith Over Fear – defining faith from Hebrews 11:1
2. Walk This Way: Enoch – Walking with God takes faith.
3. Moving Day: Abraham – God is always in control.
4. Rock-a-Bye Baby: Moses – God is a refuge for His people.
5. And What More Shall I Say? – the stories of those in the Old Testament who waited by faith - Jesus fulfills all God’s promises.





Written by Bethany Darwin of Treasure Trunk Kids for The Sunday School Store



Purchaser has the rights to print on copy for home, school or church purposes. Please do not copy, distribute or sell.

Treasure Trunk Kids - ©2020

Graphics - Canva

All Scripture is from the ESV version of the Bible

Faith Over Fear

Theme: Faith Over Fear

Memory Verse: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

Challenge Verse: "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17

Bible Story: What is faith? ~ Hebrews 11

The Point: Salvation is by faith alone

Introduction - Blind Bag (5-8 minutes)

WHAT YOU NEED: (a pillowcase of random small items brought from home- 10-15 items)

Have your group sit in a circle and pass the bag around the circle. Have kids reach in one at a time, feel around in the bag and remember one thing that they felt in the bag. Once the bag has gone all the way around the circle, have kids name things they were certain were in the bag. As kids name items, pull them out of the bag and show them. Ask questions like... right, there was a toothbrush, but did you know it was yellow? See how many of the items in the bag the group is able to identify.

SAY: "You guys seemed fairly certain of what was in the pillowcase even though you couldn't see inside. Let's go to large group and see if we can hear about something else that requires being certain of something you cannot see."

Large Group (25-35 minutes)

Welcome

"Good morning! I'm so glad that all of you are back from summer holidays and that we're all back together in church. I missed you all so much.

*** Take a moment to review the rules for all the kids

Let's quickly tell everyone all about our summer holidays... I'm going to go through a list of things that you might have done this summer. I want you to stand up and stay standing if what I say is true about you.

Stand up if you:

- went camping,
- went on a boat,
- visited your grandparents,

- went to the beach,
- played with your cousins,
- went to a movie,
- missed your friends from church,
- enjoyed your time off school.”

Worship Time

“Now that you’re all standing up, I think we should take a few minutes to worship God. Just in case you forgot while you were away, when we worship God, we tell God how much He is worth. Sometimes we worship by singing songs that talk about how great and awesome God is. To help us get started, we’re going to read a couple of verses and sing a couple of songs that reminds us of who God is and what He has done.

One of the truths we see clearly in the Bible is that God is eternal (or forever). Everything that the Bible tells us about God is true forever. Let’s sing a song that reminds us about that truth.

Forever God

Read Psalm 47:2.... let’s sing another song that reminds us who God is and what He has done.

Awesome God

Study God’s Word

(Before class hang a rope/ clothesline across the front of the room. Be prepared to hang the letters...FAITH across the line as you talk.)

“Recently, there has been a lot going on in the world that’s kind of scary. It would be easy to feel fear. So, for the next few weeks we’re going to be talking about 1 word that can help us fight fear. That word is **faith**. Can anyone tell me what the word faith means? (pause for responses).

Let’s see what the Bible says faith is. (have a volunteer read **Hebrews 11:1**.)

.....
“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction
of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1
.....

Wow! That’s a pretty amazing definition. Assurance means to be sure. Conviction means to be certain or to believe something.

How can we be sure of what we hope for and certain of things we do not see? That sounds a little bit confusing. There are a lot of things I hope for and a lot of things I don't see, but I don't think I'm supposed to be sure of all of those things. For example, I don't see purple flying elephants and I'm sure that they don't exist.

So, what was the writer of Hebrews talking about being sure of?

Old Testament people (the people who loved and followed God before Jesus was born), had a hope of the Messiah that was coming...that God was going to send His Rescuer to rescue His people....

[Read Isaiah 9:6-7 and discuss what they were hoping for.... God's Son who is God Himself, one who would rule forever on David's throne, one who would bring peace, one who is just and righteous, etc. (have kids point out things in the verse as you read through it a couple of times).]

They were also looking for someone who would bring them good news...

[Read and discuss Isaiah 61:1... they were hoping for someone who would preach good news, someone who would reach out to the brokenhearted, someone who would set them free from bondage (to sin & real bondage), etc.]

The people living in the Old Testament, before Jesus was born, had promises throughout the Bible to believe in...to have faith in...to be sure of.

By trusting God completely, they were trusting that He would keep His promises. They were trusting that He would be faithful.

As we'll see in the next few weeks, some of these people couldn't see much past their current situation, but they had faith in God - they hoped for things they could see, like children and land and families and freedom. And, they were certain of things they couldn't see - like deliverance from slavery and becoming a great nation and God's rescue and salvation and ultimately that God had a plan to rescue His children forever. They knew that God could always be trusted and that He alone is faithful. And, it's because of who God is that they were able to have faith in God and what He would do.

Let's pause and take some time to worship God by focusing on who He is as we start this study on faith.

[Put the letters up on the clothesline one at a time and have kids think of name or characteristics of God or Jesus that start with each letter. Be prepared to write the names/ characteristics that the kids come up with. If they are having a hard time, use some of the names below. You can even have kids read the verses and say what name/ characteristic they see in that verse if time allows.]

F- Fortress (Psalm 18:2), Faithful (Deuteronomy 32:4), Friend (Proverbs 18:24)

A- Almighty (Revelation 1:8), All-knowing (Psalm 139:1-6), Author of our faith (Hebrews 12:2),

I-I am (Exodus 2:14), Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14), Immortal

T-Truth (John 14:6), Teacher (Job 36:22)

H-Hiding Place (Psalm 32:7), High Tower (Psalm 18:2), Holy (Psalm 111:9)

These characteristics and names are just a small sample of the things that people in the Old Testament who put their faith in God knew to be true about God. Since they knew that He is true and holy and

awesome, since they knew that He is all-knowing and a hiding place and the best friend anyone could ever hope for, since they knew that He is the author of our faith and Immortal and the I am, and since they knew so much more about who God is and what God is like, they could be sure that in His faithfulness He would keep all His promises. And, they could be certain that even though they hadn't seen the Messiah, the Rescuer, the Promised One, He was coming to rescue God's people, to forgive God's people and to bring them back into a perfect relationship with God.

By faith, they were sure that Jesus was coming someday.

That's what we're going to be talking about for the next 4 weeks. As we look at these stories from the Old Testament, we're going to be reminded that the whole Bible points to Jesus and that Jesus is the One who would come to save His people from their sin.

Before we go to our small groups, lets read our memory verse (**Hebrews 11:1**) one more time and sing the words of the verse together.

Faith – Seeds Family Worship

Pray

“Dear God, thank You that are faithful. Thank You that You always keep Your promises. Thank You for giving us the example from Your Word, the Bible, of people who put their trust in You, people who had faith in what You were doing in the world long before You sent Jesus to earth. Thank You that we can see people who believed in Jesus without seeing Him. Help us to believe more and more in Jesus and what you did for Your people by sending Jesus to earth. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.”

Dismiss kids to small groups.

Faith Over Fear

Small Group (30 - 40 minutes)

Younger group – ages 5-8

Before the Session:

- Faith not Sight - a feather, a balloon and a Bible
- Faith Preview – one set of 'faith preview' cards
- Can't see God but you can See His Works – blank paper (one piece per kid), pencils/ crayons/ markers
- Now You See it/ Now You Don't – Bibles, one set of memory verse words, tape

Preview Activity (Relationship Builder)

Since this might be the first week with a new group of kids, play a quick game to get to know the kids in the group. Have each kid say their name, what school they go to and their favorite food.

1. Faith not Sight (review & application)

WHAT YOU NEED: a feather, a balloon and a Bible

Ask the kids to look around your room or small group area and name all the things that they know are there because they can see them. They should notice people, walls, furniture, teaching materials, etc. Then ask the kids about the air in the room. Do they know there is air in the room? How? Can they see the air? Help the kids to see that although we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air and know that it's there.

Hold up a feather and gently blow on it. Ask what made the feather move. Explain that even though they can't see the air, they still know that the air is what made the feather move. Then, hold up an empty balloon. Blow some air into the balloon slowly and have the kids watch as the balloon fills up with air. Ask what's inside the balloon, then deflate the balloon and ask if they could see the air as it was coming out of the balloon.

SAY: "Even though we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air as it makes the feather move and fills the balloon. Although there is a scientific explanation for the air, it still takes us believing in something that we can't see. Believing in something we cannot see is called faith. The truth this should

remind us of is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone**. Even though we can't see Jesus, we can believe by faith that He is the Son of God and that He came to earth to rescue us from our sin."

Ask if anyone in the group has ever seen Jesus. Ask kids to name some of the people who have seen Jesus (they should name some of the disciples). Talk about what those people saw Jesus do - miracles, healing people, calming storms, coming back to life, etc. In your own words remind kids of the story of Jesus appearing to Thomas (John 20:24-29).

Read (or have one of the kids in your group read) **John 20:29**. Ask again if anyone in the group has ever seen Jesus. Then, ask them if they believe that Jesus is real, that He's God's Son, that He lived a perfect life on earth, & that He died on the cross and rose again. Explain that what they believe about Jesus is faith.

SAY: "In the story we just talked about, when Thomas saw Jesus, he believed that Jesus was alive again. We can't see Jesus and touch the scars on his hands and feet, so the only way we can believe that Jesus is alive again is by faith. In the Bible, in **Hebrews 11:1** it says, '**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**' That verse is our new memory verse.

(if you've already taped it on the wall for the memory verse activity, point it out now).

When we believe that Jesus is God's Only Son and that He came to earth to die on the cross in the place of all of God's people and that He came back to life three days later, we believe those things out of faith. Believing that Jesus died in our place for our sin is the only way to be saved. We know this because the Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:8-9 that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone.**"

[HEART TO HEART] Tell the kids in your small group what it means to you to believe in Jesus by faith. As you think about what to share about your own faith in Jesus Christ, read and consider these verses about faith (Mark 16:14, 1 Corinthians 15:14, 2 Corinthians 5:7, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Ephesians 2:8, Philippians 3:9). You might want to choose 1-2 verses to share with the group.

2. Faith Preview (Scripture Search)

WHAT YOU NEED: one set of faith preview cards, Bibles

Place the cards face down in even rows on the floor or table in your small group area. Kids will take turns turning over two cards and trying to make a match. A match would be a picture of a Biblical figure/ story and a card with the person's name/ scripture reference.

- For ages 7-8, as matches are made have one of the kids look up and read the verse references to remind the rest of the group of the story.
- For ages 5-6, after all of the matches have been made choose a couple of the stories to read to the group (have readers get some practice looking verses up in their Bibles if they have them with them).

As you go through the game let kids know that they'll hear more about many of these people in the next few weeks and that they'll hear about how these people lived by faith in the One True God. Let them know that they'll also hear more about the object of their faith (Jesus) and how all of the Bible points to Him as the only Savior.

SAY: “All of the people that we’re going to learn about in the next few weeks lived by faith. They had faith in a God they couldn’t see, and they had faith that this unseen God would keep His promises and save His people by sending the Deliverer (Jesus). None of these people met Jesus, but they all had faith that He would come someday. Even though these people lived long before Jesus came to earth, they knew that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone.** They were sure that God was real, they were sure that God was in control, they were sure that God had a plan and they were sure that Jesus was coming to save God’s people someday. Just like none of these people ever saw Jesus, none of us have ever seen Jesus, but we can be sure that He is real and have faith that Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God.”

[HEART TO HEART] Take a minute to remind your group why we all need to be saved and why even from the very beginning of the Bible people were looking for salvation to come. Talk briefly about sin and how ever since Adam and Eve we have all been separated from God because of sin and how Jesus came to earth to pay the price for our sin (death) so that we could be reunited with God. Help them to see that even though all of these people we’ll be talking about over the next few weeks are all good examples of faith, that they were all sinners like you and me who needed a Savior ~ Jesus.

3. Can’t See God, but You Can See His Works (Prayer)

WHAT YOU NEED: blank paper (one piece per kid), pencils, crayons or markers

Ask kids how we can know that God is real since we can’t see Him. They may say because parents or teachers tell them so, or because the Bible tells them so.

(remember that faith comes easy for kids and that they trust things/ people they see as authorities in their lives, and the Bible tells us in Romans 10:17 that faith comes from hearing the message).

Help kids see that we can also know that God is real because of the things He has done. Help kids to name things God has done - creation, making people, miracles, healings, etc.

Hand out the paper and markers/ crayons. Encourage kids to draw pictures of things that God has done. Explain that you’re going to use their pictures to praise God. You’re going to use things that God has done to praise the unseen God who has done these things.

Once all the kids have finished their pictures, have them say sentence prayers praising God for what they drew... “I praise you God because you made all kinds of animals”, etc. For younger kids you may need to ask them to tell you about their pictures and then prompt them with what to say.

[HEART TO HEART] Be sure to draw a picture yourself, or at least be prepared to share with the kids something that always reminds you that God is real ~ a sunset, the birth of a baby, etc.

4. Now You See It/ Now You Don’t (Memory verse)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, one set of memory verse words, tape

Before class, tape the verse words on the wall in your small group area in order.

As you get to this activity, explain to the kids in your small group that you've heard this memory verse many times already today and that you're sure that they'll all be able to memorize it quickly. Show them the verse on the wall and have them read it together as a group.

Then, take away 1-3 words and have them read it again. Continue taking away a few words at a time and having the kids read the verse and fill in the blanks. Once you just have the reference on the wall comment that you can't see the words of the verse, but that the verse has words and that by now they should be written on the kids' hearts and minds. Have the group quote the verse once or twice together.

Open your Bible to Hebrews 11 (have readers in the group do the same thing). Explain that for the next few weeks they'll be studying people in the Bible who lived by faith. Point out for the kids that many of the verses begin with... "by faith....".

SAY: "The point we want to take home with us today is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone**. Each of the people in Hebrews 11 who we'll look at, were sure that God is sovereign (in control) and sure that God had a plan and sure that following God and obeying Him was the best way to live. Most importantly they were all sure that God would keep His promise to rescuer and deliver His people someday by sending Jesus. None of these people met Jesus, but they all had faith that He was coming one day. They were sure of what they hoped for and they were certain of what they could not see."

[HEART TO HEART] As a reminder that salvation is by faith alone, take a minute to remind the kids that there is nothing we can do on our own to earn our salvation. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Remind the kids that having Christian parents doesn't make them a Christian, coming to church doesn't make them a Christian, being good doesn't make them a Christian, etc. ~ The only way to be saved is through faith in Jesus' death in our place.

Conclude the session with a review and prayer.

Faith Over Fear

Small Group (30 - 40 minutes)

Older group – ages 8-12

Before the Session:

- Faith not Sight - a feather, a balloon and a Bible
- The Invisible God – blank paper (2 pieces per kid), baking soda, water, bowls, q-tips, purple grape juice, invisible ink instructions and Bibles
- I Spy – nothing needed
- Now You See it/ Now You Don't – Bibles, one set of memory verse words, tape

Preview Activity (Relationship Builder)

Since this may be the first week with a new group of kids, play a quick game to get to know the kids in the group. Have each kid say their name, what school they go to and their favorite food.

1. The Invisible God (Scripture Search)

WHAT YOU NEED: blank paper (2 pieces per kid), baking soda, water, bowl, q-tips, purple grape juice, invisible ink instruction page, Bibles.

*** You'll may want to start with this activity so that it has time to dry during class.

Have the kids in your small group read the following verses out loud. (Romans 1:20, Colossians 1:15, 1 Timothy 1:17, Hebrews 11:17, Matthew 6:6, Psalm 77:19) and then discuss what they all have in common. Talk about the fact that all of these verses talk about God being invisible or not seen. Remind kids that even though we can't see God, because of faith we can be sure that He is there.

Talk about some of the ways that you can be sure that God is real... we can see the world He has made, we can read about the things He did in the Old Testament (and remember He wasn't seen in the Old Testament) like the plagues, crossing the Red Sea, making the sun stand still, and we can feel that He is there when we're scared and we pray and feel comforted, etc.

Give each kid a piece of blank paper and explain that each of them will choose one of the verses you just read, or think of something else that reminds them that God is there even though He can't be seen and use invisible ink (baking soda & water) and a q-tip to write the verse or the message on the piece of paper. Explain that you'll then let the messages dry and after the next activity you'll give your message to

someone else in the group and you'll reveal (paint over the page with grape juice) and read the messages. If time allows at the end of the session, kids can write a 2nd message, leave it invisible and take it home for someone in their family to reveal and read.

SAY: "If you handed me one of these invisible messages, I may think that you were just giving me a blank piece of paper. But, after painting them with the grape juice we were able to read the invisible messages. When we look around the room, we can't see God here, but we can believe by faith that He is because the Bible teaches us that God is omnipresent (**Psalm 139**). We have to believe in God by faith. Another thing we need to believe by faith is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone**. The Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:8-9 that salvation is a gift from God and not something we can do on our own and in Romans 3:23 that we are all sinners who need salvation. The only way we can be saved is by believing that Jesus took our punishment. We can't do anything to be saved, because Jesus has already done everything.

[HEART TO HEART] Take a minute to remind your group why we all need to be saved and why even from the very beginning of the Bible people were looking for salvation to come. Talk briefly about sin and how ever since Adam and Eve we have all been separated from God because of sin and how Jesus came to earth to pay the price for our sin (death) so that we could be reunited with God. Help them to see that even though all of these people we'll be talking about over the next few weeks are all good examples of faith, that they were all sinners like you and me who needed a Savior ~ Jesus.

2. Faith not Sight (Review and Application)

WHAT YOU NEED: a feather, a balloon and a Bible

Ask the kids to look around your room or small group area and name all the things that they know are there because they can see them. They should notice people, walls, furniture, teaching materials, etc. Then ask the kids about the air in the room. Do they know there is air in the room? How? Can they see the air? Help the kids to see that although we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air and know that it's there.

Hold up a feather and gently blow on it. Ask what made the feather move. Explain that even though they can't see the air, they still know that the air is what made the feather move. Then, hold up an empty balloon. Blow some air into the balloon slowly and have the kids watch as the balloon fills up with air. Ask what's inside the balloon, then deflate the balloon and ask if they could see the air as it was coming out of the balloon.

SAY: "Even though we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air as it makes the feather move and fills the balloon. Although there is a scientific explanation for the air, it still takes us believing in something that we can't see. Believing in something we cannot see is called faith. The truth this should remind us is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone**. Even though we can't see Jesus, we can believe by faith that He is the Son of God and that He came to earth to rescue us from our sin."

Ask if anyone in the group has ever seen Jesus. Ask kids to name some of the people who have seen Jesus (they should name some of the disciples). Talk about what those people saw Jesus do...miracles, healing

people, calming storms, coming back to life, etc. In your own words remind kids of the story of Jesus appearing to Thomas (**John 20:24-29**).

Read (or have one of the kids in your group read) **John 20:29**. Ask again if anyone in the group has ever seen Jesus. Ask who believes that Jesus is real, that He's God's Son, that He lived a perfect life on earth, & that He died on the cross and rose again. Explain that believing truths about Jesus takes faith.

SAY: "In the story we just talked about, when Thomas saw Jesus, he believed that Jesus was alive again. We can't see Jesus and touch the scars on his hands and feet, so the only way we can believe that Jesus is alive again is by faith. In the Bible, in Hebrews 11:1 it says, '**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**' That verse is our new memory verse.

(if you've already taped it on the wall for the memory verse activity, point it out now).

When we believe that Jesus is God's Only Son and that He came to earth to die on the cross in the place of all of God's people and that He came back to life three days later, we believe those things out of faith. Believing that Jesus died in our place for our sin is the only way to be saved. We know this because the Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:8-9 that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone."**

[HEART TO HEART] Tell the kids in your small group what it means to you to believe in Jesus by faith. As you think about what to share about your own faith in Jesus Christ, read and consider these verses about faith (**Mark 16:14, 1 Corinthians 15:14, 2 Corinthians 5:7, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Ephesians 2:8, Philippians 3:9**). You might want to choose 1-2 verses to share with the group.

3. I Spy (Prayer)

WHAT YOU NEED: none needed

Before starting this activity remind kids that although this is a game that it's also a prayer time, so they need to remember that anytime they are praying they are talking to God. Lead the kids in your group in playing a simple game of "I Spy." (one kid says, "I spy something red." And others have to guess what they see by asking yes/ no question. Once the item has been guessed, have the kid who guessed correctly say a sentence prayer thanking God for something to do with that item....EX: If it was another kid's shirt- - thank You God for John or thank You God for friends or thank You God for our small group, etc.

After all of the kids have had an opportunity to pray, close the prayer time by thanking God for the things we see around us and for Jesus whom we cannot see.

4. Now You See It/ Now You Don't (Memory verse)

WHAT YOU NEED: bibles, one set of memory verse words, tape

Before class tape the verse words on the wall in your small group area in order. As you get to this activity, explain to the kids in your small group that you've heard this month's memory verse many times already

today and that you're sure that they'll all be able to memorize it quickly. Show them the verse on the wall and have them read it together as a group. Then take away 2-3 words and have them read it again. Continue taking away a few words at a time and having the kids read the verse and fill in the blanks. Once you just have the reference on the wall comment that you can't see the words of the verse, but that you know that the verse has words and that by now those words should be written on the kids' hearts and minds. Have the group quote the verse once or twice together.

Then, have kids open their Bibles to Hebrews 11 and have them skim through the chapter. Explain that for the next few months they'll be studying people in the Bible who lived by faith. Have them note how so many of the verses begin with... "by faith....".

SAY: "The point we want to take home with us today is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone.** Each of the people in Hebrews 11 who we'll look at were sure that God is sovereign (in control) and sure that God had a plan and they were sure that following God and obeying Him was the best way to live. Most importantly they were all sure that God would keep His promise to rescuer and deliver His people someday by sending Jesus. None of these people met Jesus, but they all had faith that He was coming one day. They were sure of what they hoped for and they were certain of what they could not see. These people, long before Jesus came to earth, were saved because they believed in advance in Jesus."

Conclude with a brief prayer and review.

If you have extra time at the end of the session, let kids write some more invisible messages, and talk about other times in the Bible they can think of where people knew God was there even though they couldn't see Him.



Take Home Page

Faith Over Fear

Week One

Memory Verse: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:1

Challenge Verse: “Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.” Romans 10:17

Hebrews 11 teaches us that Salvation is by faith alone.

Day 1 - Read Hebrews 11

For the next few weeks we're going to be working our way through Hebrews 11 and talking about faith over fear. Make a list of all the people mentioned in this chapter. List what they might have been afraid of. Then discuss as a family what you know about them.

Day 2 - Read Isaiah 9:1-7

Based on these verses, what do you think the people in the Old Testament were hoping for? Who do you think these verses are talking about?

Day 3 - Read Romans 10:13-17

Romans 10:17 is our challenge verse for this week. It reminds us of the importance of hearing the good news. Play a game of 'Telephone' using the memory verse to help you hear it and learn it.

Day 4 - Read Ephesians 2:8-10 & Romans 6:23

These verses remind us that salvation is a gift from God that none of us can ever earn. According to Romans 6:23, what have we all earned? Discuss things people try to do to be good enough for God and how all of these attempts are failures.

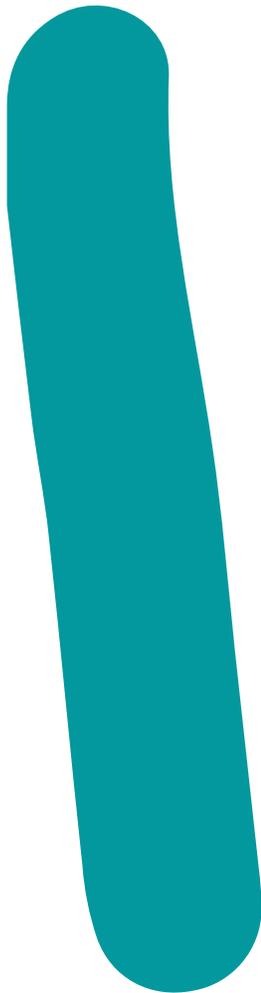
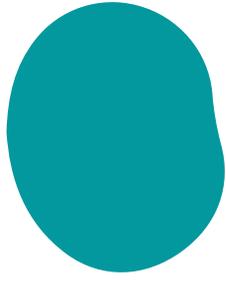
Day 5 - Read Hebrews 11:1-2 Hebrews 11:1 is our main memory verse for this study. What we began to see this week is that faith means trusting in God for salvation even though none of us have ever seen Him. To drive this point home, talk about other things you know are there that you can't see.

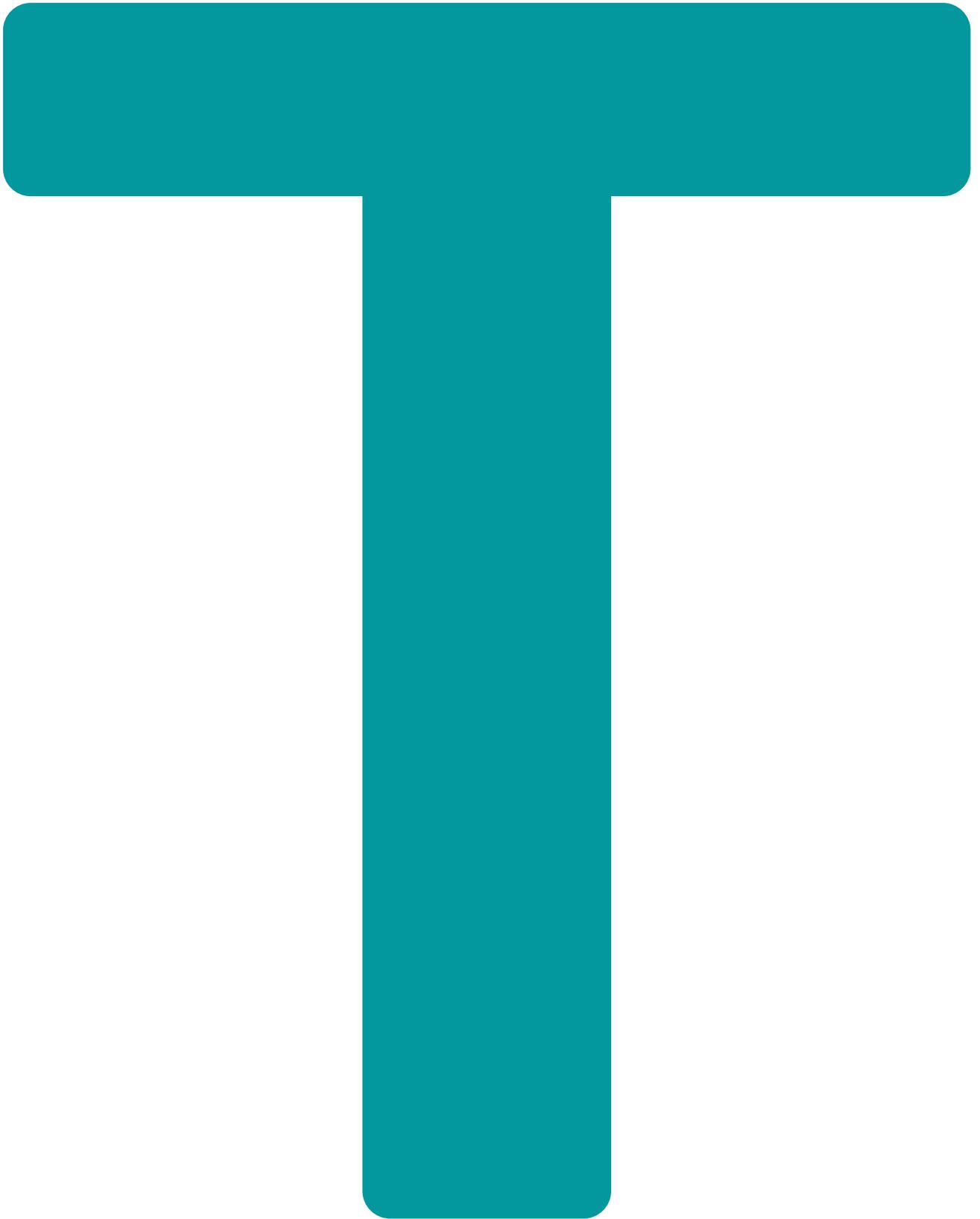
NOW YOU SEE IT? NOW YOU DON'T

WRITE THE WORDS OF THE MEMORY VERSE ON A DRY ERASE BOARD AND READ IT OUT LOUD. ERASE 1-2 WORDS AND READ IT AGAIN. ERASE ANOTHER 1-2 WORDS AND READ IT AGAIN. CONTINUE UNTIL YOU HAVE ERASED ALL THE WORDS AND ARE JUST SAYING THE VERSE.



A





H



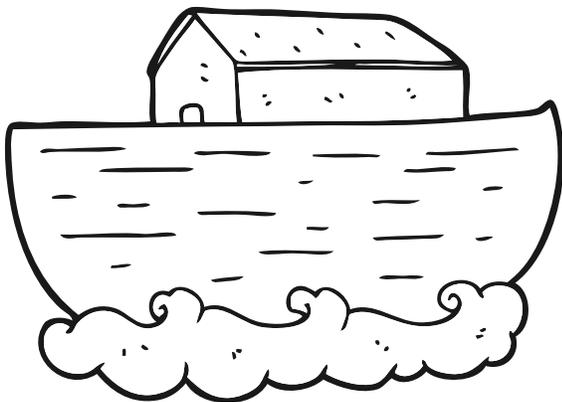
ABRAHAM

Genesis 22:9-14



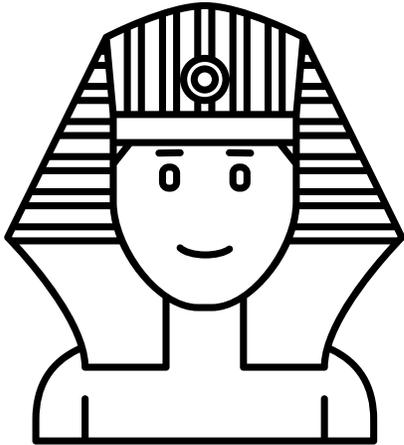
ABEL

Genesis 4:2-7



NOAH

Genesis 6:5-9



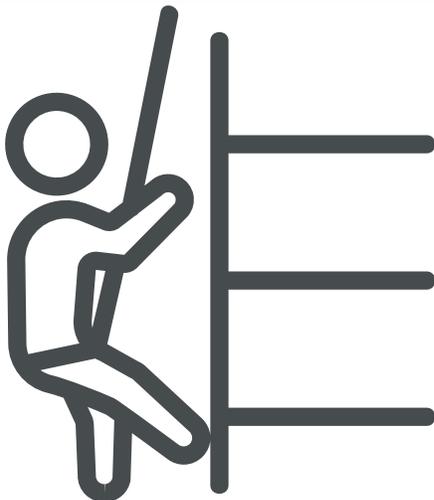
JOSEPH

Genesis 50-24-26



MOSES

Exodus 2:1-6



RAHAB

Joshua 2:15-21

Now

faith

is

the

assurance

of

things

hoped

for,

the

conviction

of

things

not

seen.

Hebrews 11:1

Invisible Ink Instructions

- Mix equal parts water and baking soda
- Use a cotton swab to paint the ink on the paper
- Let paper dry
- Paint over the paper with a cotton swab and purple grape juice.
- The message will appear on the page.

Invisible Ink Instructions

- Mix equal parts water and baking soda
- Use a cotton swab to paint the ink on the paper
- Let paper dry
- Paint over the paper with a cotton swab and purple grape juice.
- The message will appear on the page.



A "Back to School" Study of
HEBREWS 11

At home/ Virtual
Teaching Guide



“Faith Over Fear” is a 5-week Sunday School series designed to point your kids to God as their hope and refuge. In these 5 lessons, students will be introduced to the concept of faith through the stories of some of the heroes of faith that we read about in Hebrews 11.

The lessons you will find in this unit are:

1. Faith Over Fear – defining faith from Hebrews 11:1
2. Walk This Way: Enoch – Walking with God takes faith.
3. Moving Day: Abraham – God is always in control.
4. Rock-a-Bye Baby: Moses – God is a refuge for His people.
5. And What More Shall I Say? – the stories of those in the Old Testament who waited by faith - Jesus fulfills all God’s promises.

*The key verse for this unit is Hebrews 11:1 -
“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”*

All Scripture references are taken from the ESV version of the Bible.

How to use this Virtual Teaching Guide:

- In this guide you have several things – a PDF of the main teaching time for the week, a PDF of the at-home lesson guide, and fully editable word file of the full 5 lessons should you choose to do further editing.
 - In the main teaching guide, you’ll find a teaching script, a couple of song suggestions and a prayer. (If you choose to teach this part on video, there are sections in blue type where it would be helpful to tell parents to pause the video and discuss).
 - In the at-home lesson guide, you’ll find 6 days of teaching activities with discussion scripts and any necessary printables.
 - Day 1 of the at-home lesson guide is an introductory activity and the main teaching for the week.
- Decide how/ when the main teaching time will take place. Options would be to video yourself teaching the lesson, schedule a zoom teaching time, or provide it for parents to do on day 1 of at home teaching.

Faith Over Fear

Theme: Faith Over Fear

Memory Verse: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”
Hebrews 11:1

Bible Story: What is faith? ~ Hebrews 11

The Point: Salvation is by faith alone

Worship Time

Read Psalm 47:2.... let’s sing a song that reminds us who God is and what He has done.

Awesome God

Study God’s Word

“Recently, there has been a lot going on in the world that’s kind of scary. It would be easy to feel fear. So, for the next few weeks we’re going to be talking about 1 word that can help us fight fear. That word is **faith**. Can anyone tell me what the word faith means? (pause for responses).

Let’s see what the Bible says faith is. (have someone read **Hebrews 11:1**.)

.....
“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction
of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1
.....

Wow! That’s a pretty amazing definition. Assurance means to be sure. Conviction means to be certain or to believe something.

How can we be sure of what we hope for and certain of things we do not see? That sounds a little bit confusing. There are a lot of things I hope for and a lot of things I don’t see, but I don’t think I’m supposed to be sure of all of those things. For example, I don’t see purple flying elephants and I’m sure that they don’t exist.

So, what was the writer of Hebrews talking about being sure of?

Old Testament people (the people who loved and followed God before Jesus was born), had a hope of the Messiah that was coming...that God was going to send His Rescuer to rescue His people...

[Read Isaiah 9:6-7 and discuss what they were hoping for.... God’s Son who is God Himself, one who would rule forever on David’s throne, one who would bring peace, one who is just and righteous, etc. (have kids point out things in the verse as you read through it a couple of times).]

They were also looking for someone who would bring them good news...

[Read and discuss Isaiah 61:1... they were hoping for someone who would preach good news, someone who would reach out to the brokenhearted, someone who would set them free from bondage (to sin & real bondage), etc.]

The people living in the Old Testament, before Jesus was born, had promises throughout the Bible to believe in...to have faith in...to be sure of.

By trusting God completely, they were trusting that He would keep His promises. They were trusting that He would be faithful.

As we'll see in the next few weeks, some of these people couldn't see much past their current situation, but they had faith in God - they hoped for things they could see, like children and land and families and freedom. And, they were certain of things they couldn't see - like deliverance from slavery and becoming a great nation and God's rescue and salvation and ultimately that God had a plan to rescue His children forever. They knew that God could always be trusted and that He alone is faithful. And, it's because of who God is that they were able to have faith in God and what He would do.

Let's pause and take some time to worship God by focusing on who He is as we start this study on faith.

[Work together to name truths about God that start with the letters of Faith. Below are some examples.]

F- Fortress (Psalm 18:2), Faithful (Deuteronomy 32:4), Friend (Proverbs 18:24)

A- Almighty (Revelation 1:8), All-knowing (Psalm 139:1-6), Author of our faith (Hebrews 12:2),

I-I am (Exodus 2:14), Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14), Immortal

T-Truth (John 14:6), Teacher (Job 36:22)

H-Hiding Place (Psalm 32:7), High Tower (Psalm 18:2), Holy (Psalm 111:9)

These characteristics and names are just a small sample of the things that people in the Old Testament who put their faith in God knew to be true about God. Since they knew that He is true and holy and awesome, since they knew that He is all-knowing and a hiding place and the best friend anyone could ever hope for, since they knew that He is the author of our faith and Immortal and the I am, and since they knew so much more about who God is and what God is like, they could be sure that in His faithfulness He would keep all His promises. And, they could be certain that even though they hadn't seen the Messiah, the Rescuer, the Promised One, He was coming to rescue God's people, to forgive God's people and to bring them back into a perfect relationship with God.

By faith, they were sure that Jesus was coming someday.

Pray

"Dear God, thank You that are faithful. Thank You that You always keep Your promises. Thank You for giving us the example from Your Word, the Bible, of people who put their trust in You, people who had faith in what You were doing in the world long before You sent Jesus to earth. Thank You that we can see people who believed in Jesus without seeing Him. Help us to believe more and more in Jesus and what you did for Your people by sending Jesus to earth. In Jesus name I pray. Amen."



Faith Over Fear – at Home Week One

Memory Verse: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”
Hebrews 11:1

Challenge Verse: “Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.” Romans 10:17

Hebrews 11 teaches us that Salvation is by faith alone.

Day 1 –

Blind Bag

WHAT YOU NEED: (a pillowcase of random small items - 10-15 items)

Sit in a circle and pass the bag around the circle. Take turns reaching into the bag. Feel around in the bag and remember one thing that you felt in the bag. Once the bag has gone around the circle, name things they you are certain are in the bag. As kids name items, pull them out of the bag and show them. Ask questions like... right, there was a toothbrush, but did you know it was yellow? See how many of the items in the bag your family is able to identify.

SAY: “You seemed fairly certain of what was in the pillowcase even though you couldn’t see inside. Let’s (listen to a story/ watch the church video) and see if we can hear about something else that requires being certain of something you cannot see.”

Teaching Time – Read/ talk through the attached lesson OR watch the video (if provided)

Day 2 –

Read Hebrews 11

For the next few weeks we're going to be working our way through Hebrews 11 and talking about faith over fear. Make a list of all the people mentioned in this chapter. List what they might have been afraid of. Then discuss as a family what you know about them.

Faith not Sight (review & application)

WHAT YOU NEED: a feather, a balloon and a Bible

Ask the kids to look around your room and name all the things that they know are there because they can see them. They should notice people, walls, furniture, teaching materials, etc. Then ask the kids about the air in the room. Do they know there is air in the room? How? Can they see the air? Help the kids to see that although we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air and know that it's there.

Hold up a feather and gently blow on it. Ask what made the feather move. Explain that even though they can't see the air, they still know that the air is what made the feather move. Then, hold up an empty balloon. Blow some air into the balloon slowly and have the kids watch as the balloon fills up with air. Ask what's inside the balloon, then deflate the balloon and ask if they could see the air as it was coming out of the balloon.

SAY: "Even though we can't see the air, we can see the evidence of the air as it makes the feather move and fills the balloon. Although there is a scientific explanation for the air, it still takes us believing in something that we can't see. Believing in something we cannot see is called faith. The truth this should remind us of is that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone**. Even though we can't see Jesus, we can believe by faith that He is the Son of God and that He came to earth to rescue us from our sin."

[HEART TO HEART] Talk about what it means to you to believe in Jesus by faith. As you think about what to share about your own faith in Jesus Christ, read and consider these verses about faith (Mark 16:14, 1 Corinthians 15:14, 2 Corinthians 5:7, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Ephesians 2:8, Philippians 3:9). You might want to choose 1-2 verses to share with your family

Day 3 –

Read Isaiah 9:1-7

Based on these verses, what do you think the people in the Old Testament were hoping for? Who do you think these verses are talking about?

I Spy (Prayer)

Before starting this activity remind kids that although this is a game that it's also a prayer time, so they need to remember that anytime they are praying they are talking to God. Lead the family in playing a simple game of "I Spy." (one person says, "I spy something red." And others have to guess what they see by asking yes/ no question. Once the item has been guessed, have the person who guessed correctly say a sentence prayer thanking God for something to do with that item....EX: If it was another kid's shirt - thank You God for John or thank You God for friends or thank You God for our family, etc. After everyone has had opportunity to pray, close the prayer time by thanking God for the things we see around us and for Jesus whom we cannot see.

Day 4 –

Read Romans 10:13-17

Romans 10:17 is our challenge verse for this week. It reminds us of the importance of hearing the good news. Play a game of 'Telephone' using the memory verse to help you hear it and learn it.

Can't See God, but You Can See His Works (Prayer)

WHAT YOU NEED: blank paper (one piece per person), pencils, crayons or markers

Ask how we can know that God is real since we can't see Him. They may say because parents or teachers tell them so, or because the Bible tells them so. (remember that faith comes easy for kids and that they trust things/ people they see as authorities in their lives, and the Bible tells us in Romans 10:17 that faith comes from hearing the message). Help kids see that we can also know that God is real because of the things He has done. Help kids to name things God has done - creation, making people, miracles, healings, etc.

Hand out the paper and markers/ crayons. Encourage kids to draw pictures of things that God has done. Explain that you're going to use their pictures to praise God. You're going to use things that God has done to praise the unseen God who has done these things. Once all the kids have finished their pictures, have them say sentence prayers praising God for what they drew... "I praise you God because you made all kinds of animals", etc. For younger kids you may need to ask them to tell you about their pictures and then prompt them with what to say.

[HEART TO HEART] Be sure to draw a picture yourself, or at least be prepared to share with the kids something that always reminds you that God is real ~ a sunset, the birth of a baby, etc.

Day 5 –

Read Ephesians 2:8-10 & Romans 6:23

These verses remind us that salvation is a gift from God that none of us can ever earn. According to Romans 6:23, what have we all earned? Discuss things people try to do to be good enough for God and how all of these attempts are failures.

Faith Preview (Scripture Search)

WHAT YOU NEED: one set of faith preview cards, Bibles

Place the cards face down in even rows on the floor or table. Take turns turning over two cards and trying to make a match. A match would be a picture of a Biblical figure/ story and a card with the person's name/ scripture reference.

- For older kids, as matches are made have one of the kids look up and read the verse references to remind the rest of the group of the story.
- For younger kids, after all of the matches have been made choose a couple of the stories to read to the group

As you go through the game let kids know that they'll hear more about many of these people in the next few weeks and that they'll hear about how these people lived by faith in the One True God. Let them know that they'll also hear more about the object of their faith (Jesus) and how all of the Bible points to Him as the only Savior.

SAY: "All of the people that we're going to learn about in the next few weeks lived by faith. They had faith in a God they couldn't see, and they had faith that this unseen God would keep His promises and save His people by sending the Deliverer (Jesus). None of these people met Jesus, but they all had faith that He would come someday. Even though these people lived long before Jesus came to earth, they knew that **[THE POINT] salvation is by faith alone.** They were sure that God was real, they were sure that God was in control, they were sure that God had a plan and they were sure that Jesus was coming to save God's people someday. Just like none of these people ever saw Jesus, none of us have ever seen Jesus, but we can be sure that He is real and have faith that Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God."

[HEART TO HEART] Take a minute to remind your family why we all need to be saved and why even from the very beginning of the Bible people were looking for salvation to come. Talk briefly about sin and how ever since Adam and Eve we have all been separated from God because of sin and how Jesus came to earth to pay the price for our sin (death) so that we could be reunited with God. Help them to see that even though all of these people we'll be talking about over the next few weeks are all good examples of faith, that they were all sinners like you and me who needed a Savior ~ Jesus.

Day 6 -

Read Hebrews 11:1-2

Hebrews 11:1 is our main memory verse for this study. What we began to see this week is that faith means trusting in God for salvation even though none of us have ever seen Him. To drive this point home, talk about other things you know are there that you can't see.

Now You See It/ Now You Don't (Memory verse)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, one set of memory verse words, tape

Tape the verse words on the wall. Explain to the kids in your small group that you've heard this memory verse many times this week and that you're sure that they'll all be able to memorize it quickly. Show them the verse on the wall and have read it together.

Then, take away 1-3 words and read it again. Continue taking away a few words at a time and reading the verse and filling in the blanks. Once you just have the reference on the wall comment that you can't see the words of the verse, but that the verse has words and that by now they should be written on the kids' hearts and minds. Have the group quote the verse once or twice together.

[HEART TO HEART] As a reminder that salvation is by faith alone, take a minute to remind the kids that there is nothing we can do on our own to earn our salvation. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Remind the kids that having Christian parents doesn't make them a Christian, coming to church doesn't make them a Christian, being good doesn't make them a Christian, etc. ~ The only way to be saved is through faith in Jesus' death in our place.



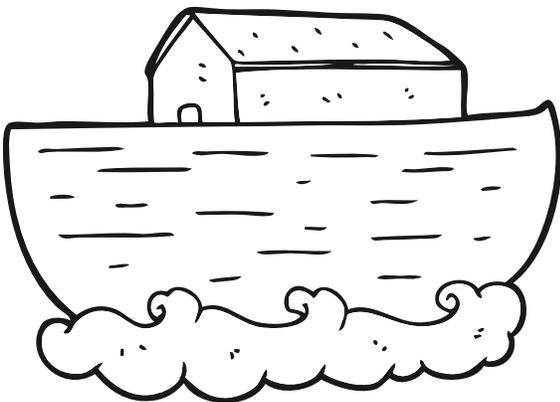
ABRAHAM

Genesis 22:9-14



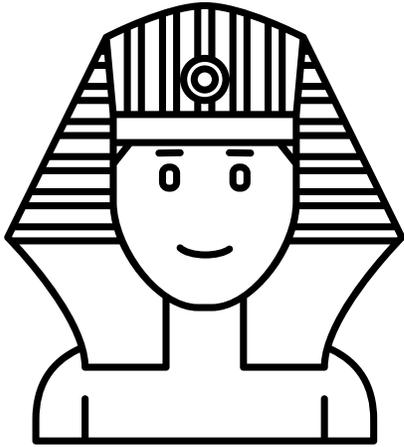
ABEL

Genesis 4:2-7



NOAH

Genesis 6:5-9



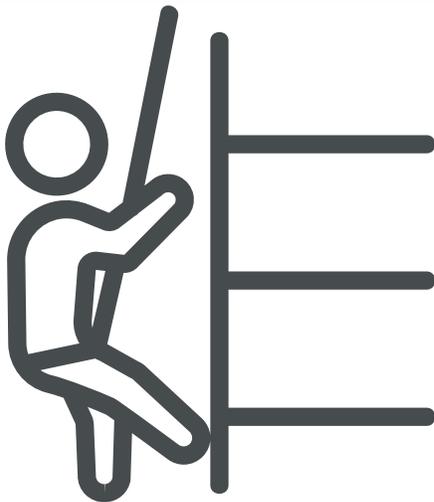
JOSEPH

Genesis 50-24-26



MOSES

Exodus 2:1-6



RAHAB

Joshua 2:15-21

Now

faith

is

the

assurance

of

things

hoped

for,

the

conviction

of

things

not

seen.

Hebrews 11:1