



Fruit of the Spirit

Faithfulness – Lesson 2

“Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.” Hebrews 11:1

Lesson Time

What does it mean for us to show the fruit of faithfulness in our lives? Remember our memory verse: “Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.” Hebrews 11:1

Faith doesn't just believe in something; faith also *does something*. God can do great things with our lives when we remain faithful! When we obey God, we show that we have faith in Him. We show that He knows what is best for us. God wants us to trust Him and to be faithful to Him. When God tells us to do something, He does not just tell us to do it and then leave us to accomplish the task on our own. He gives us the strength and power to do what He asks, as we trust Him.

When we learn about how others have faith it helps us to trust God. Remember the story of Noah and the ark? The Bible tells us in Hebrews 11:6-7 “Without faith it is not possible to please God. Those who come to God must believe that he exists. And they must believe that he rewards those who look to him.

Noah had faith. So he built an ark to save his family. He built it because of his great respect for God. God had warned him about things that could not yet be seen (faith). Because of his faith he showed the world that it was guilty. Because of his faith he was considered right with God.”

Having faith in God led Noah to obey. Noah listened to God and did what God asked. When we have faith in God we will want to do what He asks us to do. We will also believe Him when He says that He is going to do a certain thing. Noah built the ark based upon what God told him, not on things that were going on around him. God told Noah there was going to be a flood before it even started raining – when the land was still dry. This made other people on earth think he was crazy. They didn't believe that there was going to be a flood. But Noah obeyed God because he had faith in what God told him, not in what God showed him or what he could see. Noah did what God asked him to do and believed He would accomplish what He said He would do in His life. Noah's faith led him to obey

God and begin building an ark on *dry* ground!

What saved Noah, his family, and the animals? (Noah's faith in God.) God can also use *our* lives when we remain faithful to Him. It is not always easy to remain faithful to the Lord when others are not or when we are laughed at because we obey Jesus. But, we can be encouraged by Noah's life because he stayed faithful through it all and was used by God to do BIG things.

After God flooded the earth He made a covenant, or promise, to Noah to never flood the earth like that again. God put a rainbow in the sky as a sign and reminder of that promise. Have you ever made a promise you didn't keep? Has anyone ever broken a promise they made to you? How does it feel when a promise gets broken?

Do you think God ever breaks a promise? No! God is *always* faithful and *always* keeps His promises. Our faith will grow as we trust Him and depend on Him. We will also show other people how faithful God is when we trust Him to be faithful to us.

Prayer Time

Activity Time

The goal of this time is to utilize a variety of engaging activities –passive and active play, crafts, application, and more – to reinforce what was taught in the lesson. While you may not get to every activity, we encourage you to complete the "Take-Home" activity so children leave with a tangible reminder of what was discussed today.

If numbers are high and/or time and space allow, you may want to use a center format: divide the class into groups (one for each activity) and rotate through the centers after an allotted time.



Rainbow Streamers Craft

Supplies:

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple streamers

"God is always faithful!" circle cutout (1 per child)

Glue sticks

Scissors



Have the kids glue the streamers onto the circle (see example picture). Remind them that the rainbow was a symbol of God's promise to Noah and God always keeps His promises. He is always faithful.



Rain, Rain, Rain

Supplies:

Spray bottle with water

Large bowl for water

Small plastic boat

Towel

Place a small plastic boat in a large bowl filled with water. Have your kids take turns trying to capsize the boat with a spray bottle with water. Give each child five chances to shoot at the tiny vessel. Count with the kids to make it fair and let them know it is the next child's turn when you get to five.



Animal Charades

Supplies:

Picture cards of animals

Bag

Put the animal cards in the bag. Let each child take a turn picking a card out of the bag and acting out the animal he or she chooses. Discuss how God was faithful to send the animals to Noah to live on the ark during the flood.



Ark Relay Race

Have the children line up in two lines. Then have the children race, acting like the animals going to the ark two by two. (Act out motions for the animal down and back). Tell the two at the front of the line which animal they are going as. They go as the same animal but the next two will go as the next animal on the list.

Kangaroo (hop)

Crab (crab walk)

Bear (crawl on hands and feet)

Bumblebee

Snake (on tummy; use elbows to help)

Frog

Gorilla

Penguin



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