

Household material for Kids (Age 8-12)

Theme: God is with us...so Trust God

1) Prepare – 30 Minutes

- a. Start with teaching the kids a song or two with some actions**
- b. Introductory activity**
- c. Review the last month's psalm verse and introduce the new memory verse**

Lead them to praise and worship with the help of the songs and psalms they learned and conclude with a traditional prayer. Don't forget to repeat the theme throughout the 3 hours; you can even do it with simple actions.

1 a) Songs

- i. Repeat some songs they are familiar with
- ii. Pharaoh, pharaoh <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PkMC7O1lq0>
- iii. What a Mighty God we serve <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNRg01gbttk>
- iv. New song: God will guide us free <http://www.group.com/vbs/wilderness-escape> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ktulkmmq7JY>

Lyrics: God will guide us

So many years
So many trials
God has been with us through them all
He gives us strength
Through His power
He will never let us down
And we sing
Wooo
God will guide us
Wooo
He will provide for us
Through the wilderness
He will deliver us
Wooooo
He's done it before
He'll do it again
He is faithful (2x)

1b) Introductory activity

Begin the activity by giving each child a paper and asking them to draw something that comes to their mind when they think of Independence day. 3-5 minutes can be given for this activity. Once they finish the activity, divide them into groups of 3-4 and ask them to introduce themselves with each other. Give each group a chart paper and motivate them to draw the same thing as a group and to complete the task within 15 minutes. Instruct them to give a relevant message through this drawing. Once they finish their task, ask each group to show their work.

Facilitator asks the following question to the children:

Is there any difference between the individual work and group work? After getting a few responses facilitator explains that we get lot of information and clarity when we are in a group as everyone in the group contributes their ideas. We get confirmation on decisions when we discuss it with others and we get to know how different people view the same thing. You trust your friends in your group and that is why you could draw a beautiful picture that conveys a beautiful message.

Then the facilitator asks:

Do you ask your parents' opinion when you have some doubts or when you are confused?

Why do you ask your parents?

Wait for the response and then explain that it is because you believe they can clear your doubts.

When you need something or when you are sick, you tell your parents because you believe that they care for you. If your parents/friends care for you like this how much more will God who created you and your parents/friends care for you? How much more you must trust Him who is always by your side. God speaks to us through Isaiah "So do not fear, for I am with you" Isaiah 41/10. We just need to trust His promise.

1c) Memory Verse

Last month's memory verse was Exodus 12:13: "Seeing the blood, I will pass over you"

For this month teach. Exodus 14:14 "**The Lord will fight for you, you have only to keep still**" Include some dynamics to make it interesting. You can ask them to make a song out of this verse - an action song would be better.

2) Present- 2 Hours

- a. Narrate the Bible Story for the Month
- b. Activity within the story
- c. Key Message and Key Bible Verse
- d. Games
- e. Section on Saint and activity based on it: St. Joseph
- f. KidCat

2a) Bible Story

Narrate the Bible Story for the Month

This month we will continue our journey in Exodus, the 2nd book of the Bible.

Recap:

Last month, we all experienced a small part of the Passover meal called the Seder (SA-der) meal, which the Israelites were instructed to do by the Lord. They were finally freed or so we thought. Their next challenge is crossing the red sea but that was not the only thing things got worse. Has anyone ever seen a miracle? Today in our Bible lesson we will learn about how God helped some people escape through water!

Let's read what happened:

Read Exodus 14: 1-31

2b) Activity within the story

Discussion Questions:

1. At first Pharaoh let the Israelite people go, why did he change his mind? (He lost the services of the Israelite people who were used like slaves, and his heart was hardened.)
2. What did the Israelites do when they saw the Egyptians? (Complained and blamed Moses, said they would rather go back and serve the Egyptians than die in the desert.)
3. Who did Moses say would fight for the Israelites? (God.)
4. What would the Israelites need to do? (Nothing, just to be still.)
5. How did God keep the Egyptians away from the Israelites before they crossed the Red Sea? (He placed a pillar of fire between the two of them.)
6. What happened when Moses stretched out his hand over the sea the second time? (The waters returned and Pharaoh's entire army drowned.)
7. How did the attitudes of the Israelite people change at the end of this story? (Instead of being afraid, they trusted God.)
8. How do we see God's protection in this story? (By performing a miracle to stop an enemy from doing harm.)

This story is a good reminder that we don't need to choose to worry, God is with us...all we need to do is Trust God!

<http://www.kidssundayschool.com/34/lesson/parting-the-red-sea.php>

Parting the Waters demonstration:

<http://www.kidssundayschool.com/452/gradeschool/parting-the-waters.php>

2c) Key message and Key Bible verse

Israelites cross the red sea

Exodus 14:14 "The Lord will fight for you, you have only to keep still"

2d) Game

Crossing the Red Sea

Materials: Bed Sheet

Directions: Two adults hold the four corners of the sheet as it rests on the floor in front of the children. The children line up single file at one side of the sheet. The first child in line will play the part of Moses and stretch out his hand. Once the first child in line has stretched out his hand, the adults will quickly raise the sheet high above their heads. As the sheet parachutes above them, the children will run under the sheet to the other side. If children are under the sheet when it comes down, they are out of the game. Let children take turns being the first one in line to play the part of Moses.

<http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.com/2010/09/to-z-bible-story-lesson-letter-r.html>

2e) Section on Saint Joseph

Patron saint of: universal church, workers, fathers

Feast days – March 19th and May 1st

We all know who St. Joseph is. Who is he? He is the foster father of Jesus.

“For God is with those people who believe in Him”. St. Joseph had a strong belief upon this. We can understand his belief from the Bible itself: “An Angel of Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying, Arise, and take the child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and remain until I tell you. Herod will soon search for the child to kill. He awoke, took the child and His mother into the land of Egypt” (Matthew 2: 13, 14).

It is very clear from the above passage how sure Joseph was about the God. Angel only appeared in his dream and not in real. But he did not question or doubt the message he received through the dream. He just believed!

St. Joseph played an important role in the life of Jesus. Though he was immensely blessed by God and was the foster father of Jesus, he did not boast about it, but with utmost modesty, earned a living for him and his family as a carpenter. He also taught his Son his own trade. His devotion and humility makes him the patron of workers. St. Joseph has two special feast days, one for his royalty on March 19th and one for his humility as a worker on May 1st.

Let us also seek for the intercession of St. Joseph who trusted, listened and obeyed God so that we can also trust and obey God.

Activity based on the Saint

St. Joseph word search and Answer key

J	R	T	E	T	E	N	F	J	O	H	L	C	H	A
B	E	M	C	A	T	H	O	L	I	C	K	H	L	N
Q	W	S	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	L	M	U	B	G
X	D	S	U	F	N	H	K	M	J	Y	U	R	E	E
I	U	H	N	S	P	O	U	S	E	R	E	C	S	L
J	P	Y	R	E	C	V	D	G	S	A	H	H	E	Q
C	A	R	P	E	N	T	E	R	T	Y	T	I	O	P
P	O	I	U	Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	E	D	F	J
H	M	A	R	C	H	C	V	B	N	D	R	V	C	O
J	O	S	R	F	A	W	S	J	I	R	A	H	N	S
S	M	O	H	N	E	B	T	Y	R	E	Z	H	I	E
K	L	A	H	Y	R	O	M	P	V	A	A	R	E	P
M	A	R	Y	S	D	A	Z	X	C	M	N	R	E	H

Find the following words:

JOSEPH

CARPENTER

CATHOLIC

MARY

NAZARETH

SPOUSE

JESUS

DREAM

MARCH

CHURCH

ANGEL

MAY

2f) Kidcat

Why are we too supposed to accept suffering in our lives and thus "take up our cross" and thereby follow Jesus?

Christians should not seek suffering, but when they are confronted with unavoidable suffering, it can become meaningful for them if they unite their sufferings with the sufferings of Christ. (YOUCAT 102; ccc 618)

Child: Grandma, you seem to be very happy in spite of your fever and headache. Are you uniting your sufferings with the sufferings of Jesus, like you always tell us to?

Grandma: Yes, dear. When we show our love for Jesus by suffering without complaining, we help many others.

Child: But grandma, how would that help others?

Grandma: Let me explain. There are many people in this world who suffer for no fault of theirs. You have heard about such people in the newspaper and on television, haven't you?

Child: Yes, grandma. But is it possible for us to lessen their suffering?

Grandma: Definitely. As Christians, we have the responsibility to do that. It is only the love of Jesus that can turn their sufferings into joy.

Child: When we unite our sufferings with those of Jesus, they become united with the redeeming love of Christ. Isn't that right, grandma?

Grandma: Yes dear - and thus, part of the divine power that changes the world for the better.

Child: Yesterday when I scraped my knee, I screamed in pain. But from now on, without complaining or getting angry, I will tell Jesus, "Jesus I love you. Unite my pain with your sufferings."

3) Preserve: 30 Minutes

a. Summary Activity

b. Conclusion

Repeating the message helps in impressing it in their heart and mind. It is always better to summarize the day with some activity which would help them to make something that they can carry home. It will be a reminder of the message back at home.

3a) Summary Activity and assignment:

Exodus 14:14 "The Lord will fight for you, you have only to keep still."

This is a craft on the parting of the sea. They can write the Bible Memory verse on the water.

(Needed: Moses/ people template- they can draw their own Moses and other people (you need plain sheet of paper for this), blue paper, brown paper, glue, scissors, pencils to curl blue paper. You will need to make small ring (s) (from paper/ cardboard) as a stand to glue each person), image: <http://www.makingfriends.com/images/redsea.gif> or <http://www.makingfriends.com/biblecrafts/redsea.htm>

This craft is to take home and remind us that God is with us...so we simply need to Trust God!

3b) Concluding Prayer

Help them to make a small prayer on their own with some songs they learned.