



**BIG IDEA**

God keeps his promises.

PROMISES | WEEKS 1-5

# Promises

## GOD STORY

Noah's Ark & Jacob's Dream  
Genesis 6-9; Genesis 28:10-22

## KEY VERSE

God has made a great many promises.  
2 Corinthians 1:20a (NIRV)

## LEADER TIPS

- Make the most of your Bible story time! Consider where the children sit. Can they all see the pictures or props? Who's sitting beside whom? Small tweaks to the seating arrangements can improve the experience for everyone.

## Life Story

### 1 | NOAH'S ARK (Free play)

Search for hidden toy animals and people to place inside an ark.

### 2 | COLOUR THE RAINBOW (Free play)

Match pom-poms to colours on an activity page and talk about rainbows.

### 3 | STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (Free play)

Talk about Jacob's stairway dream while finding matching angels.

### 4 | RAINBOW PARACHUTE (Large group)

Bounce rainbow-coloured pom-poms on a parachute.

### 5 | MR. NOAH HAD AN ARK (Large group)

ave scarves and get moving to a fun song!

## God Story (Circle Time)

### 6 | MUSIC (Large group)

Play "Books of the Bible" (TMH Kids Music) and "There Are Promises" (Little Praise Party: Taste and See).

### 7 | BIBLE STORY (Large group)

Read "Noah's Ark" in My First Bible Words or the Jacob's Dream flip book.

## My Story

### 8 | CRAFT (Large group)

Refer to the lesson plan for details about the crafts.

## Our Story

### 9 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents. Remember to give them take-home cards!



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## Life Story

### 1 | Noah's Ark

**SUPPLIES**

- Noah's Ark playset from class supplies

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- Read Genesis 9:12-17 to prepare for telling the children about the rainbow and God's promise to Noah.
- Before the children arrive, hide the toy animals and people from the Noah's Ark set all around your group's space.
- Place the ark somewhere that's easily accessible.

**LEADER TIP**

- The Bible story focuses on Noah's ark in Weeks 1-3.
- Repeat free-play activities as long as they engage the children. Then invite a new group to do them.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. As the children arrive, hold up the empty ark for them to see.
- b. Encourage them to search for the missing toy animals and people.
- c. Direct everyone to bring the animals and people they find back to the ark.
- d. Sit with the children and play with the ark toys.
- e. As you play, describe the rainbow that God sent after the flood. Emphasize that God keeps his promises!

### 2 | Colour the Rainbow

**SUPPLIES**

- Pom-poms
- Bowl
- Rainbow activity page

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- Place the pom-poms in the bowl. Set it on a table with the activity page before the children arrive.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Invite small groups of children to join you at the table with the supplies during free-play time.
- b. Guide them to match the colours of the pom-poms to the colours on the activity page.
- c. As the children match the colours, talk about rainbows and how they're part of a promise God made to us. Remind them that God keeps his promises.



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## Life Story

### 3 | Stairway to Heaven

**SUPPLIES**

- Stairway activity pages
- Angel cutouts

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- The story of Jacob's dream is from Genesis 28:10-16. Review the passage ahead of time so you can describe it to the children.
- Place the activity page and cutouts on a table before the children arrive.

**LEADER TIP**

- The Bible story focuses on Jacob's dream in Weeks 4-5.
- The activity page and cutouts have fasteners on them to attach the matching angels.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. During free play, invite one or two children at a time to join you at the table with the supplies.
- b. Guide the children to match the angel cutouts to the angels on the activity page.
- c. As they make matches, describe Jacob's dream of a stairway to heaven with angels on it. Explain that God made a promise to Jacob in the dream and **God keeps his promises!**

### 4 | Rainbow Parachute

**SUPPLIES**

- Parachute
- Pom-poms

**LEADER TIP**

- Start with slow movements if able.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Gather everyone to sit around the parachute.
- b. Place the pom-poms on top of it.
- c. Explain your expectations for how the children will listen to you and handle the parachute.
- d. Direct them to hold onto its edges.
- e. Raise and lower the parachute together.
- f. While lifting it up, shout, "God keeps his promises!"
- g. Move the parachute in a variety of ways (e.g., quickly, slowly, up high, down low).
- h. Guide the children to take turns picking up the pompoms as they fall off and putting them back on the parachute.



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## Life Story

### 5 | Mr. Noah Had an Ark

**SUPPLIES**

- Media player
- "Mr. Noah Had an Ark" (*Little Praise Party: My Best Friend*)
- Scarves

**LEADER TIP**

- Have a plan in place for collecting the scarves at the end of the activity.
- Lead by example and encourage the children to have fun as they wave their scarves.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Gather the children in an open space.
- b. Give each child a scarf.
- c. Play the song "Mr. Noah Had an Ark."
- d. Lead everyone in dancing and waving their scarves.
- e. At the end of the song, encourage the children to repeat the Big Idea: **God keeps his promises.**

## God Story (Circle Time)

**SUPPLIES**

- Media player
- Tidy up and/or circle time songs

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Make sure the media player is easy to access.
- b. Play music while clearing space on the floor.
- c. Gather the children into a circle to do the following activities together.
- d. Change the order of the circle time activities so they work well for your group.

**LEADER TIP**

- If you use the video option, note that it includes the Music, Bible Story, and Key Verse activities.

### 6 | Music

**SUPPLIES**

- Song lyrics
- Wall-safe tape
- Media player
- "Books of the Bible" (*The Meeting House Kids Music*)
- (Optional) "There are Promises" (*Little Praise Party: Taste and See*)
- (Optional) Musical instruments or scarves

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Gather everyone together during circle time.
- b. (Optional) Give each child a scarf or instrument.
- c. Mix it up each week! Play the music and:
  - do a fun freeze-style dance.
  - wave around the scarves.
  - use the musical instruments.
  - make up fun actions that go with the songs.
- d. To wrap up, guide the children to return any supplies to the bin.



## God Story (Circle Time)

### 7 | Bible Story

#### SUPPLIES

- (Weeks 1-3) "Noah's Ark" in *My First Bible Words*
- (Week 4) *Jacob's Dream* flip book

#### LEADER TIPS

- Use the story to start conversations about God with the children.
- This story is the core of the lesson. Build up to it and be sure to refer to it in other activities.
- Define any difficult words or concepts for the children before reading the story.
- Make sure the children understood the story by asking them recall questions to review it.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- a. During circle time, gather the children to sit on the floor with you.
- b. Explain that today's story is from the Bible.
- c. Read the story out loud. Use an expressive voice and show everyone the pictures. Involve the children in the storytelling as much as possible!
- d. Emphasize the Big Idea: **God keeps his promises.**
- e. To wrap up, pray, "Dear God, thank you for keeping your promises. Thank you for sending Jesus. Thank you for your love. Thank you for your promise that we will be with you forever. We love you! Amen."

## My Story

### 8 | Craft

#### LEADER TIPS

- Depending on what works best for your group, gather all the children at the tables, work with small groups of two to three children, or do the crafts one-on-one.
- Help them hand-over-hand if needed.
- Make sure to write the children's names on their crafts each week.

### Week 1 Craft

#### SUPPLIES

- Noah activity pages
- Blue dabber markers

#### LEADER TIP

- Consider doing this craft with just one or two children at a time.
- Help the children roll up their sleeves before they use the dabbers.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Give each child an activity page and a dabber. Read aloud the text on the page.
- b. Guide everyone to dab gently on their page to colour it. Help them hand over hand if needed.
- c. As the children work on their crafts, talk about Noah's story from the Bible. Remind them that God sent a rainbow promising never to flood the earth again. **God keeps his promises!**



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## My Story

### Week 2 Craft

**SUPPLIES**

- Paper plate turkeys
- Feathers
- Glue sticks
- Big Idea labels

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Give each child a turkey, about five feathers, and a glue stick.
- b. Guide everyone to glue the feathers onto their turkey's head. Help the children as needed.
- c. Give each child a Big Idea label to stick on their craft.
- d. Read the label out loud.
- e. As everyone works on their crafts, talk about things they could thank God for today.



### Week 3 Craft

**SUPPLIES**

- Paper plate halves (clouds) with rainbow streamers pre-attached
- Cotton balls
- Glue sticks
- Big Idea labels

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Give each child a paper plate cloud, some cotton balls, and a glue stick.
- b. Guide everyone to glue their cotton balls onto their paper plates. If needed, help them hand over hand.
- c. Give each child a Big Idea label to stick on their craft. Read aloud the label for the children.
- d. As everyone works on their crafts, talk about the rainbow and the promise from God that it stands for.



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## My Story

### Week 4 Craft

**SUPPLIES**

- Jacob's Stairway activity pages
- Gold paper strips
- Glue sticks
- Crayons

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Give each child an activity page, some gold paper strips, and a glue stick.
- b. Place the crayons where everyone can reach.
- c. Direct everyone to glue their paper strips onto their stairs. Help them hand over hand if needed.
- d. Encourage the children to colour in their pictures. As they work on their crafts, review Jacob's story and the Big Idea (***God keeps his promises***).

### Week 5 Craft

**SUPPLIES**

- Large craft paper
- Stickers (rainbows, animals, angels, people)
- Masking tape
- Crayons

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- Tape the large craft paper to a table or low on a wall where all children can reach.
- Write the Big Idea in the centre of the paper in big letters.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Invite children to the craft paper.
- b. Lay out stickers and crayons.
- c. Encourage children to decorate the paper to remember God's great promises from this series.
- d. As children decorate, talk about the two Bible stories from this series: Noah's Ark and Jacob's Dream.

## Our Story

### 9 | Dismissal

**SUPPLIES**

- Children's crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

**BEFORE DISMISSAL**

- Place any take-home materials where everyone can access them easily.

**LEADER TIP**

- Take a moment to share with parents about their children's experiences. Many parents will only hear about the morning from you.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their children.
- b. Give everyone take-home cards.
- c. If they have not yet gotten a colouring page for the month, offer them one.
- d. Remind them to take any crafts.