



Noah Builds the Ark

Genesis 6:5-22


Five- and six-year-olds are trying to make sense of their world. Often when adults ask young children to do something, kids don't immediately obey. Instead they ask, "Why?" Rather than getting impatient, calmly and lovingly give kids simple reasons for your requests. Noah is a great example of a man who obeyed God even when things didn't make sense. Use this lesson to help children understand they can choose to obey God, too.



► **Bible Point**
God wants us to obey.

Key Verse
"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

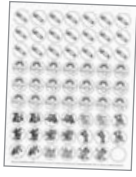
Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will choose to obey God in daily life.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started <i>about 10 min.</i>	Welcoming Song Sing or listen to songs to welcome everyone to church.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i>	All of Me! Discover ways to use their bodies to show their love for God.	Bible	
3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i>	Theo's News Find out what a hammer has to do with the Bible.	Surprise Box (any box will do), Theo puppet, CD player, hammer Teacher Pack: CD	Put the hammer in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.
	Bible Time: Noah's Ark Bring Noah's ark to life with sounds and motions.	Bible, spray bottle filled with water Teacher Pack: "Noah's Ark" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>4 Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p>	<p>Center 1: Noah Obeys, I Obey Talk about examples of people obeying.</p>	<p>My Bible Playground, washable markers</p>	<p>Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.</p>
	<p>Center 2: Edible Arks Use pretzels and animal crackers to build an ark.</p>	<p>animal crackers, pretzel sticks, paper plates, antibacterial gel (optional)</p>	
	<p>Center 3: Stick Trick Match pictures of animals and “load them onto the ark.”</p>	<p>poster board, marker, 20 wide craft sticks Teacher Pack: sticker sheet </p>	<p>Draw a simple outline of an ark (similar to the drawing near this activity) on a large sheet of poster board.</p>
	<p>Center 4: Thumbprint Arks Make a paper plate ark and thumbprint animals.</p>	<p>one 9-inch white paper plate per child, scissors, crayons, washable markers, wet wipes</p>	<p>Cut off one half of the outer rim (approximately 2 inches) of the paper plates, keeping the entire arch intact. (See the illustration near this activity.)</p>
<p>5 Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Playground</p>	
	<p>“Help Me Obey” Prayer Follow the teacher as he or she says a prayer and does actions.</p>		
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Welcoming Song Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: “It’s Good to Have
You...” (track 14),
“Arky, Arky” (track 13)

1 GETTING STARTED

Welcoming Song

Tip Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You’ll Do

As the children arrive, greet each child and welcome him or her with a smile. When it’s time to begin, use your signal to bring the children together in a circle. Lead the kids in doing the actions and singing “It’s Good to Have You...” (track 14 on the CD) to the tune of “Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?”

It’s good to have you in church today. (*nod your head and point to everyone in the room*)

Let’s sing, (*cup hands around mouth*) **let’s learn,** (*point to your head*) **and let’s pray.** (*make praying hands*)

We’ll make new friends, and we’ll have so much fun. (*shake someone’s hand*)

We’re glad you’ve joined us today! (*hold hands in a circle and swing hands back and forth*)

(Repeat 2x.)

Say: Today we’ll learn that ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.** The Bible tells us about how Noah obeyed God and built the ark—a giant boat! Let’s sing a song about Noah’s adventure.

Lead the children in singing and doing the motions to “Arky, Arky” (track 13 on the CD).

The Lord told Noah, there’s gonna be a floody, floody. (*hold arms up; then wiggle fingers to make “rain”*)

Lord told Noah there’s gonna be a floody, floody.

Get those animals out of the muddy, muddy, (*shake index finger*)

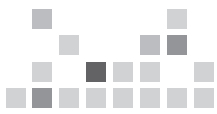
Children of the Lord.

The Lord told Noah to build him an arky, arky. (*pretend to hammer*)

Lord told Noah to build him an arky, arky.

Build it out of gopher barky, barky,

Children of the Lord.



The animals, the animals they came in by twosies, twosies. (*hold up two fingers and march to the beat*)

Animals, the animals they came in by twosies, twosies.

Elephants and kangaroosies, 'roosies, (*swing arms like an elephant's trunk; then hop like a kangaroo*)

Children of the Lord.

It rained and poured for 40 daysies, daysies. (*wiggle fingers to make "rain"*)

Rained and poured for 40 daysies, daysies.

Almost drove those animals crazies, crazies, (*put hands on either side of your face, open eyes wide*)

Children of the Lord.

The sun came out and dried up the landy, landy. (*make a big circle with arms*)

Look, there's the sun—it dried up the landy, landy.

Everything was fine and dandy, dandy, (*nod your head and smile*)

Children of the Lord.

So rise and shine and give God the glory, glory. (*raise arms, and spread fingers wide like sunshine*)

Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.

Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory,

Children of the Lord.

Say: **God told Noah to prepare for a big flood, and Noah obeyed God. By obeying God, Noah saved his family and many animals—and Noah showed that he loved God with his whole heart. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY, too. Let's see how we can show God we love him with our whole hearts.**

2

**KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY**

All of Me!

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to Deuteronomy 6:5, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible, Deuteronomy 6:5, says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5). That means to love God with all of you. Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead the children in repeating the simplified Key Verse after you: **Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5).**



**All of Me!
Supplies**

Bible





Say: **Loving God isn't just a feeling. It can be acting and doing. Loving God with your whole heart means loving God with every part of you: the thinking part, the moving part, the talking part, and the feeling part. Every single part of us can show love to God.**

Let's play a game to practice loving God with our whole heart. When I say a body part, you act out a way you can use it to love God.

Show me how you can love God with your whole heart by using your hands. Allow children time to respond, and if they need help suggest making praying hands. Ask the kids to think of ways to show they love God using their feet, voice, arms, and other body parts as you continue. Make suggestions as needed.

Talk With Kids ■■■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's your favorite way to show you love God? Why?**

Say: **God loves us so much! And ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY to show our love for him. We can show God that we love him with our whole heart when we obey God every day. The Bible tells us that Noah showed love to God by obeying God and building a big boat called an ark. Let's say our Key Verse together one more time.** Lead children in repeating the simplified Key Verse with you: **Love God with your whole heart. (Deuteronomy 6:5).**

3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Theo's News

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Friends, it's time for Theo's News!**

Have the children sit in a circle. Then begin "Here, Theo" (track 5 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you've dug up about the Bible today.

Theo: I hid it in the Surprise Box.

Teacher: Let's look inside to see what Theo dug up for us today.

(Invite a child to open the Surprise Box, and have the kids pass the hammer around the circle so everyone can see it up close. Give kids time to guess what they'll learn from the Bible today.)

Theo's News Supplies

Surprise Box (any box will do)

Theo puppet

CD player

hammer

Teacher Pack

CD: "Here, Theo" (track 5)

Theo's News Easy Prep

Put the hammer in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.



Teacher: Friends, what can you do with a hammer?

(Pause for kids to answer your question.)

Teacher: Theo, why did you hide this hammer in the Surprise Box?

Theo: Well, you can use a hammer to build all sorts of things!

Teacher: Yes, Theo, we can use a hammer to build things. ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.** The Bible tells us Noah obeyed God and worked hard to build an ark, which is a really big boat.

Theo: Noah probably used a tool like a hammer.

Teacher: That's right, Theo! Friends, let's read the Bible to find out more about Noah and his ark!

Theo: Have fun, boys and girls!

Teacher: Friends, say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.

Bible Time: Noah's Ark

What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Genesis 6, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God's special book.

Invite a child to act out Noah's actions as you tell kids about Noah's obedience. Have the other children form groups to act out and make noises for the following people and animals: men, women, pigs, hens, snakes, mice, and owls.

Say: **Today the Bible tells us that ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY. But in Noah's day, people fought and thought mean things about each other. God wanted people to obey him.**

Have the groups line up in this order: men, women, pigs, hens, snakes, mice, owls, and Noah.

Say: **When you hear me talk about the person or animal you're pretending to be, make the animal noise or repeat what the people say.**

As I was saying, back in Noah's day, people did bad things. God asked, "Who'll say they're sorry and be kind?"

"Not I," shouted the men. Pause and allow children to repeat.

"Not I," yelled the women. Pause and repeat.

"Not I," grunted the pigs. Pause and allow kids to make animal sounds.

"Not I," clucked the hens. Pause for animal sounds.

"Not I," hissed the snakes. Pause for animal sounds.

"Not I," squeaked the mice. Pause for animal sounds.

"Not I," hooted the owls. Pause for animal sounds.

"I will—God wants me to obey," said Noah. Pause and allow Noah to repeat.



Bible Time: Noah's Ark Supplies

Bible
spray bottle filled with water

Teacher Pack
"Noah's Ark" poster
(from the Big Bible Poster Pack)





God said, “I’ll send a flood of water because people are disobeying me and being mean to each other. But Noah obeys me. I want Noah to build a huge boat so Noah, his family, and some animals will live. Who’ll help me build the ark?” Repeat the sequence given earlier. Set out the “Noah’s Ark” poster.

Say: **So Noah obeyed God and built the ark. Noah worked hard for a long time building the ark. Noah cut and sawed and sanded and pounded until finally the ark was done.** Lead kids in acting out the motions of building the ark. **God asked, “Who’ll help load food onto the ark for the animals?”** Repeat the sequence given earlier.

Say: **Noah loaded food onto the ark.** Lead kids in acting out the motions of carrying heavy loads of food. **Then God sent the animals, two of each. Onto the ark galloped horses and zebras. Onto the ark pounded elephants and hippos.** Lead kids in acting out the motions and sounds of horses, zebras, elephants, and hippos. Allow the kids to get noisy, and then quiet them with your signal.

Finally this squeaking, squawking zoo was ready to go. When Noah and his family were safely inside the ark, God shut the door. It started to rain and rain and rain. Squirt water from a water bottle over the kids in a fine mist. **I wonder who wanted to be on the ark now.** Lead kids through this new sequence of responses in their groups.

“I wish I was,” **shouted the men.** Pause and allow children to repeat.

“I wish I was,” **yelled the women.** Pause and repeat.

“I wish I was,” **grunted the pigs.** Pause and allow kids to make animal sounds.

“I wish I was,” **clucked the hens.** Pause for animal sounds.

“I wish I was,” **hissed the snakes.** Pause for animal sounds.

“I wish I was,” **squeaked the mice.** Pause for animal sounds.

“I wish I was,” **hooted the owls.** Pause for animal sounds.

“I was on the ark—I obeyed God,” **said Noah.** Pause and allow Noah to repeat.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about what Noah did to obey God?
- Why do you think Noah and his family obeyed God even though it was hard?
- Tell about a time someone told you to do something that was hard.

Say: **Noah obeyed God, and everyone on the ark was safe from the flood. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY. When we obey God, we live as God wants us to. We can be like Noah and obey God, too.**

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today’s Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you’re



ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they'd like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center's description.

CENTER 1:

Noah Obeys, I Obey

What You'll Do

Help kids write their names on their My Bible Playground pages. Then have children form pairs, and ask them to describe to each other how the people or animals in the pictures are obeying.

Say: **Draw in the blank square a picture of a time you obeyed. Then show your picture to your partner and tell who you were obeying.**

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Who are people you obey?
- What makes it easy or difficult to obey adults?

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.** Noah obeyed God when he listened to him and built an ark. It took Noah a long time but he obeyed God every day. We can obey God, too.

CENTER 2:

Edible Arks

What You'll Do

Have children clean their hands and then find partners. Give each child a paper plate and a handful of pretzel sticks and animal crackers.

Say: **Use the pretzels to outline an ark on a paper plate and to make paths leading to the ark.** Pause. **Work with your partner to figure out which animal cracker shapes there are and find each animal a matching partner.** Pause and allow kids to pair animals. **You can march the animals along the paths to the pretzel ark.** Pause and allow kids to move the crackers. **Talk with your partner about what you like about each animal and the special things it can do.** Allow kids to talk about the animals for two minutes. **There are many animals that can learn to obey, and animals obeyed God when they got on the ark.**



Center 1: Noah Obeys, I Obey Supplies

My Bible Playground
washable markers

Center 1: Noah Obeys, I Obey Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson
5 pages from each
My Bible Playground
student book.

Center 2: Edible Arks Supplies

animal crackers
pretzel sticks
paper plates
antibacterial gel
(optional)

**ALLERGY
ALERT**



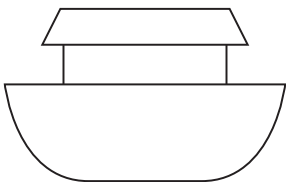


Center 3: Stick Trick Supplies

poster board
marker
20 wide craft sticks
Teacher Pack
sticker sheet

Center 3: Stick Trick Easy Prep

Draw a simple outline of an ark (similar to the drawing included here) on a large sheet of poster board.



Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What can help an animal learn to obey?
- What can help you and me learn to obey?
- What can we do to learn to obey God?

Pray: **Dear God, thank you for putting good things in our lives, like this snack. Please help us obey you and live the way you want us to. In Jesus' name, amen.** Let kids enjoy their snack.

Say: **God made everything to be very good and to obey him—even animals!**
▶ **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY**, and we can learn how to obey him every day by practicing obeying.

CENTER 3:

Stick Trick

What You'll Do

Say: **God told Noah to build an ark, and Noah obeyed.** Point to the ark. **God said, "Bring two of each kind of animal into the ark."** Show children the animal stickers. **Noah obeyed and let pairs of animals into the ark.**

Work together to put one animal sticker on one craft stick and the matching animal sticker on another craft stick. Pause. Then mix the sticks and lay the sticks with the stickers facing down on the floor outside the ark. Pause.

Here are the rules for the game. One at a time turn over two sticks, looking for a matching pair of animals. If you find a pair, you can put the animals in the ark and take another turn. If you don't find a pair, you'll turn the sticks over and let another person play. Continue the game until the ark is filled with pairs of animals.

After children finish the game, congratulate them on obeying the rules, too.

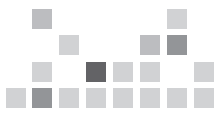
Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What helped you follow the rules of the game?
- What helps you follow rules at home?
- What are some rules God has for us?

Say: **You obeyed rules and it made our game fun. Noah obeyed God by following rules for building the ark and filling it with animals. We can obey God's rules, too.**
▶ **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY** and to follow his rules always.



CENTER 4:

Thumbprint Arks

What You'll Do

Help kids each write their name on the back of a paper plate "ark."

Say: **You can use brown crayons to color your arks. Draw windows in the top part of the ark, too.** Show children how to color the tips of their thumbs with washable markers and then make thumbprints close together on the ark. **You can add details to your thumbprints and turn them into pairs of bugs, birds, animals, or people. When you're done, clean your thumbs with a wet wipe.**

Allow time for kids to create their arks.

Say: **God told Noah to build the ark because God knew it would keep Noah and his family safe. Noah obeyed God and built the ark. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY, too, to keep us safe.**

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What are ways rules can keep us from getting hurt?**
- **Why is it important to follow the rules that keep us safe?**

Say: **God loves us and wants what's best for us. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY so we can be safe every day.**

5

LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

After the children have cleaned up the centers, bring everyone back to the circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.



Center 4: Thumbprint Arks Supplies

- one 9-inch white paper plate per child
- scissors
- crayons
- washable markers
- wet wipes

Center 4: Thumbprint Arks Easy Prep

Cut off one half of the outer rim (approximately 2 inches) of the paper plates, keeping the entire arch intact. (See the illustration included here.)



Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Playground





Talk With Kids

Say: Today we learned that ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY**. I'd like each of you to choose a way to obey God this week.

Read these three ideas for children to choose from:

- **Make your bed in the morning before you go to breakfast.**
- **Using stuffed animals, show your family what happened with Noah. Talk about how your family can obey God like Noah did.**
- **When your mom or dad asks you to stop doing something, stop right away without complaining.**

Have kids each whisper in your ear or tell you which idea they've chosen, and then circle it on each child's My Bible Playground page. Make sure you choose a challenge as well and tell kids which challenge you chose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as theirs!

“Help Me Obey” Prayer

What You'll Do

Help kids think of situations where they need help obeying. Then encourage kids to share those things when instructed in this prayer.

Pray: **Dear God**, *(fold hands in prayer)*

Help me to obey when...*(have kids raise hands and share, if they're comfortable)*

I pray that you'll be pleased. *(nod head)*

In Jesus' name, amen. *(fold hands in prayer)*

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY**, and we can ask God anytime for help obeying.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Playground pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the “Daily Challenges” activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.