Toy Box

Sept. 18-20

CRAFT WEEK 3 Hidden Story

SUPPLIES: God is Always with Me page, crayons

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Pass out the Hidden Story page and crayons.
 - "Today we are going to do an activity that is going to help us remember the true Bible story we heard today. The pieces of the story are all hidden on this page and we need to find them!
- ⇒ Guide children through finding one picture at a time like a game of I Spy.
 - "In today's Bible story, Rahab did something very courageous. These pictures tell her story. (Point to the pictures on the bottom.) Let's try to find all of these pictures hiding in this big picture.
 - "First, we'll look for <u>Joshua's spies</u> Joshua sent spies into Jericho to check it out before they went to battle. The spies are hiding on your page somewhere. Can you find them? Keep looking. When you find the spies, circle them with a crayon.
 - "Next, we need to find the <u>soldier</u>. The soldiers wanted to catch the spies and hurt them. Do you see the soldiers? When you find them, circle them with your crayon.
 - "Now we'll look for <u>Rahab.</u> Rahab had heard of the amazing things God had done. It gave her the courage to hide the spies from the soldiers, even though she would get in big trouble if the soldiers caught her. When you find Rahab, circle her with your crayon.
 - The next one is the red rope. (Point to the red rope on the bottom.)

 After Rahab helped hide the spies, they told her to hang a red rope from her window. When Joshua's army came, they would see the red rope and save her family. And that's what happened! When you find the red rope, circle it with your crayon.
 - The last picture we need to look for is this <u>heart</u>. We're looking for a heart because the reason God is always with YOU and God is always with ME, is because God loves YOU and God loves me. When you find the heart, circle it with your crayon.
 - o Yay! We found Rahab's hidden story! Now color in the pictures.

⇒ Complete activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus

"God is always with us, just like He was with Joshua, the spies, and Rahab. Knowing God was with them gave them the courage to do the right thing. Who is always with you? God is always with me!"

Toy Box

Sept. 25-27

CRAFT WEEK 4

Stick to the Story.

SUPPLIES: Stick to the Story page, strips of story circle stickers, crayons

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ Have children join you at the table.

- "In our Bible story today, Esther did something that you have to be very strong to do. And I'm not talking about this kind of strong (do a muscle pose with your arms). I'm talking about the kind of strong that is brave, wise, and courageous, all at the same time! The kind of strong that makes someone a hero!
- Who remembers what Esther did? That's right! She went to the king and asked him to save her family, even though the king had not invited her to see him. You had to be very strong to do that!
- o Today we are going to do a craft that helps us remember this story!

⇒ Pass out Stick to the Story page and 1 strip of stickers per child.

- "Our first sticker is <u>the king</u>. The king was married to a woman named Esther. Put the king in your first circle. (Assist when needed.)
- Our next sticker is a man named <u>Haman</u>. (Give each child a Haman sticker.)
 Haman worked for the king and wanted to hurt Esther's family, God's people.
 Put Haman in the next circle beside the king. (Assist when needed.)
- This sticker is <u>Queen Esther</u>. (Give each child an Esther sticker.) Esther trusted that God was with her and risked her life to ask the king to save her family. Put Esther in the next circle beside Haman. (Assist when needed.)
- Our last sticker is <u>Esther's family</u>. (Give each child a God's People sticker.)
 The king listened to Esther and saved all of her family! Put the people in the last circle beside Esther." (Assist when needed.)

⇒ Pass out crayons.

 "Now we can color our pages. When you bring this home you can retell your true Bible story for your family and friends and teach them that God is always with them, too!"

⇒ Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus

- o "God is always with us, just like He was with Esther, so we can be strong like she was.
- O Who is always with you?
- God is always with me!"

Toy Box

Sept. 18-20

ACTIVITY #1 Week 3

Where is Rahab?

SUPPLIES: 3 cups decorated with windows/door, Rahab cut out

- ⇒ Gather children around you on the floor or at a table.
 - "In today's story, we heard about a lady named Rahab who helped hide and get the two spies from God's army out of the city of Jericho. If she was caught hiding the spies, she would have been in big trouble. Rahab had heard about God and knew that He could do amazing things. This gave her courage.
- ⇒ Hide Rahab under a cup and then move the cups around and mix them up.
 - "See these cups? Let's pretend they are houses. I am going to hide Rahab under one and then mix them up and I want to see if you can find her.
 - Can you guess which house Rahab is hiding in? Lift up the cup to see!
- ⇒ Continue to repeat the game until every child has had a chance to guess.
- ⇒ Complete the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus.
 - "Nice job, friends! After Rahab hid the spies, the spies told Rahab to hang a red rope outside her window, and they would make sure her and her family were safe. Sometime later when God's army came to battle the city of Jericho, they saw the red rope and remembered Rahab. They made sure to keep her and her family safe. God was with Rahab all along, and God is always with you.
 - O Who is always with you? God is always with me."

Toy Box

Sept. 25-27

ACTIVITY #1 Wk 4 Pin the Crown on the Queen

SUPPLIES: Queen poster, crowns, wall tape

- ⇒ Gather children near the Queen poster.
 - "Today in our true Bible story we learned about a woman. Do you remember her name? Esther! That's right! But Esther wasn't just any woman – she was the queen! But look – she doesn't have a crown!
 - We are going to take turns trying to pin the crown on Queen Esther's head.
- ⇒ Take one child at a time and have them close their eyes and try to stick the crown to the Queen's head.
- ⇒ Complete the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus.
 - "Nice job, friends! Thanks for helping make Esther the Queen! Queen Esther knew that God was always with her and that God made her strong! God can make you strong, too, because God is always with you!
 - o Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!"

Sept. Weeks 3 & 4

Toy Box

Sept. 18-20/25-27

ACTIVITY #2

Who is Always with you? Parachute

SUPPLIES: Parachute

- ⇒ Have children join you around the Parachute and each hold on to a handle/corner.
 - o "Everyone join me around the parachute! Now I am going to pick one person to stand in the center of the parachute.
 - Let's all take a handle of the parachute.
- ⇒ Guide children in walking the parachute into the friend in the middle and back out.
 - Now and we are going to walk the sides of the parachute in to the friend in the middle and then back out. Let's do it a couple times!
 - Now, friend, let me ask you Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!
- ⇒ Repeat activity with each child taking a turn in the center of the parachute. Bring it Back to Jesus.
 - o "That was fun friends! Let me ask you one more time -
 - O Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!"

Sept. Weeks 3 & 4

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Sept. 18-20/25-27

ACTIVITY #3

Musical Chairs Memory Verse

SUPPLIES: Chairs, CD player, worship music CD

SET-UP: You should have one less chair than you have players. If you

have a small class, include all the volunteers.

- ⇒ Set up chairs in a circle with the backs facing in and the seats facing out. Explain the game of musical chairs.
 - "Friends, today we are going to play a fun game that will help us to also practice our memory verse! Have you ever played musical chairs? Let me tell you how it works.
 - When I turn the music on, we are all going to start walking around the outside of the chair circle. Then when the music stops, everyone will try to find a chair. Whoever does not find a chair gets to say the memory verse. Then we will play again.
 - Let's all practice our memory verse once together: 'We have the Lord our God to help us.' Chronicles 32:8"
- ⇒ Start music and begin the game.
 - o "There's the music! Let's all walk carefully around the circle until the music stops.
 - Everybody try to find a seat!
 - o Alright, friend...let's say the memory verse together!"
- ⇒ Repeat as long as children are interested.
- ⇒ Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.
 - "That was a fun game! You did a great job. Friends, I have one more important question to as you –
 - o Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!"

Toy Box

Sept. 18-20

READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY SEPTEMBER WEEK 3

SANITIZE HANDS AND PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- ⇒The Bible
 - o Beginner's Bible: Joshua and the Spies, p. 128

REVIEW (You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)

- ⇒Key Question and Bottom Line
 - O Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - "We have the Lord our God to help us." Chronicles 32:8

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

CONNECT IT QUESTION: What is one way you can have courage and help someone?

- ⇒ "Knowing about the amazing things God has done gave Rahab the courage to do the right thing and help the spies. Today, we'll make a list of ways we can have courage and help others, too. So when I say your name, **tell me one way you can have courage and help someone** and I will write it down.
 - Have each child share and write the ideas down on the weekly question strip/board/paper.
- ⇒We have our list! Let's use this list when we pray.
- ⇒ Let's fold our hands and bow our heads and <u>pray</u>:
 - "Dear God, You are SO amazing! Only You have the power to always be with us. Knowing that You are always with us gives us the courage to help others and do things like (read the list the children made). We want everyone to know how much You love them. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

Toy Box

Sept. 25-27

READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY SEPTEMBER WEEK 4

SANITIZE HANDS AND PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- ⇒The Bible
 - o Beginner's Bible: The Brave Queen, p. 240

REVIEW (You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)

- ⇒Key Question and Bottom Line
 - O Who is always with you?
 - o God is always with me!
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - o "We have the Lord our God to help us." Chronicles 32:8

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

CONNECT IT QUESTION: Where is one place you have to go?

- ⇒ "God was with Esther when she had to go to the king. Today, we'll make a list of places we have to go. When we pray, we can thank God for always being with us, no matter where we go. When I say your name, **tell me one place you have to go**, and I will write it down.
 - Have each child share and write the ideas down on the weekly question strip/board/paper.
- ⇒Thank you for making this list with me. Let's use this list when we pray.
- ⇒ Let's fold our hands and bow our heads and <u>pray</u>:
 - "Dear God, There is no one else like You. Only You can always be with us wherever we go. We can go to (read the list the children made), and You will still be with us. You being with us makes us strong and brave, wise and courageous! You are amazing, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."