

CITY SG – December 2- 4, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Goodness and Light (Jesus Is Promised) • *Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6-7; 7:14-15*

Today's Bottom Line: You can have hope because God is faithful.

Monthly Memory Verse: *A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us.* Isaiah 9:6a (NIRV)

Monthly Virtue: Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

1. True or False Hop

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Review Statements" Activity Page (2 copies per group) and floor tape

What You Do:

- Place the tape on the floor to divide the environment into two sections.
- Designate the right side of the tape to be "True" and the left side to be "False."
- Instruct the kids to stand on the right side of the tape to start.
- Inform the group that they are to move to a side of the chain when you share a true or false statement.
 - If they think the statement is true, instruct them to jump to the "true" side.
 - If they think the statement is false, instruct them to jump to the "false" side.
 - Have kids remain on the side they jumped to until the next statement is read.
- Read the "Review Statements" Activity Page, pausing to let the kids jump to a side.
- If the kids think a statement is false, invite them to share why they think that.
- Say, "We see in the New Testament that God fulfilled that promise to us by sending Jesus, God's only Son! That's what Christmas is all about. God kept that promise back then and continues to keep promises now. That is why we can always have hope."

2. Faithful Chain

Application Activity

Non-Reader Option

What You Need: Strips of paper (4 strips per kid), glue sticks or tape, and pens or markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid 4 different strips of paper and a pen or marker.
- Set out the glue sticks or tape.
- Instruct the kids to write a way they can be faithful on two of the strips, for example:
 - I will practice praying.
 - I will turn in my homework on time.
 - I will get my chores done when my parents ask me to, etc.
- When done, invite the kids to write ways God has been faithful on the remaining two strips, for example:
 - God kept the promise to send Jesus.
 - God kept the promise to send a rescuer to save us from our sins.
 - God makes something good happen out of something bad.
 - God promises to be with us all the time, etc.

**If you have younger kids have them draw a symbol to represent their idea, OR they can tell the leader to write their answers for them on their strip.*

- Ask the kids to share what they wrote on each strip.

- Demonstrate how to make a paper chain by looping two strips together and securing it with glue or tape.
- Encourage the kids to create one long chain with their strips from the whole group.
- After service, give your coordinator or coach your chain to hang in the room.
- Say, “Did you know that there are over 3,000 promises that God has made to us in the Bible? And did you know that God always keeps those promises? Your list of ways God has been faithful is a great reminder to us that God always keeps promises.”

3. Verse Race

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: “Memory Verse Cards” (2 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us.* Isaiah 9:6a
- Direct the kids to line up in two lines at one end of your space.
- Put one set of the “Memory Verse Phrases” across your space from each of the two lines of kids.
- Have the kids run to their pile of phrases, grab one, and run back to the start.
- Once he/she gets back, they should tag the next kid in line to run down and grab another phrase.
- After all of the phrases are back at the start, the group will work together to put the phrases in the correct order.
- *Younger kids may need you to read the phrases as they try to put them in order, or you can number them.
- The first group to put the verse in order, wins!
- If you have extra time, play again choosing a different way to get to the other side of the space, ex, hop, walk backwards, crawl, etc.

4. Pray

- “Dear God, thank You for always keeping Your promises and being faithful. We know You love us. We know You will never leave us. You are faithful, and that’s why we can have hope. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us and be our best friend forever. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them one of their links from your chain and share what they wrote on it.