



Noah Builds the Ark

Genesis 6:5-22

Noah obeyed God and that pleased God. Preschoolers understand obedience to God as being good. They don't understand the broader concept of obedience to God as part of loving him, so it's important to teach them what obedience is. Use this lesson to help children understand that we obey God because we love him, and that makes him happy.



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

| LESSON | WHAT CHILDREN DO | SUPPLIES | EASY PREP |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <p>1</p> <p>Getting Started <i>about 5 min.</i></p> | <p>Welcome and Celebrate Welcome each other, and praise God through music.</p> | <p>CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p> | |
| <p>2</p> <p>Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i></p> | <p>Work of Ark Children will work together to make a crepe-paper ark.</p> | <p>Bible, chairs, 1 or 2 rolls of crepe paper, tape</p> | |
| <p>3</p> <p>Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i></p> | <p>Puppy Pointers Hear how Theo didn't obey his dad.</p> | <p>CD player, Theo puppet, puppet, clean rag Teacher Pack: CD</p> | <p>Tie the rag to Theo's paw.</p> |
| | <p>Bible Time: Noah and the Animals Participate in telling why and how Noah built an ark.</p> | <p>Bible, craft sticks, glue Teacher Pack: "Noah's Ark" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)</p>  | |

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 daily.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



| LESSON | WHAT CHILDREN DO | SUPPLIES | EASY PREP |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p> | <p>Center 1: Noah's Ark Glue pictures of animals onto an ark.</p> | <p>My Bible Hugs, glue, several pairs of scissors Teacher Pack: 1 copy per child of the "Noah's Animals" page</p>  | <p>Remove the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Hugs student book, and write children's names on them.</p> |
| | <p>Center 2: Yes, God! Enjoy a snack as they talk about ways to obey.</p> | <p>CD player, animal crackers, napkins, antibacterial gel (optional) Teacher Pack: CD</p> | |
| | <p>Center 3: Guess the Animal Guess animal sounds.</p> | <p>CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p> | |
| | <p>Center 4: Obedience Wears Many Hats Make rainbow headbands to show the many different jobs Noah did.</p> | <p>poster board; red, yellow, green, and blue markers; stapler; paper clips; scissors</p> | <p>Cut one 2x22-inch strip of poster board per child.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i></p> | <p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p> | <p>My Bible Hugs</p> | |
| | <p>Action Prayer Pray a simple prayer together.</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.



Welcome and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "God Wants Us to Come" (track 11), "Are You Going to Praise the Lord?" (track 6)

1 GETTING STARTED

Welcome and Celebrate

 **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 one with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to gather the children together in a circle on the floor.

Lead children in singing "God Wants Us to Come" (track 11 on the CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Encourage children to follow the motions in parentheses.

 **God wants us to come to church,** (*point up; then make steeple with hands*)
Come to church, come to church. (*make "come over" motion twice*)
God wants us to come to church (*point up; then make steeple with hands*)
To learn about him. (*point to head; then up*)

Jesus is here with us, (*hug self*)
Here with us, here with us. (*hug self*)
Jesus is here with us (*hug self*)
Because he loves us so. (*point to heart*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

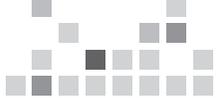
Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY. When we love God, we obey him. One way we obey God is by coming to church to learn about him. At church we can also praise him to tell him how much we love him. Let's do that now.**

Lead children in singing "Are You Going to Praise the Lord?" (track 6 on the CD). Encourage children to follow the motions in parentheses.

 **Are you going to praise the Lord?** (*hug self; then point up*)
I will praise him all the time. (*point to self; then point up*)
Remember all the things he has done. (*point to head*)
Jesus is a true friend of mine. (*shake hands with someone*)

(Chorus)

Praise, praise, praise the Lord. (*wave hands in air*)
Come on, come on, let's praise the Lord. (*make gathering motion*)
 (Repeat.)

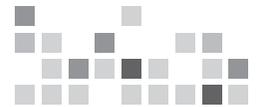


Praise him for his goodness to me. *(point up; then point to heart)*
 He is always loving and kind. *(hug self)*
 He died for me and forgave all my sins. *(spread arms to make a cross)*
 Jesus is a true friend of mine. *(shake hands with someone)*

(Repeat chorus 2x.)

Come on, come on, let's praise the Lord. *(make gathering motion)*
 Come on, come on, let's praise the Lord. *(make gathering motion)*

Say: **It's fun to praise God because he's done so much for us. We can show him love by singing this way, and we can show him love by obeying him. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY, so let's show him we love him by obeying him today.**



2

**KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY**

Work of Ark

What You'll Do

Have children form a circle with chairs. 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." This means to love God with all of you. Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead children in saying the adapted Key Verse with you: **Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5).**

Say: **Today we'll hear about a man named Noah who loved God with his whole heart. During that time almost no one loved God besides Noah.**

Because Noah was the only one who loved God, God told him to build an ark, which is a big boat. Noah obeyed God because he loved God. Have kids work together to form an ark or a big boat by rearranging their chairs into a D shape, with one opening as a door.

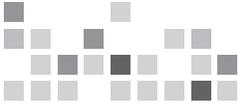
Say: **Our ark will be kind of like Noah's ark, and it'll help us remember to love God with our whole heart. But our ark isn't quite done yet. Let me bring out some building supplies so we can get the job done.**

Tie one end of the crepe paper around a chair leg on one side of the "door" of the ark. Encourage one of the children to wrap the loose end of the crepe paper around the outside of the chairs, stopping at the other side of the door.

Work of Ark Supplies

- Bible
- chairs
- 1 or 2 rolls of crepe paper
- tape





Have the other children cheer on the child by shouting out the Key Verse: **Love God with your whole heart!**

When the child has reached the final chair, rip the crepe paper and tie the end to the chair. Then say: **Great job putting on the first section of wood to our boat. Now everyone can add some “wood” to the boat.**

Give each child a section of crepe paper and two pieces of tape. Have each child add a section of “wood” to the outside of the “boat” by taping the ends to the chairs. Have kids continue until the outside of the boat is pretty well covered, or until kids experience some amount of “hard work.” Remind kids to leave the doorway open.

Encourage each child to go through the doorway into the ark after his or her turn. After every child has had a turn, take a turn yourself, finishing by closing the doorway with crepe paper so everyone can sit and talk inside the ark.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What were you thinking as we built our boat?
- Tell about some hard jobs you have to do at home.
- Explain why you obey even when it's hard.

Say: **Noah loved God, so he did what God told him to do. It took him many years to finish the huge ark. But Noah didn't give up. Noah showed that he loved God with his whole heart by doing the job God asked him to do. Let's say our Key Verse together one more time.** Lead children in saying the adapted Key Verse with you: **Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5). Since ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY, let's do it to show him we love him.**

3

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Puppy Pointers

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Listen, everyone, Theo's coming! He has something to show us. Let's find out what it is.** Play “Here, Theo” (track 4 on the CD), and bring out Theophilus the FaithRetriever.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! It's so good to see you at church with us today. What do you have there?

Theo: This is our duster.

Puppy Pointers Supplies

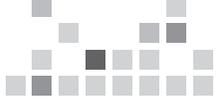
CD player
Theo puppet
clean rag

Teacher Pack

CD: “Here, Theo” (track 4)

Puppy Pointers Easy Prep

Tie the rag to Theo's paw.



Teacher: Why do you have your duster?

Theo: My dad wants me to dust all the furniture, but I don't want to.

Teacher: Oh, I see. Well, Theo, it's best to do what our moms and dads want us to do. Friends, what do you think Theo should do? *(Allow time for kids to answer.)*

Theo: Those are all good ideas!

Teacher: Friends, let's say our Bible Point for Theo.

(Lead children in saying the Bible Point for Theo: ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.)

Theo: Even my parents?

Teacher: God wants us to obey him, and one way we can obey God is by obeying our parents.

Theo: I'm going to go home right now and dust the furniture! And I'm going to tell my dad that I'm sorry for not obeying him.

Teacher: That sounds great! Friends, let's 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.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Tell about a time you did what your parents said.
- Why is it good for us to obey our parents?

Say: **In the Bible today, we'll learn that ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY. He wants us to obey our parents and he wants us to obey him, just as Noah and all the animals obeyed and got into a big boat. Let's find out what happened.**

Bible Time: Noah and the Animals

What You'll Do

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

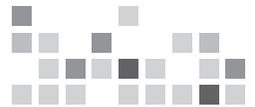
Say: **Today we'll hear about a man who obeyed God. His name was Noah.**

► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY just as Noah did, with a willing, happy heart.

Let's practice obeying by following some directions as we listen to the Bible. Lead kids in practicing these directions a few times before telling what happened with Noah:

- **Whenever someone is sad, we'll cry, "Boo, hoo, hoo!"**
- **Whenever someone is happy, we'll shout "Yay!"**
- **Whenever God tells someone to do something, we'll obey by saying, "Yes, God!" with a big smile.**

Say: **God was very happy with Noah.** Lead kids in shouting "Yay!" **But other people who lived during Noah's time didn't obey God, which made God sad.** Lead kids in crying "Boo, hoo, hoo!"

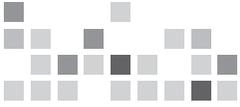


Bible Time: Noah and the Animals Supplies

Bible
craft sticks
glue

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





Say: **God looked around for someone who loved him and wanted to obey him. God found Noah. God told Noah, “Noah, I want you to build an ark.”** Lead kids in saying “Yes, God!” **God told Noah exactly what wood to use, what shape the ark should be, and how big all the rooms should be. And Noah always said yes.** Lead kids in saying “Yes, God!” **Noah worked very hard to build the ark.**

God told Noah to put his whole family on the ark. Lead kids in saying “Yes, God!” **Then God called all the animals from around the world, and they came to the ark two by two. God told Noah to store all the different kinds of food his family and the animals would eat on the ark.** Lead kids in saying “Yes, God!” **Noah did a good job, and God was very happy.** Lead kids in shouting “Yay!”

Say: **The day came when God told Noah to make sure his family and the animals were safely on the ark.** Lead kids in saying “Yes, God!” **Then God closed the big door.** Lead the children in making one loud clap and saying “boom.” **The rain began to pour, and everyone was safe and snug inside the ark.**

Place the “Noah’s Ark” poster on the floor, and show children the ark.

Say: **The ark on this poster isn’t finished. Let’s help Noah finish the ark.** Hand each child a craft stick. **Say one way you can obey God this week, and then glue your craft stick onto the ark in the poster.**

As children work, help them think of ways they can obey God, such as obeying their parents, cleaning their rooms, and being nice to their friends. Then say: **Good job! We helped Noah finish this ark!**

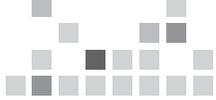
Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What did Noah do that you think would be hard?**
- **Tell about something that’s hard for you to obey.**
- **Why do you want to make good choices?**

Say: **Even when we don’t want to obey, we do it because our parents and teachers know what’s best for us. God knows what’s best for us, too. It makes our parents smile and it makes God smile when we obey them. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.** Lead kids in shouting “Yay!”



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’s Ark

What You’ll Do

Give each child a My Bible Hugs Lesson 5 page, a copy of the “Noah’s Animals” page, glue, and scissors.

Say: **It’s important to follow directions, just as Noah followed God’s directions when he built the ark. Noah obeyed God, and ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY him, too.**

Give the children instructions to cut out and glue specific animals in specific areas of the ark. Tell kids to follow your directions exactly.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you do to obey my directions in this activity?
- What can you do to obey God?

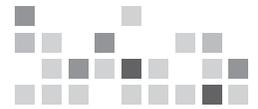
Say: **We can obey God by following God’s directions, just as Noah did. God gives us his directions through the Bible, through our parents, and through teachers. And ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY him, our parents, and our teachers.**

CENTER 2:

Yes, God!

What You’ll Do

Have children clean their hands and then sit down for the snack. Invite one child to thank God for the treats.



Center 1: Noah’s Ark Supplies

My Bible Hugs
glue
several pairs of scissors
Teacher Pack
1 copy per child of the
“Noah’s Animals” page

Center 1: Noah’s Ark Easy Prep

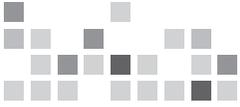
Remove the Lesson 5
pages from each My
Bible Hugs student
book, and write
children’s names on
them.

Center 2: Yes, God! Supplies

CD player
animal crackers
napkins
antibacterial gel
(optional)
Teacher Pack
CD: “God Wants Us to
Obey” (track 12)

**! ALLERGY
■ ALERT**





Center 3: Guess the Animal Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Animal Sounds"
(track 15)

Give each child a napkin, and then serve animal crackers. Encourage the children to make animal sounds that match the crackers they pick up to eat. Say: **Turn to a friend and say a way to obey as you eat.**

When kids finish eating their crackers, cue the CD to play "God Wants Us to Obey" (track 12 on the CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

 **Our God wants us to obey,
To obey, to obey.
Our God wants us to obey.
"Yes, I will obey."
(Repeat.)**

Say: **Noah chose to say yes to God and obey. ► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY, too.**

■ CENTER 3:

Guess the Animal

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Play "Animal Sounds" (track 15 on the CD). Have the children listen and try to guess which animal is making each sound.

When the track is over, let each child take a turn making an animal sound while the group guesses what animal he or she is making. Once the group gets the animal correct, have everyone act like that animal for five seconds.

Say: **Even the animals obeyed God and went into the ark.**

Continue the game until every child has had a turn. Then have the children line up and move around the room as any animals they choose and then pretend to enter the ark.

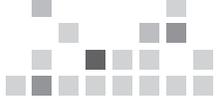
Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **If you know of one, tell about an animal you know that obeys people.**
- **If you know of one, tell about an animal that doesn't obey.**
- **What's good about the animal that obeys?**

Say: **► GOD WANTS US TO OBEY. God knows what's best for us, and when we obey God, we do the right thing. All the animals and Noah were saved because they obeyed God. We can obey God, just as Noah and the animals obeyed God.**



CENTER 4:

Obedience Wears Many Hats

What You'll Do

Say: **Noah was good at obeying God. He thought about God and loved God. You can think about God and love God, too. Let's make hats to remind us to obey God.**

Help the children measure the strips around their heads, tilting them up slightly at the forehead. Use paper clips to secure the strips at the right length, and then take the strips off their heads without moving the paper clips. Staple the headbands in the back, and take off each paper clip.

Say: **Noah had some neat adventures by trying out new jobs that God gave him. God gave Noah special plans to follow for building the ark. Noah hadn't done that before, but he still obeyed. Hold up a red marker. Noah had to be just like an engineer and draw out the special plans for the ark. Let's put red on the front of our headbands and pretend that we're wearing a red engineer hat for our new job.** Allow time for each child to make a red mark on his or her headband and then put it on and pretend to be an engineer.

Say: **Next, God told Noah to build the ark. Noah hadn't built an ark before, but he still obeyed. Let's put yellow on our bands like a yellow construction hat for Noah's new building job.** Allow time for each child to make a yellow mark next to the red one on his or her headband and then put it on and pretend to be a construction worker.

Say: **Then God told Noah to put wild animals in the ark. Noah hadn't taken care of wild animals before, but he still obeyed. Let's put green on our bands like a park ranger's or zookeeper's hat.** Allow time for each child to make a green mark next to the yellow one on his or her headband and then put it on and pretend to be a park ranger or zookeeper.

Say: **Finally, God told Noah to get in the ark and sail it. Noah hadn't sailed an ark before, but he still obeyed. Let's put blue on our bands like the ocean sailors travel on.** Allow time for each child to make a blue mark next to the green one on his or her headband and then put it on and pretend to be a sailor.

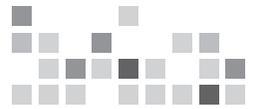
Say: **Now you look like an engineer, construction worker, park ranger, and sailor—just like Noah.**

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Explain which of Noah's jobs you'd like best.
- Tell about a couple of different jobs you can do to obey God.



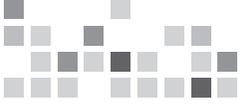
Center 4: Obedience Wears Many Hats Supplies

-
- poster board
 - red, yellow, green, and blue markers
 - stapler
 - paper clips
 - scissors

Center 4: Obedience Wears Many Hats Easy Prep

Cut one 2x22-inch strip of poster board per child.





Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Hugs

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY.** God has some special jobs for us, just as God had some special and exciting jobs for Noah. God loves us and he'll help us have wonderful adventures and do many different and exciting jobs for him as we obey.

5 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up their centers, bring everyone back to a 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.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

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

Give kids these three challenges to choose from:

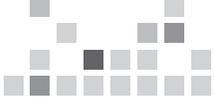
- **When your mom or dad asks you to pick up your toys, do it right away.**
- **When it's time for bed, go to bed without whining or complaining.**
- **Every morning, ask God how he wants you to obey that day.**

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 Hugs page. Make sure you tell kids the challenge you choose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

Action Prayer

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: ► **GOD WANTS US TO OBEY him, and he wants us to obey our parents and teachers. When we pray today, let's ask God to help us obey.** Lead kids in a prayer, letting each child have a chance to pray about a way he or she wants to obey this week. Let them pray aloud or silently.



Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Hugs 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.

