

THE SUN STOOD STILL

BIBLE PASSAGE *(JOSHUA 10, 13)*

Summary: The Israelites, led by Joshua, conquered Canaanite cities as God had promised. When several kings attacked a city named Gibeon, Joshua came to help. God told him not to fear and promised victory. Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still, and God answered, giving them more time to fight. The Israelites defeated their enemies, conquered more land and Joshua divided it among the twelve tribes. The promised land became theirs, just as God said.

Today's Brite Idea is: God does what He says.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

For nothing will be impossible with God.

(LUKE 1:37)

BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!

HE — God does what He says.

WE — We can believe Him.

ME — I can believe Him.

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LEADER TRAINING: CONNECT BEFORE YOU CORRECT

Preschoolers will shout during circle time, throw toys, or push their friends. In those moments, it's tempting to jump straight to correction. But one of the most powerful tools you can use is connection. Before a kid can listen, they need to feel seen. Connection communicates: *You are safe. You are loved. You belong here.* And out of that secure connection, correction can take root.

- **Kneel to their level.** Looking eye to eye shows a kid that you value them, even in a tough moment.
- **Say their name.** Kids respond best when they know you see them as more than their behavior.
- **Make eye contact.** Gentle, steady attention invites trust and calms emotions.
- **Offer a gentle touch.** A hand on the shoulder or a hug (if welcomed) communicates safety and care.

Jesus connected with people before calling them to change. He invited, welcomed and loved. When we follow His example, correction becomes shepherding, discipline becomes discipleship and classroom management becomes true ministry.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: DIVORCE

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Promise: when someone agrees to something

Promised Land: a special place God promised to give His people

One of the most significant ways kids experience the pain of broken promises is when divorce happens within their family. Research reveals 30 percent of kids experience their parents' divorce.* When a kid experiences divorce, their whole world is affected. They may struggle emotionally, physically and socially. Preschoolers may lose trust in an adult's promise and for adults to do what they say they will do. You will likely have kids in your group whose parents have been through a divorce. In today's lesson, they will learn that God always does what He says. Kids who have been hurt may struggle with believing that. They may question or wonder why a promise-keeping God would let their family go through so much. Listen with compassion and point kids to the love, care and faithfulness of God. Share that God won't lie or ever break a promise.

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

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(JOSHUA 10, 13)

Use the Bible story cards to teach the Bible story or read the script to the kids.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Promise: when someone agrees to something

Promised Land: a special place God promised to give His people

Say: The Bible is all true. It's filled with stories about how God took care of His people and always kept His **promises**. Can you give yourself a big hug? For many years, God's people, the Israelites, had to walk in the desert. They had disobeyed God and had to wait to go into the **Promised Land**. Hold up your hands like a stop sign.

Say: Joshua, their new leader, led God's people to start taking over cities with God's help. Where are your ears? Can you point to them? Kings from all over heard about this and made a plan. They would work together to attack a city called Gibeon. Joshua had promised to help Gibeon.

Say: The men of Gibeon asked Joshua for help. Joshua plus his men went to help fight. Shake your finger no. On their way, God told them not to be afraid. God **promised** they would win!

Say: Joshua and his men surprised the enemy and came when they did not expect them to. God made the enemies get scared and run! The Israelites chased them. Joshua knew they would try to get away when night came and it was dark. So he asked for God's help. He asked God to make the sun stand still so the light of day would last even longer! Can you freeze right where you are? *Pretend to freeze with the kids.*

Say: God answered His prayer and the sun stood still! God kept His **promise** to Joshua, and they won the battle.



POINT TO JESUS

Say: The greatest **promise** God has kept is sending Jesus to Earth to rescue us from our sin. God **promises** that when we trust in Jesus, we can live forever with Him. Let's clap our hands and cheer because God is such a good **promise** keeper! *Clap and cheer along with the kids.*

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WRAP-UP:

? BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll? 1, 2, 3.. drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching Image and Answer.

Say: Will God ever fail us? No, never!



God does what He says.

We can believe Him.

I can believe Him.

VERSE VIDEO

Play Memory Verse Motion Video after the verse is read.

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- For nothing *(shake finger "no")*
- will be *(spread arms out again)*
- impossible *(cross arms in front of you again)*
- with God. *(point up)*
- Luke 1:37 *(open hands like a book)*

MONTHLY Memory Verse

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(LUKE 1:37)

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