



Lesson 4

1st-4th

September 26 & 27
**GOD IS OUR
LEADER**



LESSON GOAL:

Background: After Cain and Abel, people continued to sin instead of obeying God. God sent a flood but showed mercy by saving Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. After the flood, God told the people to spread out and fill the earth, but they disobeyed by building the Tower of Babel to make a name for themselves. So God confused their languages and scattered them across the earth.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that God is our leader and we should follow His way, not our own.

Full Story: Genesis 11:1-9

Key Passage: Genesis 11:8-9

THE TOWER OF BABEL



KEY VERSE:

"The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He'll never desert you. So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope."

Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV

MISSION FOCUS:

FOCUS: City Serve

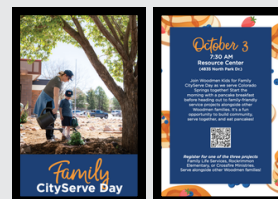
WHAT IS CITY SERVE?

City Serve is a special day when people all over our city work together to help others! We serve at schools, parks, neighborhoods and local organizations by cleaning, fixing, helping and caring for our community. It's a great way to show God's love by serving others!

PRAY FOR CITY SERVE!

Pray that lots of people will choose to serve and that everyone who is helped will feel God's love and care.

TAKE IT HOME! Take home an info card and ask your family to sign up for a project you can serve at together!



Serve the Church



Serve the City



Serve the World

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:

Ruby Robinson's Jungle Adventure

5:45-6:10pm
8:45-9:10am
10:45-11:10am

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.



SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! Look up the Bible passage in your Bible or a classroom Bible and mark it with a sticky note. Then, find a classroom activity to do until we begin Explore time.

6:10-6:25pm
9:10-9:25am
11:10-11:25am

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



DISCUSS: God is Our Leader!

Help kids connect relationally by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.



SAY:

Let's take turns sharing 3 words about our week. I'll go first! *Share your 3 words then invite the next child to share.*

Today, we are learning how **God is Our Leader**. This story comes from the Bible in **Genesis 11:8-9**. Let's open our Bibles so we can read it together. *Read passage.*



CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Introduce the Big 3 questions and answers to give kids a preview of the key ideas they should watch and listen for during the Bible lesson.



SAY:

Listen closely as I share the BIG 3 questions AND answers for today's lesson! Then, let's all look for those answers in our Bible time!

1

ASK: Who is our story about today?

ANSWER: God, people and us.

2

ASK: What is the problem?

ANSWER: People did not listen to God when he told them to spread out and fill the earth. Instead, they stayed where they were and were focused on themselves!

3

ASK: What will God do?

ANSWER: God confused their language so no one could understand each other and they had to scatter across the earth, just as He wanted them to do in the first place.

Encourage kids to listen and watch for the answers to these questions during the Bible lesson!





MAKE: Tower of Babel Craft

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Tower cutout, coloring utensils, tape/glue sticks



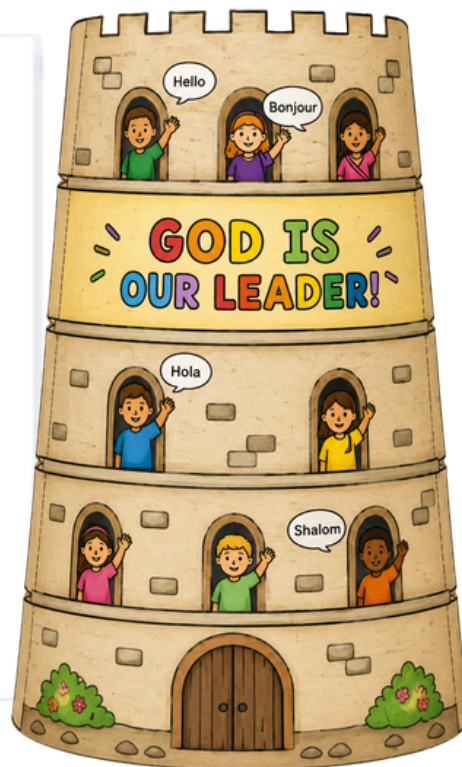
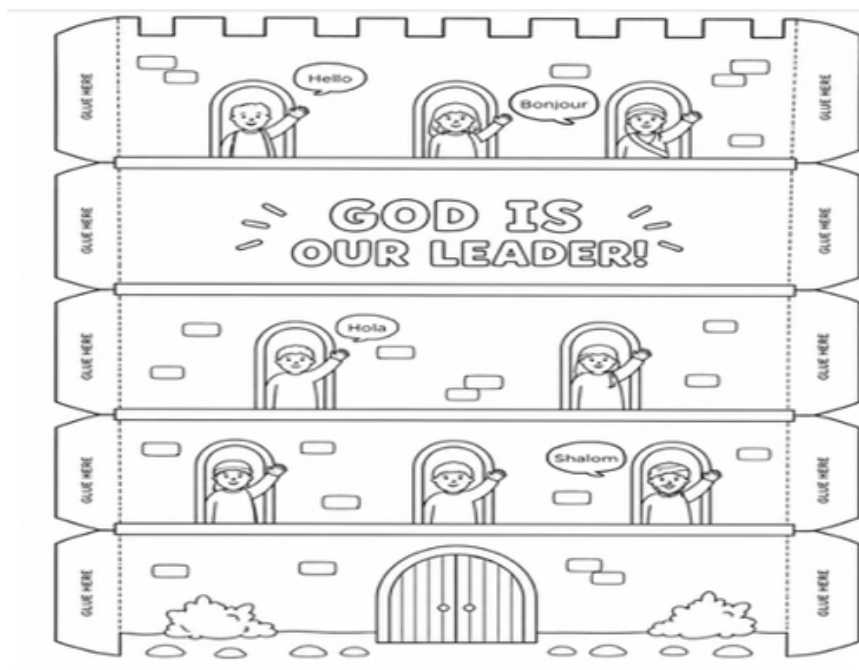
SAY:

In today's story, God told the people to spread out and live in different places, but they did not listen. Instead, they stayed together and built a huge tower because they wanted to do things their own way. So God made them speak different languages, and the people couldn't understand each other anymore. So they spread out just like God had told them to. God knows what is best. God is our Leader, and we can follow Him!



DO:

- Pass out one tower cutout and coloring utensils to each child
- Encourage kids to color and decorate their tower
- As they work, remind them that God is our Leader, and we can follow Him!
- When finished, help kids roll their tower into a cone shape
- Tape or glue the tabs marked "Glue Here" to hold the tower together



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.

6:25-6:50pm
9:25-9:50am
11:25-11:50am

LARGE GROUP OVERVIEW

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow closer to God through participating in worship, a Bible story and Worship Response.

OPENING LARGE GROUP



INTRODUCTION

Welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.

► 4 B'S (BEHAVIORS)

Share the expectations for how to participate during Large Group time.

► KEY VERSE

Introduce the key verse. Kids can watch the Key Verse video (when it's new for the series) or practice together using the slide.

► MISSION FOCUS

Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.

► PRAY FOR MISSION FOCUS & LESSON



WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.



LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.

PERSONAL REFLECTION



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet personal reflection time of responding to what God is teaching them.

CLOSING LARGE GROUP



PRAYER

Transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids to send them into their week with God's truth in their hearts.

OPENING LARGE GROUP SCRIPT



INTRODUCTION

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Does anyone know our God statement for today? (*allow kids to respond*) **God Statement!** I'm so excited to dig into that with you but before we do, let's cover our 4 B's of how we're expected to participate during Large Group!

4 BEHAVIORS OF LARGE GROUP

- **Be Ready** – Eyes watching and ears listening.
- **Be Respectful** – Listen when others are talking and follow directions.
- **Be Safe** – Keep your hands, feet and body in your own space.
- **Be Involved** – Sing, answer, move and join in!

KEY VERSE - Deuteronomy 31:8

Let's recite our Key Verse together! When we memorize the Bible, we put God's truth in our hearts and minds to help us remember what is true and who God is. Let's practice together! *Play the Key Verse video or show the verse slide.*



MISSION FOCUS - CITY SERVE (woodmenvalley.org/acts)

Now that we're all sitting and ready to listen, let's look at our mission focus for today. Our focus for this month is a way to **SERVE THE CITY**.

As we've been learning, **Woodmen's ACTS Ministry** partners with local organizations to help people in our city! Today, we're focusing on a special project called **City Serve!** City Serve is a special day when people all over our city work together to help others! We serve at schools, parks, neighborhoods and local organizations by cleaning, fixing, helping and caring for our community. It's a great way to show God's love by serving others!

This year, there are special projects designed just for families! *Take home an info card and ask your family to sign up* for a project that you can serve at together on October 3! We'll even start the day by having **pancakes together** before we head out to serve!

You can also support this project by praying for those who serve and those impacted!

PRAY (for the mission focus and upcoming lesson)

Let's bow our heads, close our eyes and show respect to God while we pray!



WORSHIP

Let's move into a time of worship. This is a chance for us to praise God and say "thank you!" for everything He does for us. You can worship in a way that helps you focus on God best. You can stand, sit, kneel, raise your hands or participate in the motions. *Play worship songs.*

SONGS: Every Move I Make, Praise, Battle Belongs



LESSON VIDEO

Please take a seat quietly so we can watch our lesson video together. As you watch, see if you can find the answers to our big 3 questions! Who is the story about? What is the problem or what happens? And what does God do? Let's watch together! *Play lesson video.*

WORSHIP RESPONSE SCRIPT



PREPARE AHEAD

Before Large Group, prepare all Worship Response materials and ask Ministry Partners to help lead and support the activity.

SUPPLIES: velcro footprints (prep ahead: place footprints in a line leading to the cross)



REFLECT: God is Our Leader!

Let's get our hearts and bodies ready for Worship Response. Start by taking three deep breaths (*take 3 breaths together*). Now let's relax our bodies and find a comfortable position to be still and focus on God - one that won't distract others.

REVIEW LESSON & GOD STATEMENT

God is our leader! Like the people in our story today, sometimes we forget to follow God and try to do things our own way. Let's remember how God is our leader by participating in this activity together.

EXPLAIN WORSHIP RESPONSE ACTIVITY

- There are some footprints on the ground around the room leading to a cross
- Pick the set of footprints closest to you
- One at a time, follow the footprints quietly to the cross as a way to practice following God
- Once you get to the cross, say, "I will follow you, God!"
 - If you forget what to say, the leader/LIT at your cross will help you!
- When you're finished, walk quietly back to your seat.
- You can pray and talk to God, you can listen to the song playing in the background or you can simply sit and be still
- As you participate, please remember to be quiet and participate on your own

DISMISS KIDS TO PARTICIPATE & PLAY SONG

Play the song in the Powerpoint as kids participate. If the song ends before all kids are done participating, play it again.



PRAY OVER THE KIDS

After all kids have had a chance to participate, close Worship Response by simply praying over them. No transition or introduction is needed—just begin the prayer.

CLOSING LARGE GROUP SCRIPT



OFFERING

One more way we can respond to and worship God is by giving offering. Offering is an opportunity every week to give some of our money to God as a way to say “Thank you, God!” for all He has done for us. Remember, you never *have* to give offering. Giving offering is something you *choose* to do with a thankful heart! God gives to us...so we give back to Him! If you have offering today, you can place it in the offering bin before you leave.



God gives to us...



We give back to God!

BLESSING

Before we go, I want to speak a blessing over you so can you please stand up? A blessing sends us into our week with God’s truth in our hearts, reminding us of who He is and that He is with us wherever we go. If you’d like, hold out your hands with your palms up as a way of showing that you are ready to receive these words and God’s truth. Listen closely as I speak this blessing over you.

May you follow God as your leader this week, trusting that He has a plan for you because He loves you!



TRANSITION

After the blessing, dismiss kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.

We learned a lot together today! Now we’re going to head back to Small Group to unpack what we learned and talk about what it means for our lives. This is a great time to ask questions, share your thoughts and see if you caught the answers to our Big 3 Questions from the lesson!

6:50-7:10pm
9:50-10:10am
11:50am-12:10pm

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in **small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner**.



REFLECT: Big 3 & Application

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.



SAY:

Let's talk about what we learned today! Find a spot to sit quietly and get in a comfortable position that's not distracting to others. Let's start by looking at the **BIG 3** questions we talked about at the beginning of class. Did anyone find the answers?

1 ASK: Who was our story about today?

KIDS RESPOND: God, people and us.

2 ASK: What was the problem?

KIDS RESPOND: People did not listen to God when he told them to spread out & fill the earth. Instead, they stayed where they were and were focused on themselves!

3 ASK: What did God do?

KIDS RESPOND: God confused their language so no one could understand each other and they had to scatter across the earth, just as He wanted them to do in the first place.

Now let's talk about how this could **APPLY** to our own lives. Depending on what God is teaching us, our answers might be different. But I would love to hear your thoughts!

► ASK: Why does this matter to me?

Example: I can remember that God is my leader, too, and He knows what is best for me. It reminds me that I should obey and follow him!

► ASK: How can I apply this to my own life?

Example: Example: I can listen to God by obeying my parents, telling the truth, being kind to others, and making choices that honor God; I can trust that God's way is always best!



PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together.



SAY:

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud. It can feel a little scary to pray together, but God loves to hear our prayers! We don't have to say anything fancy - we can just talk to Him!



DO:

Invite kids to pray for each other, then have a leader close in prayer. You can also use your prayer journal to write down and reflect on prayers from your group each week.

If time
allows

OPTIONAL RESPOND ACTIVITY

The goal of the OPTIONAL Respond Activity is for kids to engage in a game that helps reinforce the lesson for the day.



ACTIVITY: Tower Challenge

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the students can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: Plastic Cups



SAY:

We're going to have a Tower Challenge! Your goal is to build the tallest tower you can, but there's a catch—you have to follow the leader's instructions while you build. In our Bible story, the people at Babel wanted to do things their own way instead of following God. God is our Leader, and following His way matters!



DO:

Divide kids into even teams and give each team the same number of plastic cups. Set a timer for 2–3 minutes. As teams build, call out new instructions every 20–30 seconds that they must follow. If a team doesn't follow an instruction, they lose a cup from their tower. The tallest tower still standing at the end wins!

Try commands like:

- “Only ONE person can touch the cups!”
- “Switch builders!”
- “Everyone must use only one hand!”
- “Your tower must have at least 5 cups on the bottom!”
- “No talking for the next 20 seconds!”
- “Take two cups off your tower!”
- “Everyone must touch one cup before you keep building!”

It would be easier to ignore the instructions and build however you want! The people at Babel chose their own way instead of God's. But we can choose differently because God is our Leader, and we can follow Him.

As parents
arrive after
service

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing their parent the announcement card.