

Kinder garten

TEACHER GUIDE

Year A, Quarter 1
My God Is Loving





SABBATH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

KINDERGARTEN • YEAR A • QUARTER 1

A Teacher Guide for Kindergarten Sabbath School (children ages 4-6)



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Published by the Review and Herald® Publishing Association

Produced by the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department

12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600, U.S.A.

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ISSN: 0163-8793

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A rigorous process, involving reviewers, experts, parents, and children from around the world, in addition to a steering committee and a manuscript evaluation committee, has been followed in the development of these materials. We wish to thank all of those involved.

Kindergarten Teacher Guide

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

QUARTER OVERVIEW

My God Is Loving

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Dear Kindergarten Sabbath School Teacher,

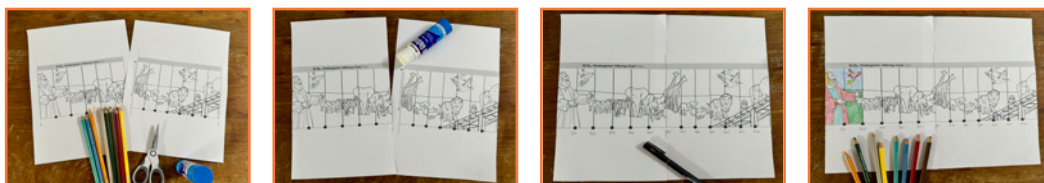
Thank you so much for being willing to teach your group of Kindergarten children this year! May their innocence, energy, and rapid learning development, and most of all their simple love for Jesus, inspire you and remind you of what it is to “become like little children.”

As you pray and plan from this new curriculum, may God lead you to know just how to make every Sabbath full of teachable moments that are eternally life-changing for the children.

- The main goal of this curriculum is to help your Kindergarteners to **know and love Jesus and His living Word**, to **grow into His likeness**, and to **want to serve Him every day**.
- In all your interactions, the stories, and the group activities, remember to point the children to **God's living, powerful Word**. As you read the condensed narrative portions each week, be sure to have your Bible nearby to open and read from. Encourage the children to learn the weekly memory verses.
- Establish a healthy understanding of **prayer**. Model how special it is to talk with God as a friend through your own prayers, encouraging children to pray from their heart with reverence. Kneel for the opening prayer, explaining that this shows God we are humble.
- Encourage children to learn their **weekly memory verse**. You can share various methods of memorization with them and point them to the weekly **Scripture Song**, which will help them to remember the verse. Please also spend a few moments reflecting on the meaning of each memory verse by discussing the questions each week. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive, as they do their crafts, or as they leave Sabbath School, to reinforce the memory verses each quarter.
- Encourage **parents and caregivers to read the lesson** to the children each day. Also encourage the children to **spend time with Jesus every day** (see ideas for this at the beginning of the Kindergarten student guide).
- For some children this may be the only time in the week they interact with other children. Be **intentional about the culture you foster** in the room, helping all to have a sense of belonging. This will have a great impact on their growing faith. Notice those who might be on the fringes and involve them.
- Ensure that you always have at least one other **adult helper** in the room with you. They can welcome children who arrive late and assist you as needed.
- This new, global Sabbath School curriculum is written for hundreds of cultures. You will no doubt find some things that need adjusting and adapting to **meet the needs of the children in front of you**. If your group has very little knowledge, make the lessons simpler. If they know a lot, go deeper still. Look to adapt some of the activities for children with **special needs**. See www.aliveinjesus.info for a training video on nurturing children with special needs. Pray for wisdom about how to use this curriculum, while staying true to its goals.
- The **Kindergarten and Primary Bible stories are the same**, so if you belong to a small church with combined Sabbath School classes, select the level that will best suit the knowledge and needs of your children.



- We have provided **music** suggestions in the program and recorded music on our Alive in Jesus website. You might also like to invite the children to choose songs and lead the singing time. Where possible, choose songs that apply to the weekly theme. If possible, display the words of the songs so that everyone can learn the songs together. Keep in mind the importance of choosing songs that share spiritual truths, as music will linger in our minds for years to come.
- Make an **Offering Chart** at the beginning of each quarter from the template provided on our website. Together with the children, write weekly offering goals at the bottom of the page to encourage children to give to God's work. Each week after the offering has been collected, invite one child to color the new section to indicate the offering goal has been achieved. Display the Offering Chart in a prominent place in your Sabbath School room.



- Make special mention of **birthdays** by singing a birthday song and giving a small gift to the child. If appropriate in your culture, encourage children to bring a birthday thank offering to your mission project.
- Also be sure to acknowledge **visitors** and make them feel welcome in your Sabbath School.
- All resources can be found on the **Alive in Jesus website**, www.aliveinjesus.info, including crafts, music, training videos, podcasts, news and updates, and general information about Alive in Jesus.

The Kindergarten children will look to you as one of the most important adults in their lives, so make your personal, daily abiding with Jesus a priority. Pray for these children and the precious hour you have together each Sabbath morning.

As you nurture, guide, teach, and love the little children in your care, remember that Jesus said, "Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me" (Matthew 18:5).

Thank you for leading children to Jesus!

"The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in **bringing souls to Christ**." "It gives to young and old a **knowledge of God's word**, . . . [and] it awakens in them a **love for its sacred truths**, and a **desire to study them for themselves**; above all, it teaches them to regulate their lives by its holy teachings" (Ellen G. White, *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, pp. 10, 11).

LESSON COMPONENTS. These teaching principles are included in all teacher guides, although not always in a specific order. All activities fall under one or more of these areas, although we've chosen to highlight the most prominent in each lesson.

 HOOK	 HEAD	 HEART	 HAND	 HOORAY
Arouse Curiosity Hooking children into the topic to help make them eager to learn Bible truths.	Story Immersion and Exploration Sharing the story and key ideas in a memorable and meaningful way.	Connection With God Touching the children's hearts and fostering love for God through worship.	Commitment and Application Applying the learning in life through mission and service.	Learning Celebration Celebrating new insights about God, or their learning from the lesson.



Tips for Telling Bible Stories in Sabbath School

"Teach me what I do not see" (Job 34:32).

1. Practice telling the Bible story as you would any other story. We want to show children that the Bible is living, powerful, true, and trustworthy, and that God has a special message for them personally in each story. Invest time into how you will communicate this most effectively to the children in your class. Remember:

- Learn the story and be so familiar with it that you can recall the different parts. Don't read it. Memorize an outline, select appropriate visuals according to the age of your audience.
- Change the pitch, tone, and speed as the action unfolds. Use action, enthusiasm, and appropriate gestures.
- Plan your opening sentence to catch the immediate attention of the children.
- Tell the events in a logical sequence. Don't tell unnecessary details (this will confuse and interrupt the story). The younger the audience, the fewer details are needed.
- Finish the story at the peak of interest. Don't speak too quickly, sermonize, summarize, or retell the story—children don't need this.

2. Tell the entire Bible story each Sabbath. Some children won't have read the lesson at home, and this might be the only opportunity for them to hear the story and learn its message.

3. Sabbath School should be a joyful, memorable place, where children learn about God and grow to love Him.

We should prayerfully consider how to communicate God's sacred stories in clear, meaningful ways. Children should know that the Bible stories are true—not fables. Both the method and the message of communication should clearly support this idea. Role-playing can detract, create jealousy, and focus on performance rather than the Bible story.

4. Bring the Bible story alive by one or more of the following ways:

- **Peg people** and props. If possible, purchase some wooden pegs and paint or decorate them as wooden people to be used in some storytelling sections. Over time, you may like to add new people: Jesus, disciples, and other Bible characters. Encourage children to retell the Bible story to each other using these **peg people**. You may also like to display these in a regular place with other objects (animals, house, ocean—using colored materials or simple boxes) for children to

play with if they arrive early. Move these peg people and objects around on your fabric scene as you tell the story. Children can take turns doing this as you tell the story, and they can then retell the story in their own words. This is an effective method to teach children to recall, internalize, and share the story with someone else.

- Use the weekly **Program PowerPoint** as you tell the story. Pause to reference the emotions on the faces of the Bible characters, the backgrounds, and the details of the story. These pictures will stay in the minds of the children and help them to remember the story.
- **Felts** (younger children). Although felts are an older resource, they're helpful because you can unpack the story as it happens with visuals that will stay in the minds of children. Practice with your felts ahead of time so that you can be clear about the sequence and position of each one.
- **Dramatic storytelling** with objects. Use expression and various objects, sounds, and smells that use our five senses to make the story memorable and clear.
- **Alive in Jesus podcasts**. Invite the children to listen to one or two of the daily narratives of the Sabbath School podcast and then tell, draw, or discuss the remainder of the story in groups or pairs. As the children listen to the story, they may want to draw what they hear (stick people) or write two questions for discussion at the end of the story.

5. Pray that God will help you to communicate His stories effectively for the specific age to whom you're speaking. You're dealing with God's Word and eternal implications.

"Show me Your ways, O Lord;

Teach me Your paths.

Lead me in Your truth and teach me,

For You are the God of my salvation;

On You I wait all the day."

Psalm 25:4, 5

Kindergarten Quarter 1 Overview



Sabbath School Room Setup

- Hang the **wall mural** at the front of your classroom, along with a **large title**, “**God Is loving.**” This quarterly theme should be reinforced each week.
- Find **nature items** to display near the mural, such as a tree or plant, bright flowers, toy animals, plastic fruit, etc.
- If your room is large enough, create **separate spaces** for the opening activities, the general program, a Bible story corner/mat, and a craft table. Transitioning from one learning space to another will help with reinforcement of ideas, engagement, and behavior.
- Purchase or make a **small paper bag for each child (Nature Collector Bag)**. Write their name on the front of the bag and invite each child to color or decorate their bag at the beginning or end of Sabbath School. Hang each bag on a wall using small hooks. Each week the children will place their nature card into the bag. At the end of the quarter they can take their cards home.
- Create a **special offering container** that can be given to a different child each week to collect the offering. You may like to add bright paint to a jar, make a money roll, or find a money box to use this quarter. Each quarter, use a different offering container to keep this special and fun for the children.
- Display the **Offering Chart** in your Sabbath School room (see www.aliveinjesus.info to print the chart). Each week, color the chart to show how much offering has been collected to give to the special mission project. Model the importance of giving and, if possible, bring a little extra money to give to children who don't have anything to give.
- **Decorate two boxes (shoeboxes)** that will remain in your room for this program and be used each week. Label these boxes **(1) Secret Surprise Box, (2) Story Explorer Box**.
- Source a **bell** or another nice sound effect (mobile phone sound effect, triangle, xylophone). This will be used to transition between activities and before opening the Secret Surprise Box and Story Explorer Box each week.
- **Music** (Scripture Songs and original songs, including vocal recordings, backing tracks, lyrics, and sheet music) can be found on the AIJ website. You will find a playlist for each quarter on the Alive in Jesus website. You may also like to add songs from your culture.

Other Helpful Information

- 1. The Bible Story** is a vital part of these teacher guides. Children learn about God and His Bible truths through narrative. Prepare to make the story portions engaging, memorable, and applicable each week. Familiarize yourself with the **story narratives** so that you can confidently share them without reading them. Use the simple Quick Cues to prompt you as needed, and keep the children's interest by using props, sounds/music. Practice aloud beforehand, if possible, keeping in mind that the stories you tell will lay the foundation of a child's faith. Always emphasize that the stories are true and from the Bible. Tell them how much Jesus loves them and wants to have a friendship with them.
- 2. Mission Stories and Nature Lessons:** There is a two-week rotation for mission stories and nature lessons. Both reinforce the weekly Big Idea. For this reason they are in the latter part of the program after the Big Idea has been explored. In the first teacher guide each quarter, more time will be given to introducing the quarterly offering focus/division, so a short nature lesson is shared this week.

The overall **Mission Challenge** focus for this quarter is: Mission to my family.
- Mission Stories:** We have chosen the best age-appropriate mission stories that reinforce the weekly lesson focus. The mission stories won't always come from where the quarterly mission offering is going, although you will share a weekly mission fact (from the AIJ website) that pertains to the global offering for the quarter.
- Nature Lessons:** Each week you will give the children a nature card after sharing a nature lesson. The weekly memory verse will be on the back of the nature card. On the weeks during which a mission story is included, a short nature lesson will be shared. The alternative weeks will have a longer nature lesson with discussion questions.
- 3.** The New King James Version and the *International Children's Bible* are used within these teacher guides. The New King James Version is used across the curriculum for all memory verses for consistency.
- 4.** Watch the **teacher videos** on the AIJ website for tips to help you teach Kindergarten.
- 5.** All **craft templates** can be found on the AIJ website. On the following page is a complete list of items you will need to purchase or source for the 13 crafts this quarter:

Quarterly Crafts



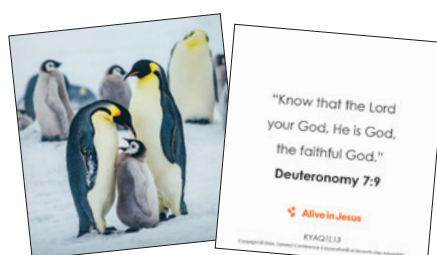
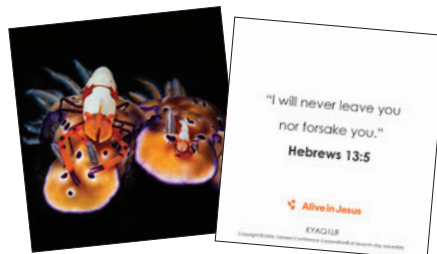
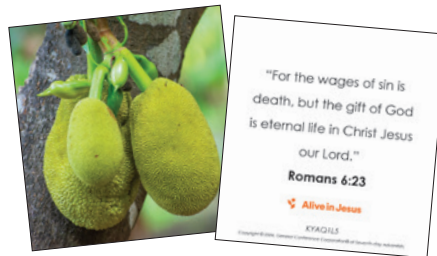
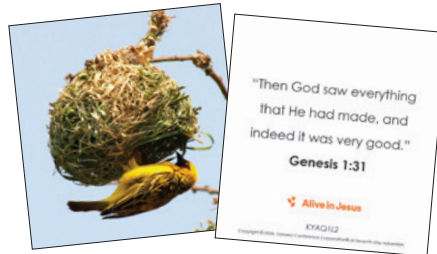
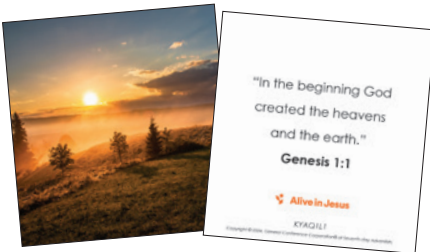
Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1

WEEK	CRAFT	SAMPLE	RESOURCES/SUPPLIES
1: A Brand-new World	Hanging Heart Nature Mobile		Cardboard heart shape, string, a variety of nature items you have collected, tape, scissors, craft glue (optional).
2: Life in God's Garden	Play-dough Garden Scene With Adam and Eve		Blue and green playdough, paper or plastic plates, nature items (e.g., small sticks, tree nuts, small stones, leaves, flowers). If unable to access nature items, use craft supplies such as craft sticks, felt, pipe cleaners, paper.
3: The Sabbath	Sabbath Vase Picture		White cardstock, green paper strips, colored fabrics, colored tissue paper, craft glue, and scissors. Option 2: small glass jars, acrylic paints, paintbrush, water, and smocks (to cover clothing).
4: Lucifer's Sad Choice	Sunflower		Paper plate, large craft stick or cardboard tube, yellow and green paint or crayons, nontoxic craft glue, tape, sunflower seeds.
5: Adam and Eve Choose	Standing Trees (Before Sin/ After Sin)		Week 5 craft template, cardboard tube, two small paper plates, green and brown crepe/tissue paper, colored pencils, scissors, and glue/stapler.
6: Cain and Abel	Card		Cardstock, watercolor paints or markers, paper towel or napkin squares, paintbrush.
7: Noah Builds an Ark	Talking Noah		Cardboard tube, colored fabric, rubber band, ribbon or string, red paper, cotton ball, craft stick, googly eyes, craft glue, and scissors.
8: A Rainbow Promise	Rainbow Pop-up		Week 8 craft template, sheet of blue cardstock, colored markers, scissors, glue.
9: The Tall Tower	Paper People From Different Countries		Paper people cutouts, craft glue, scissors, craft sticks, fabric/colored paper, tape, scissors, pictures of children from different countries for inspiration.
10: Abram, Man of Faith	Globe Skimmer Dragonfly		Sheet of paper, narrow leaves you have collected, two craft sticks, markers, craft glue, googly eyes (if available), pipe cleaner/chenille stem.
11: Abram Lets Lot Choose	Paper Plate Honoring Crown		Extra-large paper plates, scissors, markers, craft glue, sticker jewels or printable jewels and shapes cut out of paper or contact paper.
12: A Brave Rescue	Create and Decorate a Tithe Envelope		Sheet of colored paper, stickers and colored shapes, markers, tape, scissors, and ribbon or string.
13: Baby Isaac	Starry Sky Picture		Black paper, chalk, colored paper, silver star stickers (if available), week 13 craft templates, glue.

Nature Cards



You can print these collector cards for each child from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 1

A Brand-new World

Bible Reference: Genesis 1

Big Idea	God is loving. He created our world.
Memory Verse	"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 44-51
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 5. The Holy Spirit 6. Creation
Word of the Week	Create: To create is to make something new.
Lesson Summary	In five days God created the light, sky, plants, sun, moon, stars, fish, and birds as special gifts for us. God created new things with just His voice—from nothing! Everything formed in the first five days of Creation by God expresses His amazing love for us.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know what was created by God in the first five days of Creation. Feel grateful for God's power, creativity, and generous love. Respond by thanking God for His wonderful creation.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Beginnings are important. They say much about our identity. The beginning of our world tells us how precious we are to God—for all of creation was a vast, generous act of love. The whole of the Godhead planned the intricate details of our world with much delight, thought, and care. All was given in love, because of love.

This lesson begins to paint a picture of the startling details within this gift. We see color-filled light; clustered cloud droplets; vast open spaces bending in breezy waves; grand, soaring forests and deep, sparkling oceans; iridescent feathers; pulsing, living tissue; and rippling sunlight on water—the variety was astounding and the intricacy awe-inspiring. Not only was this to be for God's "crowning work" of humanity (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 44), but the earth itself and all that was created in those first days responded with

joy in their existence. "In the work of Creation, when the dawn of the first day broke, and the heavens and the earth, by the call of infinite power, came out of darkness, responsive to the rising light, 'the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy' " (Ellen G. White, in *Signs of the Times*, January 8, 1880). This world was breathtaking and alive with praise. Even "the angelic host viewed the scene with delight, and rejoiced at the wonderful works of God" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 44).

Though now marred and flawed, nature still sings praises to God.

This week, may you join in praise to your God as you delight in His creation.



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 1

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Game: Guess animals, place in habitats.
- Play “**It’s About Love**” in the background.
- Listen to “**Pack It Up**” as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- **SING:** Sing the following songs with actions and props:
 - “**Good Morning, Jesus**”
 - “**Our God is Amazing**”
 - “**Visitor Song**” and acknowledgment
 - “**Happy Birthday**” for any child with a birthday this past week

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Explain quarterly mission project and share the first **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing “**For Jesus**.” Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing “**Let’s Pray**.” Pray together.
- Sing “**The Greatest Treasure**.” Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **What is inside the box?** (Nothing, it’s black and empty!)
- Discussion: God made many wonderful things out of nothing for us to enjoy.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world**.

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Sort objects or pictures** into Days 1-5 of Creation. Thank God for things He has created on each day of Creation. God is loving, and He created our world.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 1: Sunset**

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Hanging Nature Heart Mobile
- **Mission Challenge:** Give your craft to a younger child at church. Tell them what you love about God and His creation.
- Sing “**Goodbye Song**.”
- **Apply:** What would you like to thank God for?
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

What Do I Need?

Opening Activities

Source concealed **bag of toy animals (or animal photos)** that live in various habitats.

Create animal "habitats" from colored **paper or fabrics**. E.g., blue for water, brown over boxes for mountains, green for plains, yellow for desert, and light blue for sky.

Familiarize yourself with this quarter's mission project/offering destination to share with the children.

Print the **Offering Chart** and create a colorful **container to collect the offering in**.

Source a **bell** or pretty **sound maker** to use to get the children's attention before opening the Secret Surprise Box and Story Explorer Box. E.g., a bell, toy flute, castanet, sealed cardboard tube filled with dried beans.

Source **two boxes** (shoeboxes) to be used for Secret Surprise Box and Story Explorer Box. **Secret Surprise Box: line the box with black paper.**

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: container of water, flashlight, bubbles, flowers and branches (or pictures of them), green blanket and herbs and fresh/toy fruit, silver stars, black blanket, moon, feathers and bird sounds, blue fabric, cardboard sunshine, toy birds, and fish. Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: a large collection (objects, pictures, or representations) of things created on Days 1-5 of Creation.

Write the numbers 1-5 on separate pieces of paper. These will be used as labels during a sorting activity.

Nature/Mission

Print **Nature Card 1: Sunset** for each child. Purchase or make a **Nature Collector Bag** for each child that can be hung on a wall or placed in a corner of the room. Write each child's name on their bag. This will be kept until the end of the quarter, when the children will take all of their collector cards home.

Craft Materials

Source **cardboard heart shapes, string, craft glue (optional), a variety of nature items you have collected, scissors, and tape**.

Print out the **memory verse**.

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "Our God is Amazing"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Genesis 1:1"
- "Goodbye Song"



qr.aij.info_KA1t

- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 1: Sunset
- ☐ Week 1 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Creation, Days 3 and 4 audiovisual (Sights and Sounds Video)

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Bag of toy animals or animal photos
- ☐ Paper or fabrics for animal "habitats"
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Two shoeboxes (Secret Surprise Box, Story Explorer Box. These will be used all quarter.)
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: a large collection (objects, pictures, or representations) of things created on Days 1-5 of Creation.
- ☐ Write the numbers 1-5 on separate pieces of paper.
- ☐ Purchase or make a Nature Collector Bag for each child to use throughout the quarter.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: container of water, flashlight, bubbles or spray bottle with water, flowers and branches (or pictures of them), green blanket and herbs and fresh/toy fruit, silver stars, moon, black blanket, feathers, bird sounds, blue fabric, cardboard sunshine, toy birds, and fish.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive, showing them how happy you are to see them at Sabbath School. Play the song “It’s About Love” quietly in the background as the children arrive.

PLAY: Invite the children to play a guessing game. Have them take turns to secretly choose a **creature** from a **bag** and offer clues to other children so they may guess it. After it has been correctly guessed, invite the child to place the animal in the right **habitat**, somewhere in the room.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing the “Pack It Up” song.

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Introduce the song “Good Morning, Jesus” so that the children can become familiar with it. Sing “Our God is Amazing” or a worship song of your choice that talks about God’s love and His creation. Share that this quarter you’ll be learning that **God is loving**. Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the “Visitor Song.” Sing “Happy Birthday” to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Introduce the division and countries where this quarter’s mission project/offering is going. Show a world map, talk a little about the culture, and then share one of the **Mission Fast Facts** about the country. Show the children your Offering Chart and talk about how important it is to give to others.

GIVE: Sing “For Jesus” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “Let’s Pray.” Invite a child to pray. Then pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed.

SING: Invite one child to come to the front to sit on a chair and hold the special class Bible. Talk about how special the Bible is, and how everything written in the Bible is true. Sing “The Greatest Treasure,” and talk about how we can trust the Bible, which tells us about God’s great love for us.

- **Does anyone know how our loving God created the heavens and the earth? How did our world come to be?** Explain that the Bible answers this question in the very first verse. Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Genesis 1:1**. **Say it together:** “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). Listen to, and sing, the **Genesis 1:1 Scripture Song**.
- **What was our earth like to begin with?**

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Use your **bell** or chosen **sound maker** to get the children’s attention. Then point to the two special boxes: the Secret Surprise Box and the Story Explorer Box. Tell the children that each time they hear the bell ring, someone will be asked to open a special box.

DISCUSS: Invite one child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** and take a look inside. (An empty black box with nothing inside it.) Invite everyone to look inside the box.

- **What’s inside this box?** (Nothing!) It is black and empty—just as the earth was before God began to create.
- **Could we live on the earth if it was just dark and empty?** (No.)
- **What things can you think of that we need to be able to live on the earth?** (Invite the children to stand up and mime their answers: eating food, breathing air, drinking water, washing their face, etc.)



SHARE: God is so loving. Before God created, He thought of us. He wanted to make a special place called earth for all the people He planned to create. The focus for this quarter is: **God is loving**. We will learn many reasons why God is so loving. But this week the **Big Idea** is: **God is loving. He created our world**. (Invite the children to repeat the Big Idea with you.)

- **Do you know how long it took for God to make our earth?** (Let's find out the beginning of the story.)

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** If you have a separate story mat or corner in your room, invite the children to move there now. Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**Creation: Days 1-5**" in an interactive way, using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

DO: Ring your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a range of **objects** and **pictures** of things God created on Days 1-5, along with a set of **1-5 labels**. Tip them out and add your Storytelling Props to the pile. Lay the numbers out across the room and invite the children to sort the objects/pictures and place them beside the day they were created.

Beginning with Day 1, work your way along the line of sorted objects/pictures and ask for each day:

-  • **Why did God create . . . (light and darkness, air, land, etc.)?** (Accept answers, then always include "Because God is loving!")
- **What do you love that was created on this day?** (After a child has shared, have the whole group say, "Thank You, God!")

Explain that our loving, creative God made all these wonderful things in five days because He wanted to make a special world for us to live in. Everything He makes is good. He loves us so much!

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 1: Sunset** and share the following facts:

- A sunset happens when the sun moves from the sky we see, to the other side of the world.
- Before the sun has totally disappeared from our sky, it leaves beautiful colors of red, orange, and yellow that look like a painting.
- The colors in the sky are created by the sun's rays passing through the air.

As the sun sets each day, we can remember how our loving God created everything beautiful because He loves us. Thank You, God, for sunsets! Give each child **Nature Card 1: Sunset** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

 **CRAFT and MISSION CHALLENGE:** Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world**.

Hanging Heart Nature Mobile. Children can use nature items to glue or weave onto their cardboard hearts. As they work, talk with them about some of the most amazing things they have ever seen in God's creation. You may want to play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background.

Give your craft to a younger child at church. Tell them what you love about God and His creation.

SING: Sing "**Goodbye Song**." Share that next week you will find out how God finished creating everything in our big, beautiful world!

Full Program Outline Continued



CRAFT

APPLY: Hold your **Bible** and invite the children to share what they'd like to thank God for from this beautiful, true **Creation story** in the Bible. Children can say, "I'd love to thank God for _____. It is very _____."

The rest of the children can respond by saying, "Our God created the heavens and the earth."

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for making the world so perfectly. Tell the children how wonderful it was to see them all in Sabbath School and that you can't wait to see them again next week!

Tell the Story **Creation: Days 1-5**

Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Swish **water** in a **sealed container** for the sound of water throughout the story. **Flashlight**.
- Blow **bubbles** to illustrate air, or a **water spray bottle** to show mist.
- Lay a **green blanket** on the floor, share **fresh herbs** for children to smell and **fresh or toy fruit** to touch.
- Do actions with the children of a blooming flower and a growing tree.
- Lay a **black blanket** on the floor and invite children to place a **paper moon and stars** in a "night sky."
- Use the Creation, Days 3 and 4, audiovisual ([Sights and Sounds Video](#)).
- Throw **feathers** up and watch them float down. Play **bird sounds**, or have the children make bird sounds.
- Have the children place **toy fish** and **ocean creatures** on a piece of **blue fabric** you have laid out.
- Use a **cardboard sun** to move up and down to show how the sun "sets" each Creation day.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([week 1 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- God loves to create! He created the heavens and the earth.
- God looked out over a deep, dark space covered with dark water.
- DAY 1: God spoke and created light. He created day and night (**container of water, black blanket, and flashlight**).
- DAY 2: God spoke and divided the waters. He created the sea below, and air to fill the sky above (**blow bubbles, water mist from spray bottle, breathe in and out**).
- DAY 3: God spoke and made dry land appear. He filled the land with plants, flowers, fruit, and trees (**green fabric, grow like a tree, use hand to make blooming flower, fresh herbs, fresh/toy fruit**).
- DAY 4: God spoke and created the sun, stars, and moon (**cardboard sun, black blanket, moon, and stars. Show the Creation Days 3 and 4 Sights and Sounds audiovisual from AIJ website**).
- DAY 5: God spoke and created the fish of the sea and birds of the air (**blue fabric, toy sea creatures, feathers to throw in the air**).
- God saw that it was good.



TELL THE STORY

Do you like making new things? God loves creating! The Bible tells us that "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

On DAY 1 God looked out over a deep, dark space covered with dark water (swish container of water). The Spirit of God moved over the waters. God had been planning to create something very special here. ► God said, "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3) and . . . shimmer! glimmer! Light was there! (Invite children to look underneath a black blanket and turn on a flashlight.)

"God saw that the light was good" (Genesis 1:4, ICB). He was happy. The Bible says, "God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night" (Genesis 1:4, 5). It was the first day ever in God's new world!

► **On DAY 2** God spoke out loud again, saying, "Let there be something to divide the water in two!" (Genesis 1:6, ICB). He created a wide band of sky that split the water into two parts. Lots of little water droplets floated above the sky (blow bubbles to float above the children or mist a water spray bottle), and the rest of the water splished and splashed in the sea down below (swish container of water). Now fresh air filled the sky (invite the children to stand up and take a deep breath in and out before sitting down again).

► **On DAY 3** God spoke, and dry land appeared—just like that! "Then God said, 'Let the earth produce plants' . . . and it happened" (Genesis 1:11, ICB). Lush green grass suddenly spread out like a carpet across the ground (place green fabric on the floor). Beautiful flowers appeared in all shapes and colors! (Children use their hands to make a blooming flower.) Tall, majestic trees towered (stand tall, arms up) above the short, leafy bushes (crouch down). Juicy fruit hung on trees, ready to be picked (show different types of fruit). The smell of fresh green herbs filled the air (pass around fresh herbs to smell or try). What did God think about what He had created? [Children repeat with you: "God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:12).]

► **On DAY 4** God spoke again saying, "Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night. . . . They will be in the sky to give light to the earth" (Genesis 1:14, 15, ICB). A big, blazing sun appeared in just the right place to keep the earth warm during the day (have a child hold the cardboard sun high). God also made the softly glowing moon and twinkling stars to shine in the dark night sky. (Place a black blanket on the floor. Children place the moon and stars on it.)

What did God think about what He had created? (Children repeat with you: "God saw that it was good.") (Show the Creation Days 3 and 4 Sights and Sounds audiovisual.)

► **On DAY 5** God said, "Let the water be filled with living things" (Genesis 1:20, ICB). Suddenly fish and creatures of every kind appeared in the sea! (Place blue fabric on the floor. Children place toy sea creatures on it.) Little fish, big whales, floating octopuses, and slinky seals swam through the waters. They were all happy together.

Then God said, "Let birds fly above the earth" (Genesis 1:20). Suddenly the sky was filled with thousands of birds of all colors, shapes, and sizes (have children throw a feather up in the air and watch it float). There were squawks, chirps, whistles, and hoots on the land (play or make bird sounds). The earth had come alive!

God looked at His creation and . . . (children repeat with you), "He saw that it was good." He was so very happy.

All that God made in these five days was to be a perfect gift for us. God is loving. He created our world.

TEACHER NOTES



Hanging Nature Heart Mobile

What you need:

Cardboard heart shape, string, a variety of nature items you have collected, tape, scissors, and craft glue (optional) (1).

Preparation Instructions:

- Cut out a large heart shape from the cardboard.
- Collect nature items that are easy to glue or weave.

Create it together:

- Secure a string loop at the top of the heart and tape securely (2).
- Make small cuts around the heart shape.
- Thread the end of the string through one of the cuts and tape to the back (3).
- Continue to wind the string around the heart from one side to the other, then tape the other end of the string to the back (3).
- Children will use the nature items you have collected to glue and/or weave onto their cardboard hearts (4).
- The nature heart can be hung up in their home as a reminder of their amazing Creator.

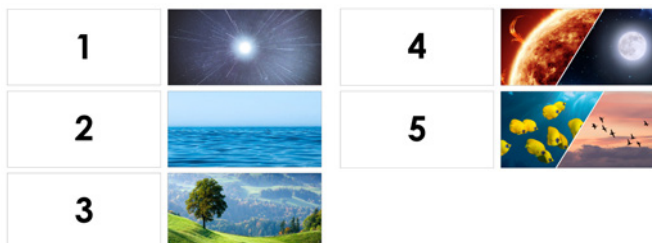


Resources



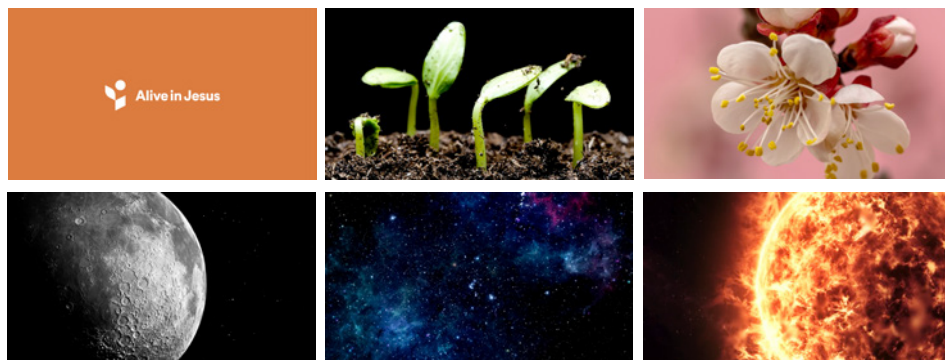
Creation Photo Cards

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



Sights and Sounds Video

Download the video from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 2

Life in God's Garden

Bible Reference: Genesis 1

Big Idea	God is loving. He created me.
Memory Verse	"Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 44-47
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 6. Creation 7. The Nature of Humanity 11. Growing in Christ 22. Christian Behavior 23. Marriage and Family
Word of the Week	Loving: when you are loving, you show kindness and care for others. Loving people make others happy.
Lesson Summary	On Day 6 God created animals and man, and Adam was given the special responsibility of naming the animals. God created for Adam a beautiful wife named Eve. The creation work of our generous, loving God was finished at the end of the Creation week, and everything was very good.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that animals and people were created on Day 6 of Creation. Feel the deep love God has for us in giving us a wonderful world with so much variety. Respond by thanking God for His creation.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Can you imagine all of heaven leaning in, keen to observe the detailed beauty in our emerging little world? Can you imagine the delight, the joy, the wonder, as they saw creation unfold?

“All heaven took a deep and joyful interest in the creation of the world and of man. Human beings were a new and distinct order. They were made ‘in the image of God.’ . . . They were to live in close communion with heaven, receiving power from the Source of all power” (Ellen G. White, in *Review and Herald*, February 11, 1902).

After sculpting man—complete with bones, DNA, and cells—God breathed life into him. What a beautiful moment it was for Adam to have God’s precious face up close and personal, as the very first thing that he saw. Here was love—pure, extravagant, and eternal.

Adam had been made by love, for love. And so have you!

As you and the children unpack the sixth day of Creation together, may you bask in the love of our Creator God, and may you praise Him for how “fearfully and wonderfully” you have been made in His image (Psalm 139:14).

“‘God is love’ is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. . . . God has bound our hearts to Him by unnumbered tokens in heaven and in earth. Through the things of nature, and the deepest and tenderest earthly ties that human hearts can know, He has sought to reveal Himself to us” (Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ*, p. 10).



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He created me.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 2

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Modeling clay people.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"Our God is Amazing"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** before praying.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Binoculars** to "notice" special things about the children, objects, and animal footprints
- Discussion: Identifying animal footprints
- Review: Creation Posters, Days 1-5. God made everything for the people He was about to create.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He created me.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Create a **Play-dough Person**. Try to interact with play-dough person. Compare God's ability to create life with our inability.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 2: Our Amazing Bodies**
- **Nature Lesson:** "Marvelously Made"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Garden of Eden play-dough scene
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Mission Challenge:** Be extra loving to your brother, sister, or someone else who is close to you.
- **Apply:** Look after your God-made bodies this week.
- **Pray** (use globe).



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Source **Play-dough** or **clay**.

Print **animal footprints** and place them in a trail across the front of the room.

Print **Creation Posters** for children to find at the end of the footprint track.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box: binoculars** (*Real, toy, or handmade from two cardboard tubes glued together. Decorate as desired.*)

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: lots of toy animals, pictures of baby animals, container of dirt, two peg people, green blanket, and a flashlight.

Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: small lump of play-dough or clay.

Source a **globe** for final prayer.

Nature/Mission

Print **Nature Card 2: Our Amazing Bodies** for each child.

Craft Materials

Source a **ball of blue or green play-dough** for each child, as well as **paper or plastic plates, nature items** (e.g., small sticks, tree nuts, small stones, leaves, and flowers).

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "Our God is Amazing"
- "Missionary, Missionary"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Genesis 1:31"
- "Goodbye Song"



- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 2: Our Amazing Bodies
- ☐ Week 2 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Creation Posters
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ "Animal Noises Song" (Creation Connection, YouTube)
- ☐ Baby Animal Posters

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Play-dough or clay
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: binoculars
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: small lump of play-dough or clay.
- ☐ "Animal Noises Song" (Creation Connection, YouTube)
- ☐ Storytelling Props: lots of toy animals, pictures of baby animals, container of dirt, two peg people, green blanket, and a flashlight.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He created me.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Talk with them about what they saw in nature this week that reminded them of God.

DO: Invite the children to create a small “person” from **play-dough or clay**. Encourage them to work carefully, and add hair, facial features, arms, legs, fingers, and toes. Carefully set these aside on a tray to be viewed later.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing the “**Pack It Up**” song.

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again and tell them how much you enjoy seeing them at Sabbath School!

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “**Good Morning, Jesus**”
- “**Happy Birthday**” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “**Our God is Amazing**”
- “**Visitor Song**” and acknowledgment
- “**Missionary, Missionary**”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “**For Jesus**” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “**Let’s Pray**.” Invite a child to pray. Then pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed, and ask Him to help the children understand the special stories they will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “The Greatest Treasure” or another song about the importance of the Bible.

• **Can you remember how God felt about what He had created? What did He say at the end of the first five days of Creation? I wonder what He said on the sixth day?** Let’s open the Bible and find out. Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Genesis 1:31**. **Say it together:** “Then God saw everything the He had made, and it was very good.” Notice that this time God said it was very good!

Listen to, and sing, the **Genesis 1:31 Scripture Song**.

- **Why did God say the things He created during Creation week were “good” and “very good”?**

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Play your **bell or sound maker**, then invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal some **binoculars**. Share how binoculars make things bigger so we can notice more about them. Use them to “notice” special things about the children, objects in the room, and the animal footprints on the floor.

- **What animals do you think might have made these footprints?** (Discuss.)

Invite a few children to follow the footprints to find the **Creation Posters** spread around the room. Invite the children to use their hands to make pretend binoculars as they go and look carefully at the things God created on the posters. Encourage wonder and excitement at what God has created.



SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DISCUSS: • **Do you remember what God created on the first five days?** (Point to each of the five posters.)

• **Why did God create all these amazing things?** (Our loving God created them as gifts to be enjoyed by the people He was about to create.)

SHARE: On Day 6 God created something more. Do you know what He created? Let's find out . . .

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**Creation: Day 6**" in an interactive way, using the **storytelling suggestions** and/or **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a lump of **play-dough**. Have the children gather around the play-dough people made by the kids who arrived early. (Pick one up and whisper, "Wake up!" Tickle its toes, lightly shake it, ask it to walk or say "hello.")

Teaching Point: Only our amazing God can create living, moving, breathing people who can do so many things. We surely can't! God loves you so, so much. (As you say this, open your arms wide!)

Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He created me.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON: Share the **Nature Lesson**, "My Body," and talk with the children about our amazing bodies. Give each child **Nature Card 2: Our Amazing Bodies** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Craft Activity: Garden Scene With Adam and Eve. Make a garden scene with Adam and Eve, using play-dough, nature items, and/or craft supplies.

REVIEW: Today we've learned that **God is loving**. We've learned that **He made us because of His love**.

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Be extra loving to your brother, sister, or someone else who is close to you. Do something kind or make them a surprise. Then tell them you love them.

Remind the children that God has given them an amazing body because He loves them.

• **What can you do this week to look after your God-made body?** (Accept answers.)

Challenge the children to wash their hands, brush their teeth, and eat healthy foods this week to care for their bodies.

SING: Sing "**Goodbye Song**." Share that next week we will learn about Sabbath.

 **PRAY:** Show the children a **globe** (or picture of the earth from outer space) and explain that this is a model of the earth God created for us as a special place to live. Invite a child to pray and then pray yourself thanking God for creating us and for making us feel special and loved.



Tell the Story Creation: Day 6

Big Idea: God is loving. He created me.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use **dirt in a container** and hide a **peg person** down inside it. Have another **peg person for Eve**.
- Play the "Animal Noises" song.
- Pull **toy animals** out of a bag for the children to make the sounds and "name" the animals.
- Pictures of **baby animals**.
- Use a **flashlight** to shine "light" for clothing.
- Lay a **green blanket** down as a "garden" and invite the children to sit on it.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 2 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- On DAY 6 God spoke and created animals, big and small! (**Toy animals.**)
- God made a boy and girl of every animal so they could have babies and big families. (**Two toy animals that are the same. Show pictures of baby animals and comment on them. Which is your favorite? Thank God for the baby animals.**)
- God gave each animal a special sound to make. (**Play animal noises game. Listen to the Animal Noises song.**)
- God shaped a man out of the dust—the very first human. God breathed into him, and he came alive. (**Bend down and breathe life into "Adam."**)
- God named this man Adam. He gave him clothes of light (**shine a light on your "Adam"**).
- God gave Adam a beautiful garden home—Eden (**lay out a green blanket for children to sit on**).
- Then God gave Adam the fun job of naming all the animals! (**Children may name and make the sound of the toy animals as you pull them out of a bag.**)
- God made Adam a special friend from Adam's rib while he was sleeping—Eve. (**Peg man and peg woman. Find and feel own ribs.**)
- Adam woke up to meet Eve. He loved her. God united them in marriage (**stand the two peg people together**).
- God's creation work was now done. "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). Repeat **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He created me!**

TELL THE STORY

Five whole days had come and gone since God began creating the beautiful new world. God could see that it was good (**look through the binoculars**), but He wasn't finished yet!

► God spoke, and His powerful voice made all kinds of different animals. (**Point out different features on your collection of animals. Do not name them yet.**) Some animals had soft, silky fur. Others had tough, rough skin. Some had huge ears, and others had teeny, tiny tails. ► God made a male and female (**boy and girl**) of every kind of animal so they could have babies and big families: two barking dogs, two big elephants, two fast leopards, and two mooing cows. (**Two toy animals that are the same. Show pictures of baby animals and comment on how cute they are. Which is your favorite? Thank God for the baby animals.**)



► God gave each animal a special sound to make too! Roar went the lions. Buzz went the bees. Hee-haw went the donkey. Cock-a-doodle-doo went the rooster. God must have smiled on the sixth day as He looked at all the noisy and playful animals He had just made. (Invite each child to move and sound like their favorite animal, while the other children guess which animal they are imitating. If time allows, listen to the Animal Noises song.)

► Then God bent down and took dust from the ground and began to shape the dirt into two feet and two long legs. He made a chest, two arms, and 10 fingers. Shaping a head, God made two ears, two eyes, a nose, and a mouth (Begin to show parts of a buried peg "Adam" in your container of dirt.) God was making the very first human ever!

This man, whom God made in His likeness, was perfect. God bent down and breathed into the nose of the man, and suddenly life went into him! (Bend down and breathe life into "Adam.") The man started to breathe and move. His eyes blinked open, and he looked into God's kind face.

► God named this man Adam. He also gave him special clothes to wear, made out of light, like the angels wore! Wow! (Shine a light on your "Adam.")

God gave Adam a garden home called Eden (lay out a green blanket and invite children to sit on it.) It was filled with fields, forests, and flowers. A river flowed through Eden to water the plants. Adam felt so happy to care for his new garden home.

Then God gave Adam the fun job of naming all the animals! Imagine Adam pointing to the different animals and thinking of names for them. (Invite children to name and make the sound of the toy animals as you pull them out of a bag.)

All the animals had special friends (place two animals together). Adam needed a special friend too! "So the Lord God caused the man to sleep very deeply" (Genesis 2:21, ICB). (Place your peg "Adam" down for a "sleep.")

Do you know where your rib bones are? Can you feel them? (Invite children to stand up and feel their ribs.) While Adam slept, God took out one of Adam's ribs and used it to create a beautiful woman for him. (Show the children your peg "Eve" and place it beside "Adam.")

► Adam's eyelids fluttered open. Who was this? His heart filled with joy. Oh! She's my match. Adam loved her. ► God made Eve from Adam's side so that she could always stand next to him as his helper and friend. Eve couldn't have been happier! Side by side they stood, (stand the two peg people "Adam" and "Eve" together) as God, their Creator and loving Friend, married them.

All was perfect. All was peaceful. God was very happy too—His work was now done. "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

• Invite the children to stand up and repeat the Big Idea after you: **God is loving. He created me!**

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



My Body

Ask the children the following questions and invite them to do the matching action.

(Please be sensitive and adapt the following questions if you have special needs children in your class.)

- Can you stand on one leg?
- Can you jump up and down?
- Can you wriggle your fingers?
- Can you give a big smile?
- Can you reach up tall?
- Can you turn around?
- Can you blink really fast?
- Can you shake?

Wow! Your body can do so many amazing things. (Share the fun facts below with the children, asking them to point to parts on their body or make actions that relate to the fact.)

Did you know:

- The human body needs food, air, and water, which is everything that God created for us in the first days of Creation!
- Your brain is active even when you are sleeping.
- Your nose cleans all the air you breathe in.
- You grow the most in the first two years of your life.
- Your ears and nose keep growing for all of your life.
- Your bones are stronger than steel.
- It takes only seven seconds for your food to reach your tummy.
- No one else has the same fingerprint as you.
- Your brain sends messages all over your body, telling it how to move and do things.
- Your heart pumps blood all through your body.
- Laughing is good for your heart.
- Your eyes are made up of about 2 million different working parts.

Thank You, God, for making us so special!

Teaching Point: God made something incredible and amazing when He made you. He thought very carefully about every part of your body. You were created in a very special and loving way. **God is loving. He created me!**





Play-dough Garden Scene With Adam and Eve

What you need:

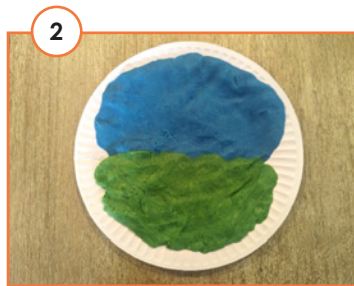
Blue and green play-dough, paper or plastic plates and nature items (e.g., small sticks, tree nuts, small stones, leaves, flowers). If unable to access nature items, use such craft supplies as craft sticks, felt, pipe cleaners, and paper (1).

Preparation Instructions:

- Make blue and/or green play-dough (see play-dough recipe).
- Collect nature items/craft supplies as suggested above.
- Make a sample of the craft beforehand for inspiration!

Create it together:

- Pat down and roll out the play-dough onto the plate (2).
- Create Adam and Eve in the Garden with the nature/craft items, pressing them into the play-dough to create the scene (3).



Resources

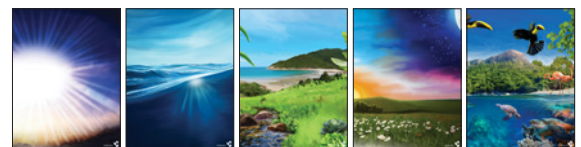
Animal Footprints

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



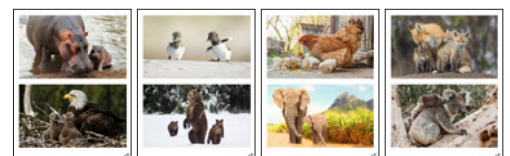
Creation Posters

Print the posters from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



Baby Animal Pictures

Print the pictures from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 3

The Sabbath

Bible Reference: Genesis 2

Big Idea	God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.
Memory Verse	"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 47, 48
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 6. Creation 20. The Sabbath
Word of the Week	Holy: God is holy, which means He is perfect and good. When God makes something holy, He makes it different from ordinary things.
Lesson Summary	After a week of creating all things perfect and good, God gave the Sabbath as the pinnacle of Creation week. It is a special day He set aside for love, relationship, and worship of God, the Giver of all. Sabbath is a time to delight in God's company and to be filled with wonder at the world He so lovingly created.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that the Sabbath is a special gift from God. Feel the happiness that Sabbath brings to our lives. Respond by saying "Thank You" and choosing to cherish the gift of Sabbath.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

How incredibly beautiful is the Sabbath gift of quality time with our God; how precious and how needed it is in our world today. God knew that gifting us the Sabbath would nurture sincere connections between Him and His children on this special day. "The Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people" (Ellen G. White, *Maranatha*, p. 244).

It is golden. It is a firm, secure clasp that safely links God, the Creator of the universe, with His loved ones. The Sabbath holds much potential for rich spiritual experiences.

Sabbaths can also be busy. Because you're a Sabbath School teacher, your Sabbath morning will likely be very lively. God is in these creative, animated, sometimes chaotic moments with you. He loves to see you lead His children to praise Him in a special way on His holy day. If you open your heart to Him, His rest will fill your soul in whatever act of service, or moment of praise, you find yourself in.

This Sabbath may you personally delight in who God is, as you share with the children how wonderful He is today and every day. And may you enjoy the Sabbath as a special gift from God to be treasured.



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 3

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Draw pictures of Creation: Days 1-6.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"Our God is Amazing"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** before praying.
- **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- Show personal **treasures/gifts**; share why they are special.
- **What would you keep in a treasure box?** The Sabbath is a special gift/treasure.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Sabbath Gift Illustration.** Share a gift box containing five objects that represent why the Sabbath is so special. The things we do on Sabbath remind us of how good, loving, and holy our God is. Sing **"The Sabbath."**

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 3: Bird of Paradise Flower**
- **Mission Story:** "Anita's Sabbath Adventure"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Sabbath Flower Vase
- **Mission Challenge:** Look for ways to give others the biggest and the best this week. Think about mealtime, playtime, and helping around the home. This is God's loving way.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Source **blank paper, crayons, or colorful markers.**

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: a collection of treasures or gifts you have personally been given. Include a picture or an object that clearly depicts the Sabbath.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: cardboard sun, Creation props from last two weeks, candle and matches, a collection of items children can use to pretend they are getting ready for Sabbath (e.g., brooms or brush and shovel sets, toy tea set, tablecloth, cutlery, tea towels).

Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Print **"Communion With God"** picture.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: a gift box containing the following five objects: Bible, a toy musical instrument, paper heart, flower or leaf, and a happy face on a craft stick.

Nature/Mission

Print **Nature Card 3: Bird of Paradise Flower** for each child.

Craft Materials

Source **white cardstock, green paper strips, colored fabrics, colored tissue paper, craft glue, scissors**. Option 2: small glass jars, acrylic paints, paintbrushes, water, smocks (to cover clothing).

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "God's Big Family"
- "Our God is Amazing"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Exodus 20:8"
- "The Sabbath"
- "Goodbye Song"



qr.aij.info_KA1t

- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 3: Bird of Paradise Flower
- ☐ Week 3 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Communion with God picture
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Markers, crayons, paper
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: a collection of treasures or gifts you have personally been given. Include a picture or an object that clearly depicts the Sabbath.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: a gift box containing the following five objects: Bible, a toy musical instrument, paper heart, flower or leaf, and a happy face on a craft stick.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: cardboard sun, Creation props from last two weeks, candle and matches, a collection of items children can use to pretend they are getting ready for Sabbath (e.g., brooms or brush and shovel sets, toy tea set, tablecloth, cutlery, tea towels).
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child with a friendly **"Happy Sabbath"** as they arrive. Talk with them about what they enjoy most about the Sabbath.

PLAY: Invite the children to draw things that God made during Creation week, or something they enjoy about Sabbath. **Note:** Lay the drawings aside to be shared later in the program. Listen to **"It's About Love"** in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing the **"Pack It Up"** song.

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
- **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
- **"God's Big Family"**
- **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment
- **"Our God is Amazing"**

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Invite a child to collect the offering. Show Offering Chart.

PRAY: Sing **"For Jesus"** and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."**

- **How many times do you think the Bible uses the word "Sabbath"?** (Children guess.)

Share that the word "Sabbath" is in the Bible **155 times** (NKJV). That tells us God's special day is very important! Our memory verse is one of the Sabbath verses in the Bible. Show the children how to find the memory verse, **Exodus 20:8**.

Say it together: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

Listen to, and sing, the **Exodus 20:8 Scripture Song**.

- **Why does God tell us to "remember" the Sabbath?**

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal a collection of your personal treasures or gifts. Talk about what each one means to you and how it helps you remember special people and special times.

DISCUSS: • **What gifts would you keep in a treasure box if you had one?** (Prompt for responses as needed.)

Retrieve the final gift from your **Secret Surprise Box**: a picture or object that clearly depicts the Sabbath. Also invite the children who arrived early to come to the front and hold up the beautiful drawings they did.

Our loving God gave us the Sabbath. It is a gift, a special treasure for us to enjoy.

SHARE: Today we will be learning more about this special gift God gave us: the Sabbath. This week the **Big Idea** is: **God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.** (Invite the children to stand up and repeat the Big Idea after you.)



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**Sabbath Rest**" in an interactive and engaging way using the storytelling suggestions and/or **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a gift box containing five objects. Take each object out and explain that each one tells us about something we can do on the Sabbath.

Ask: **I wonder what each object tells us?** Guide discussion toward the following connections:

- **Bible** (learning about God)
- Plastic **musical instrument** (worship God)
- Small **heart** (enjoy family and friends)
- **Happy emoji** (bring joy to others)
- **Flower** or leaf (enjoy creation)

 Have the children say after you: "**Thank You, God, for the Sabbath.**" (You may like to have the children form a line behind you and follow you around the room as you make up and sing the sentence in simple tunes for them to copy and sing back to you. Or say it with different actions for them to copy.) Sing, "**The Sabbath,**" together.

Teaching Point: The things we do on Sabbath remind us of how good, loving, and holy our God is.

Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 3: Bird of Paradise Flower** and share the following facts:

- This beautiful flower looks like a brightly colored bird.
- The colors are bright red, orange, and blue.
- They grow in warm places and are found mostly in South America and Australia.

When we notice the pretty details of this flower, and the care that went into creating it, we are delighting in the gift of the Sabbath. We are reminded of God's big, amazing love for us.

Give each child **Nature Card 3** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the mission story: "Anita's Sabbath Adventure."

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Craft activity: Sabbath Vase Picture. Make a picture of a pretty vase with flowers using fabric and paper. Play peaceful music in the background. (Alternatively, if you have access to small glass jars, you could have the children paint the jars to use as a Sabbath vase. Be certain to cover their clothing so they do not get paint on them.)

REVIEW: Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He made the Sabbath.**

Invite children to say what makes them happy about the Sabbath. After each suggestion, have everyone say, "**Sabbath is the best day of all!**"

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Look for ways to give others the biggest and the best this week. Think about mealtime, playtime, and helping around the home. This is God's loving way.

SING: Sing "**Goodbye Song.**" Share that next week we will learn about Lucifer's sad choice.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for His love and for all He created in the very first week of our world. Ask God to be close to the children this Sabbath and every day this coming week.



Tell the Story Sabbath Rest

Big Idea: God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use a **cardboard sun** for the children to role-play when Sabbath begins.
- Use **Creation props** from the last two weeks to review the days of Creation.
- Have children make a heart shape with their hands or cross their arms over their chest when you talk about love.
- Provide a collection of items the children can use to pretend they are getting ready for Sabbath.
- Light a **candle** to illustrate how special Sabbath is.
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([week 3 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- At the end of Day 6 the sun set, and the first Sabbath began (**cardboard sun**).
- In six days God had created everything (**Creation props**).
- Adam and Eve loved their new world, each other, and God (**love action**).
- God loved them and gave them the gift of Sabbath—time with Him (**love action**).
- Imagine the first Sabbath . . .
- God made the Sabbath holy.
- Sabbath was full of joy! Adam and Eve would count down the days until their special time with God! (**Count to seven; jump up and say, "Sabbath!"**)
- God blessed the Sabbath.
- For six days Adam and Eve worked. They did all their work before Sabbath, so they could be ready for it (**props to pretend to get ready for Sabbath**). **What things could you do to help be ready for Sabbath at home?**
- The Sabbath begins at sunset every week—it's a gift for everyone. **God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath. Thank You, God!**

TELL THE STORY

- Adam and Eve watched the golden sun begin to set. When it dipped out of sight, the Sabbath would begin (**hold up cardboard sun and make it disappear behind a chair**). Their smiles grew big and bright. What a beautiful world!
- In six days God had created everything. He created the light, sky, water, plants, sun, moon, stars, fish, birds, all the animals, and then Adam and Eve! (**Creation props**).

Adam and Eve thought about all the things they had seen in just one day (**show toy animals**). The giraffes had such long necks! And what about those playful monkeys? They loved their new garden home (**children show love action**). They loved each other too (**love action**). And most of all, they loved their Creator (**love action**).

- God loved (**love action**) them too. Because of His big love (**love action**), He gave them something very special on the seventh day. The Bible says, "And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day" (Genesis 2:2). God gave them the gift of time with Him. On the seventh day, the Sabbath, God rested



with joy. He wasn't tired, but He stopped His work so He could spend a whole day with His precious children—Adam and Eve. This would be their first Sabbath together in the Garden of Eden!

► Imagine Adam and Eve happily talking, laughing, and singing with God. Imagine God bending down to show Adam and Eve a small seed that would grow into a beautiful flower, or pointing to an eagle and explaining how it flies.

God made the Sabbath holy (light a candle). It would not be like any other day; it would be a special day to rest, worship, and be with Him.

Every week Adam and Eve would count down the days and look forward to their special time with God! (Count to seven with the children; have them jump up and say "Sabbath!" at seven.) The Sabbath was the best day of the week. It was filled with joy!

► God blessed the seventh day, Saturday. He made it to be an extra-special time for us to come closer to Him. When God blesses something, He gives it a special kind of happiness.

► For six days Adam and Eve were busy, busy, looking after the garden and animals. Adam and Eve did all their work before Sabbath, so they could be ready for it. (Invite children to use your collection of items to pretend they are getting ready for Sabbath.) Adam finished all his jobs early. Eve gathered extra-delicious foods, such as cashews, sweet mangoes, and strawberries. They didn't want anything to distract them from their special time with God! God must have smiled when He saw Adam and Eve keeping the Sabbath special because of their love for Him.

• **What things could you do to help be ready for Sabbath at home?**

► Every Friday evening when the sun goes down, the Sabbath begins. (Give a child a cardboard sun and have them slowly lower it in the "sky." Create a horizon line with a table edge or towel hanging on outstretched arm. Invite children to clap when they know Sabbath begins.)

God made the Sabbath a gift for everyone—from Adam and Eve, all the way down through time, to you and your family. ► He has made it a happy time to talk to Him, read His words in the Bible, worship Him at church, spend time with our families, and show others His love.

Say together with the children: **God is loving. He gave us the Sabbath. Thank You, God!**

TEACHER NOTES

Mission Story



Focus: The Sabbath is a special day with God.

Anita's Sabbath Adventure

Location: Help a child locate **Indonesia** on your **globe** or world **map**.

"Happy Sabbath!" Father's voice called through the darkness. "Rise and shine, Sunshine!" he said, poking his head into the door of Anita's bedroom. It was 4:00 in the morning—but it was time to get up, have breakfast, and go! Anita's eyes popped open. It was Sabbath—another chance to have a special adventure with God.

Anita and her family were missionaries from Greece who lived in Indonesia. Every Sabbath they would set off to a new village to worship God and share Jesus with the people there.

The family piled into the car with some student missionaries, and off they went. God's Sabbaths were always so special. They passed tall forests, misty valleys scattered with villages, and beautiful rice paddies. "I'm so glad we don't have to work on Sabbath," Anita said to herself. "Having a special day of rest is such a good idea. Thank You, God."

Finally bursts of blue ocean flashed between the trees. Soon the van was parked, and they were sailing on the ocean in a small boat. Everybody started sharing things they could see that they were thankful for—the blue-green water, the leaping fish, the clean golden air, the puffy clouds, their healthy bodies, and voices that could praise God today. What good things to talk about!

Then they swapped boats at a small island, sailed for another half hour, then began walking along a muddy trail. The cool mud squishing between Anita's toes felt so good.

About 45 minutes later Anita saw a small village and a sign for the Seventh-day Adventist church. Sabbath School would begin soon, and the church was crowded already with happy people. "Hello, Anita. Hello, Pastor," the people said. They were so happy to welcome the visitors. They knew that it had taken a long time and lots of effort to reach their village. Little children waved excitedly at Anita and came close. Anita smiled back.

Inside the church there were songs and Bible stories. And then Dad stood up to preach. How happy he looked to be there. There was lunch together and the chance to talk about Jesus. Anita even told a Bible story to the children all by herself.

Late in the afternoon Anita and the others began the long trip back home. She was tired but happy. Every Sabbath was a new adventure. Best of all, every Sabbath they got to worship God and talk about Him.

Anita loved being a missionary kid!

• **What things did Anita do to help show that Sabbath is a special day?**



This story is adapted from a story of the same name by Andrew McChesney, *Children's Mission*, copyright © 2022 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Used and adapted by permission.



Sabbath Vase Picture

What you need:

Option 1: white cardstock, green paper strips, colored fabrics, colored tissue paper, craft glue, and scissors (1).

Option 2: small glass jars, acrylic paints, paintbrush, water, and smocks (to cover clothing) (Option 2 [1]).

Preparation instructions:

- Cut out a vase shape in the fabric.
- Cut green strips of paper.

Create it together:

- Encourage children to create a special vase of flowers just for Sabbath.
- Glue vertical lines and stick sections of the green paper strips to make wavy stems, as shown (2).
- Glue fabric vase to page, so it overlaps the bottom of each stem (3).
- Create colorful flowers by gluing crunched up pieces of colored tissue paper (4).
- Children can share their special vase picture with someone next week to open Sabbath.
- Alternatively, if you have access to small glass jars, children can paint the jars with acrylic paints to use as a Sabbath vase (Option 2 [2]).

Option 1:



Option 2:





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 4

Lucifer's Sad Choice

Bible References: Isaiah 14:13, 14; Ezekiel 28:12-17

Big Idea	God is loving. He lets me choose.
Memory Verse	"Be content with what you have" (Hebrews 13:5b).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 33-43 <i>Forever Stories</i> , vol. 1, pp. 7-23
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 2. The Trinity 3. The Father 4. The Son 8. The Great Controversy 11. Growing in Christ 19. The Law of God
Word of the Week	Content: When you are content, you are happy with what you have. You do not want or need any more.
Lesson Summary	God is love, and heaven was filled with love. Lucifer ("son of the morning"), a beautiful, talented, leading angel, allowed pride to grow in his heart. It grew bigger and bigger until there were lies, rebellion, and war in heaven. As there can be only love in heaven, God sent Lucifer, now Satan ("the enemy"), and the fallen angels away.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that God shows His love by letting us choose. Feel joy in choosing God's way. Respond by being content to put God first when making choices.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

We do not know where it was, or how it really happened, but it started small . . . just a flickering thought. Lucifer first indulged a thought of self. No angel could have imagined how that small, brief thought could have resulted in such catastrophic rebellion, grief, and disobedience.

What a risk for God to give creatures, created in His image, the power to choose.

God is love, and love grants freedom. God's gift of free will is still ours—and it is still risky. God's law of love can still be abused, betrayed, or rejected. But God, “who is rich in mercy” (Ephesians 2:4), has consistently modeled what true love does—it beckons His beloved ones again and again. “Every human being, created in the image of God, is endowed with a power akin to that of the Creator—individuality, power to think and to do” (Ellen G. White, *Education*, p. 17).

How important it is for us as teachers to do all we can to make even our little ones aware of the power that is in the choices they make every day. Will their choices bring them closer to God, or away from Him? “Every child should understand the true force of the will. He should be led to see how great is the responsibility involved in this gift. The will is . . . the power of decision, or choice” (Ellen G. White, *Education*, p. 289).

Your role in teaching this Sabbath School class is so wonderfully significant. You are nurturing a young person who can make clear, bold choices for God and can stand for their convictions. This true story of Lucifer teaches us that *little matters can grow into big matters*. As you share with the children this Sabbath, our prayer is that you foster new shoots of intentional growth toward the Son.



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He lets me choose.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 4

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Decorate paper angels.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"A Big Hello"**
 - **"Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus"**
 - **"Our God is Amazing"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** before praying.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Be content with what you have" (Hebrews 13:5a).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- Use **pictures of Choosing in Heaven** for children to make choices.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He lets me choose.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Choices.** Read out scenarios and have children step closer or away from the "God" sign. Explain that God allows all of us to choose.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 4: Bamboo Plant**
- **Nature Lesson:** "Seeds: Little Things Grow"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Sunflower
- **Mission Challenge:** With help from an adult, write next week's memory verse (Romans 6:23) on a piece of paper. Wrap it up in wrapping paper, or tie a ribbon around it, as you would a present. Give it to someone to remind them of God's gift of love and His forgiveness.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Print enough copies of the [angel template](#) for children who arrive early. Cut them out. Provide craft sticks, markers, pens, pencils, and other resources of your choice to decorate the angels.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: some of the [God's Creatures Photo Cards](#).

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: paper angels the children have made, ball of string, paper hearts, flashlight, a balloon, and a sparkling paper angel to be Lucifer (optional).

Source a **felt set** or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: make a colorful sign that says "God" and place inside the box.

Nature/Mission

Collect seeds to show the children, and have an apple, orange, or other fruit cut in half with visible seeds.

Print [Nature Card 4: Bamboo Plant](#) for each child.

Craft Materials

Source **paper plates, large craft sticks or cardboard tubes, yellow and green paint or crayons, nontoxic craft glue, tape, sunflower seeds**.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "A Big Hello"
- "Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus"
- "Our God is Amazing"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Hebrews 13:5a"
- "Goodbye Song"

☐ Offering Chart

- ☐ Nature Card 4: Bamboo Plant
- ☐ Week 4 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Pictures of choosing in heaven
- ☐ God's Creatures Photo Cards



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Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Craft sticks, markers, pens, pencils, and other resources of your choice to decorate the angels.
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: God's Creatures Photo Cards.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: colorful "God" sign.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: paper angels the children have made, ball of string, flashlight, paper hearts, a balloon, and a sparkling paper angel to be Lucifer (optional).
- ☐ Seeds from various fruits; apple, orange, or other fruit cut in half with visible seeds
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He lets me choose.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child and take time to talk with them individually as they arrive.

DO: Decorate **paper angels** with your chosen resources. Add a craft stick to these and place them aside for the children to use as props in the story. As the children work on their craft, talk about what God's beautiful angels in heaven might look like. Share that the Bible tells us angels sing to God on Sabbath in heaven (Isaiah 6:3). Listen to **"It's About Love"** in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing **"Pack It Up."**

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- **"A Big Hello"**
- **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
- **"Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus"**
- **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment
- **"Our God is Amazing"**

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going. Thank the children for what they have given to God's work so far this quarter.

GIVE: Sing **"For Jesus"** and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing **"Let's Pray."** Then pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed, and ask Him to help the children understand the special story you will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to choose another child to hold the special class Bible. Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."**

- **How do you feel when you really want something, but you can't have it?**

Explain that God knows how we feel! His Word, the Bible, tells us something helpful when we feel like this. Show the children how to find the memory verse, **Hebrews 13:5a**. **Say it together:** "Be content with such things you have." We can choose to be content (happy) with what we have instead of wanting more.

Listen to, and sing, the **Hebrews 13:5a Scripture Song**.

- **How content do you think the angels are in heaven? How content do you think you will be when you get there?**

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal some **pictures of God's creatures**. Hold up two cards at once and invite the children to **choose between two** exciting things they can do in heaven with one of these animals.

Invite them to stand on your left for the first option, or your right for the second. Options are: (1) swim with a dolphin or a shark, (2) fly with a hummingbird or an eagle, (3) ride a zebra or a cheetah.

DISCUSS: We will be able to make lots of fun choices in heaven, and all of them will be good!

SHARE: Long, long ago the angels in heaven chose only between good things too. But then one day they had to make a hard choice—would they keep loving God, or wouldn't they? God will never force anyone to love Him. He will always let them choose because that's what real love does.

Invite the children to stand up and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. He lets me choose.**



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story “**Lucifer's Sad Choice**” in an interactive way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal the “**God**” sign. Invite the children to stand close to the sign. Share that our choices can lead us toward or away from God. Invite everyone to all step closer to, and then away from, the “**God**” sign. Tell them you will read out some choices. Ask them to show you where that choice might lead (toward or away from God) by stepping closer or away from the “**God**” sign.

- Someone yells at you, and you yell back.
- You draw a beautiful picture and give it to your neighbor to say thank you for their help.
- Your brother takes your toy, and you hit him.
- You see some garbage on the ground, and you pick it up and put it in the trash.
- You are kind to someone who is feeling sad.

- **Where did Lucifer's choices take Him?** (Children will move away from “God” sign to show their answer.)
- **What can you do so that your choices help you to grow closer and closer to your Friend Jesus?**

Teaching Point: Our choices can either grow good things or ugly things in our hearts.

Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He lets me choose.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON and NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Share the **Nature Lesson**: “Seeds: Little Things Grow.”

Hold up **Nature Card 4: Bamboo Plant** and share the following facts:

- Bamboo is not a tree, but a type of strong grass. Bamboo is hollow inside the stem.
- It is one of the fastest-growing plants in the world.

The fast-growing bamboo plant reminds us of how something small can grow very big in a short time. Good choices grow good things. Give each child **Nature Card 4** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Craft Activity: Sunflower. Make a sunflower with seeds and craft paper to remind the children that when we choose God, He grows good things in our hearts.

REVIEW: Today we have learned that God loves us so much that He always lets us choose.

Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He lets me choose.**

God hopes we will be content and make good choices. Invite the children to ask God to help them choose Him this week so that He can help good things grow in their hearts.

 • **What good things does God want to grow in you?** (Love, kindness, honesty, obedience, to be content, to be a good friend, etc.) God loves to see these things growing in you!

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** With help from an adult, write next week's memory verse (**Romans 6:23**) on a piece of paper. Wrap it up in wrapping paper, or tie a ribbon around it, as you would a present. Give it to someone to remind them of God's gift of love and His forgiveness.

 **SING:** Say together, “Thank You, God, for letting me choose!” Then sing “**Goodbye Song**.”

PRAY: Pray, thanking God that He loves us and lets us choose. Ask Him to help the children be content with what they have and to make good choices.



Tell the Story Lucifer's Sad Choice

Big Idea: God is loving. He lets me choose.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Children can use the paper angels they made in the early arrival activity. Separate extra-shiny angel as Lucifer.
- Children hold on to one long piece of **string** as an illustration of how love connected everyone in heaven.
- Sing a song with their "angels" when talking about the music of the angels.
- Paper hearts
- Use a **flashlight** to "shine" on the children's angels, and then on Lucifer.
- Gradually blow up a **balloon** throughout the story to illustrate how much Lucifer's discontentment and lies grew.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([week 4 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Long before God created our world, He created powerful, shining angels ([paper angels, shine light on angels](#)).
- Each angel had a special job: messengers, singers, covering cherubim ([paper angels](#)).
- The angels were content and happy—joined together with love ([paper hearts, ball of string-connected](#)).
- Lucifer was a beautiful, shining, leading angel. He stood next to God and was the leader of heaven's choir ([sparkling Lucifer angel, shining light, paper angels sing together](#)).
- Pride began to grow in Lucifer's heart ([blow into balloon](#)).
- Lucifer became jealous of God's Son ([blow into balloon](#)). He was not content anymore.
- Lucifer began to tell lies about God to the other angels. He caused trouble in heaven ([blow into balloon](#)).
- God loved Lucifer and tried to help him change, but Lucifer refused to listen.
- Many angels believed his lies—they thought God was unfair and unkind. These angels were willing to fight against God.
- Only love could be in heaven. God had to send Lucifer—now called Satan, "the enemy"—and the angels who believed Satan, away from heaven ([pop the blown-up balloon and lay some paper angels aside](#)).

TELL THE STORY

► Long before God created our world, He created some very special helpers: angels! ([Have children hold their angels up.](#)) God made thousands and thousands of angels. They were wonderful, with powerful wings and a bright light that made them shine wherever they went ([shine your light on the children's angels](#)).

Each angel had a special job. Some angels took messages from one side of heaven to the other ([invite some children to "fly" their angel](#)). Other angels sang joyful worship songs in heaven's choir (invite some children to use their angels to sing). Some angels, called cherubim, stood next to God, and covered Him with their wings as He sat on His beautiful throne.

Love was everywhere in heaven ([throw out paper hearts](#)). God is love, and because of God's great love for all the angels, they chose to love Him too. Everyone was content and happy. ([Roll out a ball of string and invite the children](#)



to stand up and hold on to it. Show how the string connects you all together. It is like the love that connected everyone with God and each other in heaven.)

► Lucifer was a beautiful, shining angel who sparkled with light (hold up your sparkling Lucifer angel and shine your light on it). He was the leader of all the other angels (see Ezekiel 28:14). He stood next to God and covered Him with his wings.

Lucifer was also the leader of heaven's choir. Every day his beautiful voice led the worship songs, praising God and His Son too. (Have children group all their paper angels together and sing a short song.)

All of heaven was full of peace, joy, and kindness. God loved the angels very much, and they loved Him too. ► But one day something began to change in Lucifer's heart. A little selfish thought began to grow, like a tiny seed that grows into a weed (blow a small amount of air into a balloon). Lucifer started to think all about himself: Me, me, me (blow into balloon).

Maybe he saw his reflection and admired his handsome face and sparkling robe (blow into balloon). Maybe he admired his own singing. As Lucifer thought more and more about himself, pride began to grow in his heart (blow into balloon). He forgot that it was God who had given him his special jobs, his beauty, and his singing voice (blow into balloon).

When the angels worshipped God's Son, Lucifer became jealous. He thought to himself, *Why should God's Son be more important than me?* (Blow into balloon.) He was not content anymore. From his place beside God's throne, Lucifer's jealousy grew stronger and stronger.

If only Lucifer had talked to God about his bad thoughts and feelings. ► But instead Lucifer began to talk to the other angels. He even began to tell lies about God and His law, which shows what it means to love God and others (blow into balloon). He caused trouble in heaven. Oh, no! What bad, bad choices Lucifer was making.

► God had always shown Lucifer lots of love. Lucifer had changed so much, but God stayed the same: always loving, always true. God tried to help Lucifer change, but Lucifer refused to listen. No one was going to tell him what to do anymore!

Many angels believed Lucifer's terrible lies—they thought God was unfair and unkind. These angels were willing to fight against God.

This was a big problem! Lucifer had become the opposite of love, and only love could be in heaven. ► God had to send Lucifer and the angels who believed Lucifer's lies away from heaven. (Pop the blown-up balloon and invite some of the children to place their angels aside.)

When Lucifer left heaven, his name became Satan, "the enemy." What a sad day it was!

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



Little Things Grow

Show the children a variety of seeds.

- Look at the shape and color of each one.
- Comment on how unique each one is.
- Show real fruit or vegetables (or pictures, sourced by you) to show what grows from the seeds.
- Cut an apple (or another fruit) with lots of seeds in half, and remove the seeds.

If I take these apple seeds and plant them in the ground, they will grow up to be a new apple tree. Each tree will have apples on it. If I take care of the apple tree, it will make more seeds—not just one seed, but many seeds! Then I'll have a lot of seeds that can grow many more new apple trees. (Or use a different type of fruit seed as an illustration.)

God wants us to be like seeds that grow good things. He will take care of you so you can grow all the goodness He has put inside you.

- **Were there good seeds growing in Lucifer's heart?** (No. There was jealousy, selfishness, lies, and pride.)

Our choices can either grow good things or bad things in our hearts. **We can be like seeds planted into the ground and grow good things from the choices we make.**

Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. He lets me choose.**





Sunflower

What you need:

Paper plate, large craft stick or cardboard tube, yellow and green paint or crayons, nontoxic craft glue, tape, and sunflower seeds (1).

Preparation instructions:

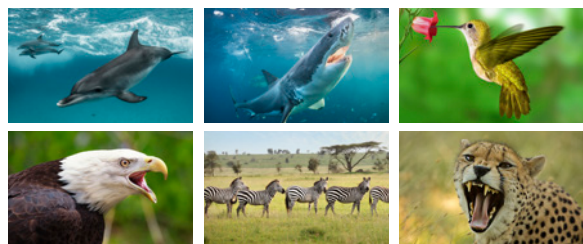
- Use yellow paint or a crayon to color paper plate (2).
- Use green paint or a crayon to color large craft stick or cardboard tube (2).
- Make cuts around the edge of the paper plate, bending them in and out to look like petals (3).
- Use nontoxic glue to stick sunflower seeds onto the paper plate (3).
- Tape craft stick to the back of the paper plate, to serve as a handle/stem (3).



Resources

God's Creatures

Print the pictures from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



Angel

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

- WEEK 1 A Brand-new World
- WEEK 2 Life in God's Garden
- WEEK 3 The Sabbath
- WEEK 4 Lucifer's Sad Choice
- WEEK 5 **Adam and Eve Choose**
- WEEK 6 Cain and Abel
- WEEK 7 Noah Builds an Ark
- WEEK 8 The Rainbow Promise
- WEEK 9 The Tall Tower
- WEEK 10 Abram, Man of Faith
- WEEK 11 Abram Lets Lot Choose
- WEEK 12 A Brave Rescue
- WEEK 13 Baby Isaac

Week 5

Adam and Eve Choose

Bible References: Genesis 2:16; 3:17

Big Idea God is loving. He took my consequences.

Memory Verse "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

References *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 52-70

Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 4. The Son
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 8. The Great Controversy
- 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 25. Second Coming

Word of the Week

Consequence: A consequence is something that happens because of a choice we make. Often good choices lead to good consequences, and bad choices lead to bad consequences.

Lesson Summary

God is love, and love gives freedom to choose. Eve and Adam had to choose whether to trust God's words and obey His voice. Sadly, they chose to doubt and disobey. Sin entered the world because of this choice. There were terrible consequences for them, and for all the world, ever since. But God had a plan to send His Son to this world and save us from those consequences.

Learning Goals

The children will:

- Know** that choices have consequences.
- Feel** thankful that God always lets us choose.
- Respond** by choosing to say "Thank You" to God for saving us.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

"God desires from all His creatures the service of love—service that springs from an appreciation of His character. He takes no pleasure in a forced obedience; and to all He grants freedom of will, that they may render Him voluntary service" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 34).

Love gives freedom, which can be very costly.

Love has always been the secret of harmony throughout God's universe. With Satan's rejection of God's perfect love, came a bitter desire to take this world on his path of destruction. Planet Earth would now be the object of his fervor and fury. Driven by hate

and revenge, Satan now harnesses his power to allure and deceive.

The unfailing constancy of God's character throughout time tells us so much about who He is, and what His love would eventually endure—for the sake of His human children. The "freedom of will" that He has given to us was very costly.

The unimaginable would happen; Jesus, Son of God, would Himself die, overcome death . . . and another choice would be offered to all.

Oh, what love!



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He took my consequences.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 5

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Make emotion faces using the Face Emotions and a mirror.
- Listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"God Is Our Loving Father"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** and pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity: "You Choose."** Share different situations and ask children what they would choose. Every choice we make has a consequence. We need to choose wisely.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He took my consequences.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Choice Scenarios** or **Domino Fall**. Show how Adam and Eve's string of wrong choices led to sad consequences. Show the **cross**.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 5: Jackfruit Tree**
- **Mission Story:** "William's Hard Lesson"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Standing Trees
- **Mission Challenge:** Show or tell a young friend the story of Creation, sin, and how Jesus died to save us.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Print the [Face Emotions](#) and cut them out individually, ready to use. (These will also be used in the story.)

Source a **Mirror**.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: make a colorful sign that has the following words on it: "You Choose."

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: two tall plants or artificial trees, real (or toy) fruit to hang on the trees, toy snake decorated with wings, sparkling angel picture or prop, flashlight, large leaves, and [Face Emotions](#).

Draw a face shape on paper.

Source a **felt set** or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: place inside the box a set of **dominos** and a picture of a **cross**.

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 5: Jackfruit Tree](#).

Source a **bandage** to use as prop for the mission story.

Craft Materials

Source [week 5 craft template](#), **cardboard tubes**, **small paper plates**, **green and brown crepe/tissue paper**, **colored pencils**, **scissors**, and **glue/stapler**.

Print [Two Standing Trees](#) pictures.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

- ☐ Music:
 - "Pack It Up"
 - "Good Morning, Jesus"
 - "God's Big Family"
 - "God Is Our Loving Father"
 - "Happy Birthday"
 - "Visitor Song"
 - "For Jesus"
 - "Let's Pray"
 - "The Greatest Treasure"
 - Scripture Song: "Romans 6:23"
 - "Goodbye Song"
- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 5: Jackfruit Tree
- ☐ Week 5 Craft Template
- ☐ Week 5 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Face Emotions
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Two Standing Trees pictures



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Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Mirror
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: "You Choose" scenarios.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: choice scenarios, dominos, picture of cross.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: two trees (tall plants in pots, artificial trees, or Christmas trees), fruits (either toy or real), a toy snake, a sparkling angel picture or prop, large leaves, flashlight.
- ☐ Bandage for mission story
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He took my consequences.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Use the following activity to get to know the children better.

PLAY: Spread out the **Face Emotions** on the floor. **Say an emotion** (happy, sad, angry, jealous, hurt) and invite children to **make a face that shows that emotion**. Use different words associated with each emotion as needed. Then ask the children to choose one of the **Face Emotion** pictures that best describes each emotion. You may also like to use a mirror to show children the emotions on their faces. (Note: the **Face Emotions** will also be used during the story.)

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “**Pack It Up.**”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and show them what “happy” and “joyful” look like. Share that your face shows them that you are so happy to see them!

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “**Good Morning, Jesus**”
- “**Happy Birthday**” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “**God’s Big Family**”
- “**Visitor Song**” and acknowledgment
- “**God Is Our Loving Father**”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “**For Jesus**” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “**Let’s Pray.**” Pray, thanking God for all the children in your class. Ask God to use the money they have given to help others to know about Him.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “**The Greatest Treasure.**”

Show the children how to find the memory verse, **Romans 6:23**. **Say it together:** “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Listen to, and sing, the **Romans 6:23 Scripture Song**.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal a sign that says: “You Choose.” Point to the words as you read them aloud.

In response to the questions below, invite the children to go to one side of the room if their answer is yes, and the other side if their answer is no.

- **Would you jump off a tall building? Why?**
- **Would you stay inside during a lightning storm? Why?**
- **Would you pray to God each day? Why?**
- **Would you push your little brother over? Why?**

SHARE: Every choice we make has a consequence—something that happens because of the choice we make. When we are tempted to choose something wrong, we can **stop, pray, think, and choose wisely**.

In today’s Bible story (hold up Bible), sad choices lead to very sad consequences. But we will learn that **God is loving. He took my consequences**. Invite the children to stand up and repeat this **Big Idea** after you.



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story “**Adam and Eve Choose**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal:

Option 1: The **Choice Scenarios** at the end of this lesson. Have children discuss and respond with their thoughts.

Option 2: A set of **dominos** and a **cross**. Stand several dominos in a row on a hard surface.

- **What were some of the sad consequences that happened because of Adam and Eve's choices?** (Light disappeared, weeds, sickness, pain, sadness, getting old, flowers drooping, leaves falling, etc.) Add a domino after each answer is given.

Push over the first domino and watch them all fall. Explain that this reminds us of how Adam and Eve's wrong choices led to sad consequences. The same can happen for us.

Show the **cross** and share how it reminds you of the **memory verse**.

- **How do you feel, knowing that Jesus died on the cross to take the consequences for your sins?** (Stand up and show each other with your words and actions.)

Teaching Point: Because of sin in our world, we sometimes make bad choices. God knew we would, and that is why Jesus came to take the consequences for our sins. He can help us to make good choices. What a good, loving God!

Repeat the **Big Idea** again together: **God is loving. He took my consequences.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 5: Jackfruit Tree** and share the following facts:

- This beautiful tree is special because it is the largest one in the world that bears fruit.
- The delicious giant tropical fruit on this tree has a strong smell but tastes sweet.
- The tree has a very thick, strong trunk, and the fruit grows close to the ground.
- These amazing trees are found in Southeast Asia.

This amazing tree can remind us of how we will be able to eat fruit from the tree of life with our loving God in heaven one day! Give each child **Nature Card 5** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the **Mission Story**: “William's Hard Lesson.”

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Craft activity: Standing Trees. Using cardboard tubes and paper plates create two different scenes to illustrate before and after sin to remind the children of the consequences of Adam and Eve's choice. Remind the children that when we are tempted to choose something wrong, we can **stop, pray, think, and choose wisely**.

 **REVIEW:** • **What did you learn in Sabbath School today?** (Wait for the children to respond.)

Point to your “**You Choose**” sign again. **Today we've learned that choices have consequences.** We've learned that:

- God lets us choose because that's what love does.
- We can choose to go only one way at a time.
- We can choose to say, “Thank You.” We can choose to say, “I want to obey You, Jesus.”

Say the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. He took my consequences. Ask Jesus to help you to choose to obey Him.**

Full Program Outline Continued



CRAFT

MISSION CHALLENGE: Show or tell a young friend the story of Creation, sin, and how Jesus died to save us.

SING: Sing “Goodbye Song.” Share that next week we will learn about Adam and Eve’s family.

PRAY: Invite the children to pray a sentence prayer each, thanking God for having a loving plan to take our consequences to save us. Thank Him for His forgiveness and love.

Tell the Story **Adam and Eve Choose**

Big Idea: God is loving. He took my consequences.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Set up two trees (tall plants in pots, artificial trees, or Christmas trees). Hang various fruits (either toy or real) on the trees. Hide a toy snake decorated with wings in one of the trees. Use a sparkling angel picture or prop.
- As the story is told, wander around the “garden” pretending to pick fruit except the forbidden one (you may like to invite the children to wander too).
- Draw an outline of a face. Use the **Face Emotions** pieces to show feelings throughout the story. Invite the children to place pieces on the face outline.
- Have large leaves to show the children what Adam and Eve had to wear.
- Use a flashlight to switch on, then off.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([Week 5 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children’s interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Life with God in the garden was good. God warned Adam and Eve about Satan, his lies, and tricks (**Face Emotions, sparkling angel**).
- God pointed out two special trees. The tree of life was a “help yourself” tree that gave eternal life. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was a “don’t touch it” tree. Adam and Eve were to stay together and away from it (**two plants in pots**).
- Eve went walking near the “don’t touch it” tree (**child wander**).
- A voice came from the tree! The serpent tempted Eve to take the fruit (**toy snake decorated with wings**). **Who do you think the serpent is?**
- Eve took the fruit and ate it. (**Have a piece of fruit in your hand and bite into it.**)
- Eve offered the fruit to Adam, and he ate it too! (**Choose a Face Emotion.**) **Did they make a good choice?**
- Their robes of light disappeared. They were naked, cold, and scared! They tried to cover up with fig leaves and hide from God (**Face Emotions, flashlight, shivering action, large leaves**).



- God sees everything. He found them and explained the consequences of pain, sadness, death.
- Adam and Eve left the garden forever. Life was hard. (Invite two children to stand up and “guard” the two trees.)
- God and Jesus had a rescue plan! Jesus would come as a baby, then die to save us. He’s coming back soon!

TELL THE STORY

► Adam and Eve loved their Garden of Eden home, and they loved their Creator God. (Invite a child to choose Face Emotions and place them on the face outline, to show how they felt.) ► One evening God told Adam and Eve about the angel Lucifer, now called Satan. (Show the sparkling angel from previous week.) He had tricked other angels in heaven with his lies about God—he would try to trick them too.

► God pointed out two special trees in the garden. A “help yourself” tree and a “don’t touch it” tree. (Draw the children’s attention to the two plants/trees in pots.) The “help yourself” tree was called the tree of life. It looked amazing. It had 12 different delicious fruits! (Place lots of toy fruits around the tree or hand them to the children.) Yum! If they ate this fruit, they would live forever. What a special tree.

The “don’t touch it” tree was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It also had yummy-looking fruit, but God said they were never to eat it—ever! They were to stay together and stay away from this tree.

One day Eve walked around the garden. (Invite a child to wander through the two trees.) Suddenly she stopped. Right in front of her was the “don’t touch it” tree. Wow! *The fruit is so beautiful*, Eve thought to herself.

► A smooth voice came from inside the tree: (Bring the toy snake with “wings” out of hiding in the tree.) “Did God really say that you must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden?” (Genesis 3:1, ICB). Eve looked closer. She saw a serpent with sparkly golden wings. What a surprise! Serpents don’t talk! But this one did.

Eve told the serpent that God had said they could eat fruit from the trees in the garden, just not the fruit from this tree. They weren’t even to touch this tree—or they would die! The serpent said to Eve, “You will not die” (Genesis 3:4, ICB). What a big lie! The serpent had called God a liar!

• **Do you think you might know who this lying serpent was?** (Satan!)

Eve made a choice. ► Reaching out her hand, “she took some of its fruit and ate it” (Genesis 3:6, ICB). (Have a piece of fruit in your hand and bite into it.) *Crunch*. Oh, no!

► Then she offered some to Adam. He also had a choice to make, and “he ate it” (Genesis 3:6).

• **Did they make a good choice?**

Instantly they felt different. They looked at each other in surprise (use Face Emotions). ► Their robes of light (flick light on, then switch it off) had faded away! Quickly Adam and Eve stitched fig leaves together to try to cover themselves up. They felt terrible! (Have some large leaves to show the children what their “clothes” would have looked like.)

Hearing God walking in the garden, they quickly hid! But God had seen everything. He called out to them in love. Then God sadly explained the consequences of their sin. There would be pain, sadness, and death.

► They would one day die and so would the plants and animals. They must also leave their garden home forever. God placed angels with flashing, fiery swords at the entrance. (Invite two children to stand up and “guard” the two trees.) He had to make sure people could no longer eat from the tree of life; otherwise, they would live forever in sadness and pain. Everything was different! Weeds and prickles began to grow among the grass and vegetables. The flowers drooped; the leaves fell. Adam and Eve would get sick, feel pain, and grow old. That is a lot of sad consequences. (Invite the children to select some Face Emotions again.) If only they had chosen to follow God’s ways.

► As soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed, God the Father and Jesus had a plan. Jesus would come to earth to take the consequences for all people’s sins. This is the best news ever! (Face Emotions.) Jesus loved sinful people so much that He came into the world as a little baby (use actions by cradling your arms and rocking). He grew up and then died to save us. One day He’ll come back to this world to take those who love Him to be with Him forever in heaven.

Mission Story



Focus: Disobedience has consequences.

William's Hard Lesson

Location: Help a child locate **New Guinea** on your **globe** or world **map**.

"Come on, William," his friends called. "We're going to the forest to play!"

William liked playing with his friends, but his mother had warned him, "Don't play in the forest. It's dangerous, and you could get hurt."

But playing hide-and-seek in the forest was so much more fun; there were so many good places to hide. William jumped up and ran toward his friends. He'd go this once. Mom wouldn't know.

William crouched low as one of the boys searched near his hiding place. When the boy had passed by, William darted toward the tree that was home base. He didn't see the vine that curled across his path. It tangled around his leg and tossed him into the air. He landed in a deep ditch. He tried to stand up and reach the vine to pull himself up, but he couldn't reach it.

"Help!" he cried. "Help!" Some of his friends heard William call and ran to find him. They pushed the vine down so William could grab it, then they pulled him out of the ditch. He tried to stand, but his bare foot hurt. Two of his friends helped him walk home.

William was glad his mom was asleep when he arrived home. He didn't want to tell her he'd gotten hurt disobeying her. He washed his foot and looked at a cut on the bottom. It hurt to walk on it, but maybe no one would notice.

But moms notice things, and William's mom noticed he was limping. "What happened to your foot?" she asked.

"I got a cut while I was playing," William said. *At least that much is true*, he thought.

"Where were you playing?" she asked, as she took a close look at William's foot. "In the field," he lied.

William's mom found out the truth, and William was punished twice—once for disobeying and playing in the forest, and once for lying.

"I learned that it doesn't pay to lie," William said. "And it doesn't pay to disobey, either. Mom reminded me that parents don't make rules just to keep us from having fun. They want to keep us safe."

Ask: **What choice should William have made?**

Teaching Point: When we do not obey, it can have consequences that cause pain and make us sad. Our big loving God can help us to make good choices.





Standing Trees (Before Sin/After Sin)

What you need:

Week 5 craft template, cardboard tube, two small paper plates, green and brown crepe/tissue paper, colored pencils, scissors, and glue/stapler (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Cut out the pictures from the week 5 craft template.
- Cut pieces of green and brown crepe/tissue paper.

Create it together:

- Color and glue pictures onto the back of each paper plate for “before sin” and “after sin” (2).
- Scrunch the green and brown paper and glue around the edge of each plate (3).
- Secure the two plates together with glue or staples (4).
- Make a small cut on either side of the cardboard tube.
- Slide the secured plates in to create the tree (5).





Choice Scenarios

Read the following scenarios and have children identify whether it was a good choice or a bad choice (happy choice or a sad choice):

1. Dad told Alfredo to clean up his toys, but he's having fun. He doesn't want to stop playing, but his room is so messy, he doesn't feel like cleaning it all up. **Alfredo keeps playing.**
2. Mom put a delicious, icy chocolate drink in a big glass jug in the fridge. Alfredo knows it's for supper, but it looks so delicious, he wants some now. **Alfredo walks away from the fridge.**
3. Alfredo is playing with his little brother, Arnie. He has a toy Alfredo wants to play with. **No one is looking, so Alfredo just takes it.**
4. Alfredo is throwing a ball in the house, and he breaks his mom's favorite vase. Mom hears the crash and comes running to see what happened. Oh, no! He knows he'll get into trouble if Mom finds out he's been playing with a ball inside. **Alfredo tells his mom he was playing with the ball.** He asks for forgiveness. He has to go without his ball for a week.
5. It seems like Mom has been asking Alfredo to do jobs all day long. He's tired. He's grumpy. He wants to say, "No. I don't want to," and walk away and play. **Alfredo grumbles and starts to complain. He kicks dirt all over the back patio.**

Finally, you may want to have children imagine they are Adam and Eve.

- **How would you not give in to temptation and not take a fruit from the tree (or a cookie or treat from a container at home)?** (For example: pray; remind yourself of the right thing to do; run away from the temptation; go and find an adult to help you; do something else fun to distract yourself; have a drink of water instead of eating between meals.)

Face Emotions

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

- WEEK 1 A Brand-new World
- WEEK 2 Life in God's Garden
- WEEK 3 The Sabbath
- WEEK 4 Lucifer's Sad Choice
- WEEK 5 Adam and Eve Choose
- WEEK 6 **Cain and Abel**
- WEEK 7 Noah Builds an Ark
- WEEK 8 The Rainbow Promise
- WEEK 9 The Tall Tower
- WEEK 10 Abram, Man of Faith
- WEEK 11 Abram Lets Lot Choose
- WEEK 12 A Brave Rescue
- WEEK 13 Baby Isaac

Week 6

Cain and Abel

Bible Reference: Genesis 4:1-15

Big Idea God is loving. I will want to obey Him.

Memory Verse "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word" (John 14:23).

References *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 71-79

Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 4. The Son
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 8. The Great Controversy
- 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 19. The Law of God
- 22. Christian Behavior
- 23. Marriage and Family

Word of the Week **ObeY:** To obey means to follow a command. To obey God is to always follow God's way, not my way.

Lesson Summary

God taught Adam and Eve to bring offerings that would remind them and their family of His promise and His plan to save. It showed His great love for them. God was pleased when they showed their love for Him by following His instructions. Cain chose to disobey God and offer his own sacrifice. Cain's angry emotions turned into angry actions, and Cain killed Abel. The results of going his selfish way, instead of God's way of love, were devastating.

Learning Goals

The children will:

- Know** that obeying God means following His way, not my way.
- Feel** and understand that obeying comes from love.
- Respond** by choosing to obey with a happy heart.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

It's good to take a quiet moment to reflect on the responsibility you have of connecting your little ones with the Father. Showing them who He is is one of the greatest callings in our lives.

This week's lesson holds a lot of big ideas. It deals with weighty matters that affect us all: choice, consequences, obedience (to God and parents), the sobering lamb symbolism, Jesus' promised sacrifice, the damage anger can cause, self-regulation, and dealing with negative emotions. There is indeed much to consider. These concepts will be dealt with in as sensitive a manner as possible. We pray that you undertake this lesson with sensitivity, gentleness, and love.

"Let the instruction you give your children be simple, and be sure that it is clearly understood. The lessons that you learn from the word you are to present to their young minds so plainly that they cannot fail to understand. By simple lessons drawn from the word of God and their own experience, you may teach them how to conform their lives to the highest standard. Even in childhood . . . they may learn to live thoughtful, earnest lives that will yield a rich harvest of good" (Ellen G. White, *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 109).

May He help you with this task.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10).



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will want to obey Him.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 6

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Make play-dough faces.
- Play “**It’s About Love**” in the background, and “**Pack It Up**” as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - “**Good Morning, Jesus**”
 - “**God’s Big Family**”
 - “**God Is Our Loving Father**”
 - “**Happy Birthday**” for any child with a birthday this past week
 - “**Visitor Song**” and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing “**For Jesus.**” Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- “**Let’s Pray**” song, and prayer
- Sing “**The Greatest Treasure**” or another song about the Bible. Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word” (John 14:23).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Option 1: **Children’s Faces** or Option 2: Draw emotions on a piece of paper.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. I will want to obey Him.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Act out scenarios of a parent asking a child to obey.** Use a child’s hat and adult shirt. Explain that God always lets people make their own choices, because that’s what love does.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 6: A Lion’s Pride**
- **Nature Lesson:** “Lions”

CRAFT

- **Craft:** card to give to someone
- **Review:** What do today’s objects remind you of what has been learned?
- **Mission Challenge:** Choose a helpful job to do every day for a week to practice doing something faithfully (e.g., water the plants, make your bed, set the table). You may like to mark a calendar square every day you do this.
- Sing “**Goodbye Song.**”
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Source a small ball of **play-dough** for each child to use to create a face.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: print a set of **Children's Faces**.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: yellow, red, and orange scrunched cellophane or colored fabric to represent fire, baby doll, altar (use a cardboard box with drawn lines), toy lamb, real or toy fruit and vegetables, Children's Faces, and peg people (optional).

Note: Consider purchasing a set of inexpensive plastic tablecloths in different colors. These will be used often as **Storytelling Props** in future lessons.

Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: child's hat and adult's shirt.

Nature/Mission

Print **Nature Card 6: Lions** for each child.

Craft Materials

Source **letter-size (A4) cardstock**, **watercolor paints or markers**, **paper towel or napkin squares**, **paintbrushes**.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "God's Big Family"
- "God Is Our Loving Father"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "John 14:23"
- "Goodbye Song"



- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 6: Lions
- ☐ Week 6 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Children's Faces for Secret Surprise Box
- ☐ Special Story Box pictures

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Play-dough
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: Children's Faces
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: child's headpiece and adult shirt.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: yellow, red, and orange scrunched cellophane or colored fabric, baby doll, altar (use a cardboard box with drawn lines), toy lamb, real or toy fruit and vegetables, Children's Faces, peg people (optional).
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will want to obey Him.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name and take time to talk with them individually as they arrive. Talk about what brought them happiness this week.

DO: Invite the children to create a **play-dough face** that shows how they are feeling today without telling you the emotion. Invite the children to guess each other's feelings. Encourage and acknowledge all their feelings and share that the people in our story today felt lots of different feelings. Listen to **"It's About Love"** in the background.

SING: Sing **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
- **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
- **"God's Big Family"**
- **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment
- **"God Is Our Loving Father"**

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing **"For Jesus"** and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing **"Let's Pray."** Read **Zephaniah 3:17**, "The Lord will be happy with you. . . . He will sing and be joyful about you" (ICB). Invite the children to kneel as you pray and thank God for being with you and loving you always. Pray that God will use the offering to help others choose Him.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."**

• What can we do to show God how much we love Him?

Explain that this week's memory verse from the Bible gives us an answer to this question. Show the children how to find the memory verse, **John 14:23**. **Say it together:** "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word."

Listen to, and sing, the **John 14:23 Scripture Song**. Explain that God invites us to listen to His words in the Bible because He knows that we'll be so much happier when we do.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the Secret Surprise Box and show the pictures of Children's Faces. Place the faces in a line and ask:

DISCUSS: • **Which face do you think shows happiness? disappointment? surprise? confusion? anger?** (You may like to invite different children to stand by a photo to answer each question while the remaining children make the expression.)

• Which faces show how our loving God makes us feel on the inside?

The way we feel inside will often show on our faces and in our actions.

SHARE: Adam and Eve's family had **inside feelings** that showed on their **outside faces**. Those feelings made them make good choices and bad choices. Sometimes they obeyed God, and sometimes they didn't.

Share the **Big Idea**. Today, we are learning that **God is loving. I will want to obey Him.**



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**Cain and Abel**" in an interactive way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a **child's hat** and an **adult's shirt**.

Invite a child to pretend to be a grown-up (put on an adult shirt), while you pretend to be a child (wear child's hat). Have the "grown-up" (child) ask you to make your bed. Respond in the following ways: obey mostly, obey happily, grumble while you obey, disobey. After each response, invite the other children to give you a "thumbs up" for obedience or a "thumbs down" for disobedience. Act out other scenarios, such as: take out the trash, help with the dishes, collect the vegetables from the garden, be kind to your sister.

Explain how it's only when we have love in our hearts that we will want to obey His rules of love with a happy, willing heart.

Teaching Point: God will always let people make their own choices—because that is what love does. God is happy to see people choose His way and obey Him.

Ask the children to stand and repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. I will want to obey Him.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON and NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Share the Nature Lesson: "**A Lion's Pride**." Give each of the children **Nature Card 6** for them to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

 **CRAFT: Craft Activity: Card.** Make a card to give to somebody. Ask the children to share the message of their card with their family and to give it to someone who might need this message.

(Messages could include one of the following: When I love God, I will want to obey Him. Jesus can help me with my feelings, so I don't hurt others. God's way is my way.)

 **REVIEW:** Show the children the following objects from today's lesson: **children's faces, altar and cross picture, male lion**. Then ask:

• **What big, important lesson from today's story does each object remind you of?**

After each lesson is shared, invite everyone to **clap** in celebration of what God has taught you.

- **Children's Faces:** We've learned that our outside faces show our inside feelings. Let's choose to ask Jesus to help us control unhappy or angry feelings so we don't hurt other people.
- **Fruit/vegetables and a toy lamb:** We can say, "God's way is my way."
- **Picture of male lion:** When we choose peace, we choose love. This is God's way.

Ask the children to repeat the **Big Idea** with you: Today we've learned that **God is loving. I will want to obey Him.**

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Choose a helpful job to do every day for a week to practice doing something faithfully (e.g., water the plants, make your bed, set the table). You may like to mark a calendar square every day you do this.

SING: Sing "**Goodbye Song**." Share that next week we will learn about Noah building a big boat.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for helping us to obey with love in our hearts. Ask God to help us to ask for His help to be strong and learn from our mistakes when we disobey.



Tell the Story Cain and Abel

Big Idea: God is loving. I will want to obey Him.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Rock a baby doll when introducing Cain, Abel, and Seth.
- Use Cain and Abel “peg people,” if desired.
- Use the cardboard altar.
- Show the children a toy baby lamb and invite them to “pat” it.
- Gently place the toy lamb on the “altar” and use red/yellow cellophane or fabric to “swallow” it when fire from heaven burns the lamb sacrifice.
- Use real or toy fruit and vegetables. Invite children to place them on the “altar.”
- Use the **Children’s Faces** throughout the story. Invite children to point to an emotion that a character is feeling. Look for the “point-to-expression” prompt to know when to use this prop.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 6 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children’s interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Adam and Eve were so happy—they had baby Cain, then baby Abel (**point to facial expressions, baby doll**).
- God loved them! He would take away their sins and save them. As a promise and reminder of what Jesus would one day do, they were to bring a lamb sacrifice to the altar—God would forgive and burn it up (**lamb, pretend fire**).
- Adam and Eve obeyed God because they loved Him (**point to expression**).
- Cain grew up to be a good farmer. But Cain didn’t listen to others or obey—he thought his way was best (**peg people, fruit and vegetable, point to expression**).
- Abel grew up to be a good shepherd. He chose to obey God and his parents—it made him happy (**peg people, lamb, point to expression**).
- Abel obeyed God and brought a lamb to the altar. Cain brought fruit—he didn’t obey!
- God’s fire burned up Abel’s lamb, but it didn’t burn up Cain’s food (**pretend fire on altar**).
- Cain got very angry with Abel. He hurt him, and Abel died (**point to expressions**).
- God asked Cain where Abel was. Cain lied. God told Cain he would have to live far, far away.
- Adam and Eve were so sad to lose Abel and Cain. God gave them baby Seth, who loved and obeyed God (**point to expressions**).

TELL THE STORY

► Adam and Eve were so happy (**point to expression**). God had given them a sweet little baby (**rock doll**). They named him Cain. He grew and grew, until he was a little boy who could run and jump. One exciting day Cain became a big brother to a tiny baby boy named Abel! (**Point to expression.**)

God loved Adam and Eve and their boys (**point to expression**). Sin had caused sadness, pain, and death. But God had a plan to save them! (**Point to expression.**)

► God asked Adam and Eve to build an altar (**cardboard box “altar”**). They were to place a perfect lamb (**toy lamb**)



on top and tell God they were sorry for their sins. God would forgive them and send down fire to burn the sacrifice (cover the lamb with cellophane or fabric “fire”).

Adam and Eve obeyed God because they loved Him (point to expression). They came with Cain and Abel to the family altar, bringing a lamb. This special offering reminded them of God's promise. God's Son would be just like that lamb—perfect and pure (invite children to pat the lamb). Jesus would come and die on the cross so that sins could be forgiven.

► Cain and Abel grew up to be big, strong men, who did their jobs well. Cain was a very good farmer. He grew yummy fruits and vegetables for the whole family (display fruit and vegetables). But Cain chose not to listen to anyone else because he thought his way was best (point to expression).

Abel grew up to be a good, kind shepherd (pat the toy lamb). He chose to obey God and his parents. Following God's rules made him so happy (point to expression).

► One morning Abel took a lamb to the altar, just as God had asked him to do (place the lamb on the box). He knew that God is loving, so Abel wanted to obey Him and have his sins forgiven. God sent down a blazing fire from heaven to show Abel that He had forgiven him (cover the lamb with pretend “fire”). Abel was so thankful (point to expression).

Then it was Cain's turn. But he didn't put a lamb on the altar; he put fruit instead. Fruit? That wasn't what God had asked for! Fruit showed only what Cain could grow. (Invite children to place the fruits or vegetables on the box.) It was nothing like the lamb offering that showed what God's Son would do one day.

► Cain waited and waited for the fire from heaven . . . but there was nothing. Cain noticed Abel's altar burning brightly, and he “became very angry” (Genesis 4:5, ICB). (Point to expression.) With kind words Abel reminded Cain to choose a lamb sacrifice that would please God, but Cain wouldn't listen. Instead, he just got angrier at Abel.

Cain let his hate grow bigger and bigger. Then his anger exploded (point to expression). He hurt Abel so badly that Abel died (point to expression).

God saw what had happened. “Where is your brother Abel?” God asked Cain.

“I don't know,” Cain lied (Genesis 4:9, ICB). God told Cain that he would have to leave his home and live far away in a land called Nod.

Adam and Eve were so sad. Their loving Abel was gone, and Cain had to go far away (point to expression). Cain's bad choices had hurt everyone. God was close to Adam and Eve when they were sad. He loved them very much. ► He gave them another precious baby boy, Seth (rock doll). As Seth grew up, he loved God.

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



Focus: When we love others, we choose peace.

A Lion's Pride

- **Can you roar like a lion?**
- **How can you tell which lion is the male lion?** (Show picture of lion.)

Growing up, male lion cubs have things pretty easy. They are much bigger and stronger than the lioness cubs, so they get what they want by pushing their sisters around. They are especially bossy at mealtimes, making sure that they eat first. When they reach the age of 2, they begin picking fights and become so mean that the lionesses often stay away from their food and sometimes stop eating altogether, even though they were the ones who caught the dinner.

Young male lions often fight their brothers too, and usually their fights end with one of the brothers being killed, because they have very strong paws. A single hit by a male lion would be like being hit with a big hammer. Sometimes these fighting male lions become too dangerous to stay in the family group, and they are chased away.

The choices of young male lions can cause them to lose their family and to be left alone in a world filled with danger. They will have to keep fighting just to stay alive.

- **How was Cain like a young male lion?** (His anger made him make bad choices and want to fight.)

Teaching Point: Sometimes we can choose to be pushy and selfish. When we choose to be like this, others can be hurt by our words and actions, and they may not want to play with us anymore. We can feel alone because of our choices. It's not nice to be around a person who wants to be selfish and fight; that's why God wants us to choose peace. Peaceful people choose love. They care for others and are good friends.

Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. I will want to obey Him.**





Card

What you need:

Lettersize (A4) cardstock, watercolor paints or markers, paper towel or napkin squares, and paintbrush (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Fold the cardstock sheet in half to make a card.
- Cut out a shape of choice (e.g., heart, flower, circle) from the paper towel or napkin.
- Have a small instruction note for parents on what the card is for, so they can talk to their child about who they might like to give it to.

Create it together:

- Glue the paper towel shape onto the front of the card (2).
- Use a brush to dot different colored paints onto the paper towel shape (3).
- While the children are painting, talk about things that can help to keep us calm, pointing to Jesus as our helper.
- Alternatively, if you do not want to use paints, use colored markers, and other decorative craft items.



Resources

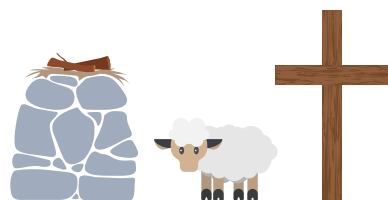
Secret Surprise Box Faces

Print the pictures from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



Special Story Box

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 7

Noah Builds an Ark

Bible Reference: Genesis 5:18-6:22

Big Idea God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.

Memory Verse "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things" (Matthew 25:21).

References *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 80-116

Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 8. The Great Controversy
- 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 11. Growing in Christ
- 25. The Second Coming

Word of the Week

Faithful: When you are faithful, you are a promise keeper. You can be trusted to do what you say you will do. God is faithful. He always keeps His promises.

Lesson Summary

Adam and Eve's family grew. Sadly, more people chose Satan's way than God's way. Sin and its terrible consequences spread. Things became so bad that God asked His faithful servant Noah to build a boat in an effort to save those who wanted to follow His loving ways. God sent a flood to make things new again and to offer hope and salvation.

Learning Goals

The children will:

Know that being faithful to God shows our love for Him.

Feel the strength that God gives to help us be faithful to Him.

Respond by choosing to be faithful to God.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Have you ever experienced a challenging moment when you needed to be faithful and stand strong against all odds? Such times need us to lean into our connection with God—relying on Him to make us strong, unmovable, and steadfast. “But the Lord is faithful, who shall establish you and guard you from the evil one” (2 Thessalonians 3:3).

Noah had such a moment. He could easily have questioned God’s unusual instructions to build an ark when no one had even heard of a flood. Yet he didn’t. He had cultivated a strong and respectful friendship with God. So in challenging moments he naturally and faithfully followed God’s instructions. The ark was meticulously built to every important detail. In the process Noah modeled his unwavering devotion to the God he loved and served.

“But Noah stood like a rock amid the tempest. Surrounded by popular contempt and ridicule, he distinguished himself by his holy integrity and unwavering faithfulness” (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 96).

What an inspiring example this is for us today. We can also have a connection with God that helps us to grow steadfast in His ways, live out His priorities, obey His words of love, and boldly share His loving promises with others around us. We can stand as Noah did and live faithfully in a friendship with our God, who is always faithful.



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 7

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Build with wooden blocks or decorate a large cardboard box boat.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"A Big Hello"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure"** or another song about the Bible. Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things" (Matthew 25:21).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Story:** Tell the story of **Greyfriars Bobby**, to illustrate what it means to be faithful.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Review:** Ways Noah showed he was faithful
- **Activity:** Objects that remind us to be faithful

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 7: Golden Retriever Dog**
- **Mission Story:** "Sharing God's Words"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Talking Noah
- **Review:** Review today's learning—God is faithful!
- **Mission Challenge:** Sing your **Scripture Song** to your family every day this week.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Option 1: Provide a large **cardboard box** and turn it into a boat. Provide **crayons** and **markers** to decorate it.

Option 2: Provide **blocks** for boat building.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: a picture of "Greyfriars Bobby" or a toy dog.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: sandbox to place wooden peg people into, peg people (including peg "Noah"), wooden blocks, flashlight, toy carpentry tools (such as hammer, saw, screwdriver), toy boat.

Draw sad and happy faces on "peg people."

Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: find the following objects and place inside the box—a Bible, money purse, photo of a mom and dad, and a picture of praying hands.

Nature/Mission

Print for each child **Nature Card 7: Golden Retriever Dog**.

Craft Materials

Source **cardboard tubes**, **colored fabric**, **rubber bands**, **ribbon or string**, **scissors**, **red paper**, **craft glue**, **google eyes**, **craft sticks**, and **cotton balls**.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "A Big Hello"
- "God's Big Family"
- "Missionary, Missionary"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Matthew 25:21"
- "Goodbye Song"



qr.aij.info_KA1t

- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Nature Card 7: Golden Retriever Dog
- ☐ Week 7 Program PowerPoint

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Building blocks or cardboard box and crayons or markers
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: a picture of "Greyfriars Bobby" or a toy dog.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: Bible, money purse, photo of a mom and dad, and a picture of praying hands.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: sandbox, peg people (including peg "Noah"), wooden blocks, flashlight, toy carpentry tools (such as hammer, saw, screwdriver), toy boat.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child as they arrive. Talk with them about what they like to build, make, or do in their spare time.

PLAY: Option 1: Invite children to decorate a large cardboard box “boat” together.

Option 2: Invite children to use blocks to build a boat.

As they do this, encourage discussion about the process. For example: Do you like building/making things? What do you like about it? Share that in today’s story you will learn about someone who built something. This person did exactly what God said. Listen to “**It’s About Love**” in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “**Pack It Up.**”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them on this special day.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props: “**A Big Hello,**” “**God’s Big Family,**” “**Missionary, Missionary,**” “**Happy Birthday,**” and “**Visitor Song.**”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “**For Jesus**” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “**Let’s Pray.**” Invite a child to pray. Then pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed, and ask Him to help the children understand the special stories you will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “**The Greatest Treasure.**”

- **What do you think it means to be faithful?** (Allow time for children to respond.)
- **What does Jesus say about those who are faithful?**

The Bible tells us the answer. Show the children how to find the memory verse, **Matthew 25:21**. **Say it together:** “Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.”

Listen to, and sing, the **Matthew 25:21 Scripture Song**. Share that Jesus loves to see our faithful choices. He will say these beautiful words to us when we get to heaven.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Ring your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal a picture of Greyfriars Bobby. Briefly share the story of this faithful little dog.

When you are faithful, you do what you say you will do. People who are faithful can be trusted. They don’t give up, just as Greyfriars Bobby did not give up waiting for his master.

SHARE: Today’s story is about our faithful God and some of His faithful friends who did what He asked them to do. Point to the boat(s) made by the children who arrived early and ask:

- **Can you guess the name of one of them?** (Yes, Noah! He and his family were faithful.)

Invite the children to stand and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.**



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story “**Noah Builds a Boat**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

REVIEW: In today's story, Noah was faithful to God in lots of ways.

- **How did Noah show that He was faithful to God?** (He was God's friend, listened to God, obeyed, built the ark exactly as God had said, told the people about God, invited them to come into the ark, etc.)

Note: You may like to have the children stand up and take one step toward you for every answer given to see if they can get to you!

  **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a Bible, money purse, photo of a mom and dad, and a picture of praying hands. Lay out the items and invite the children to respond to the following question:

- **How can these objects remind us to be faithful to God, as Noah was?** (Allow them to share their thoughts.)

Prompt the children to make the connections before sharing:

- **Bible** (spend time with God)
- **Praying hands** (praying to God, asking Him to help us be faithful)
- **Money purse** (sharing with those in need)
- **Photo of a mom and dad** (loving our parents)

Teaching Point: With God's loving help, you can be faithful in these things. Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 7: Golden Retriever Dog** and share the following facts:

- Golden retriever dogs are very loyal to their owners and are always happy to be with them.
- They are wonderfully gentle, very kind, and extremely intelligent.
- They have soft, furry coats, big smiles, and are very friendly.
- They like to obey their owner's instructions.

As the golden retriever is faithful to its owner, we can also choose to be faithful to God every day.

Give each child **Nature Card 7** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the mission story: “Sharing God's Words.”

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

 **CRAFT: Make a “Talking Noah.”** Explain that Noah used his words to faithfully talk about God and to encourage others to choose God. He did this every day. Have the children make a “Talking Noah” with a movable mouth. Encourage them to pretend they are Noah and talk to others about God, and affirm them.

- **What words do you think Noah used?**
- **What words would you like to say to others from your heart?** When we do this, we are growing in faithfulness.

Full Program Outline Continued



CRAFT

REVIEW: Review what has been learned today.

We've learned that **God is faithful**. With His help, we can be faithful too. We can do this by listening to His words in the Bible. We can do this by sharing God with others who don't know about Him.

Invite the children to repeat the **Big Idea** with you: **God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.**

MISSION CHALLENGE: Sing your Scripture Song to your family every day this week.

SING: Sing "Goodbye Song." Share that next week we will learn about the Flood and God's rainbow promise.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for the story of Noah. Ask Him to help us to become more faithful every day.

Tell the Story **Noah Builds a Boat**

Big Idea: God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use a group of **sad and happy peg people** in a **sandbox**.
- Use **wooden blocks** as cities and for boat building, toy boat.
- Shine a **light** on peg "Enoch."
- Children use **toy tools** (such as hammer, saw, screwdriver, etc.) to help you build the "ark."
- Use a peg "Noah" for his part in the story.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 7 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Seth and his children loved God. They were His faithful followers (**happy peg people in sandbox**).
- Seth's family began mixing with Cain's family, who were selfish. They stopped following God. Sin had spread everywhere—oh, no! (**Unhappy peg people in the sandbox**.)
- Enoch was God's faithful friend. He spent lots of time with God and showed others God's love (**shine a flashlight onto "Enoch" peg person**).
- God took Enoch to heaven! (**Take "Enoch" out of the sandbox**.)
- Noah was also God's faithful friend. (**Use a peg "Noah" to tell the story**.)
- God would send a flood to clean the earth from sin. God told Noah to build an ark to save everyone!
- Noah and his sons began to build God's huge boat—with places for people and animals. (**Invite children to help make the "ark" using the toy tools and wooden blocks. Have them follow your instructions**.)



- Noah told the people to get ready for the flood, but they didn't believe him! (Peg people, sandbox.)
- Noah faithfully built the ark and preached for 120 years. But nobody believed Noah. They laughed at him (peg "Noah").
- The ark was finished! Only Noah and his family went into the ark. God would save Noah and his family, just as He had promised (toy boat, sand box)).

TELL THE STORY

► Adam and Eve's son Seth and his children loved God. They were His faithful followers. (Place the happy peg people into one side of a sandbox.) But not everyone loved and followed God's ways. Cain's family lived far away and had become very selfish. (Place the sad peg people into the sandbox on the opposite side.) They stopped following God and instead did things their own way.

But one day Seth's family began mixing with Cain's family. (Invite the children to start grouping together the peg people in the sandbox.) After a while they stopped living God's way. Sin had now spread everywhere! Oh, no!

► But there was a faithful man named Enoch, who was best friends with God. He loved to spend quiet time alone with God. (Invite children to close eyes and have a silent moment with God.) Everyone could tell he had been with God. (Shine a light onto one of the peg people.) He was so kind and loving.

For more than 300 years "Enoch walked with God" (Genesis 5:24, ICB). Then one day "Enoch was taken to heaven . . . because God had taken him away" (Hebrews 11:5, ICB). (Take "Enoch" out of the sandbox.)

► God was glad that He still had a faithful friend in the world. His name was Noah. (Use a peg "Noah" to tell the story.) Like Enoch, Noah was best friends with God, and faithful to Him.

God told Noah about His plan to rescue the world from sin and make it clean and new. "I will bring a flood of water on the earth. I will destroy all living things" (Genesis 6:17, ICB). God asked His friend Noah to make a big boat called an ark! Even though the people in the world didn't love God, God still loved them. He was faithful. He would invite everyone into the ark to be safe from the coming flood.

► Bang, bang, bang! Saw, saw, saw! (Invite children to help make the "ark" using the toy tools and wooden blocks.) Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, began to build God's huge boat. Every day, except for Sabbath, Noah and his sons faithfully chopped, measured, sawed, and hammered. It was a big job! The ark had to be just the right length, three stories high, and have one door. Inside the boat there were to be lots of little rooms to carry lots of people and lots of animals. "Noah did everything that God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22, ICB). (Tell children to hammer here or there and see if the children follow your instructions.)

► Noah, the faithful boat builder, also told the people that God was going to send a flood. Water covering all the land in the whole world? No way! The people shook their heads and laughed at Noah.

For 120 years Noah and his family faithfully built the ark. For 120 years Noah faithfully preached to the people about the coming flood and about the safe place inside the boat. The people didn't want to believe Noah.

► Finally, the ark was finished. (Place a toy or homemade boat inside the sand box.) One last time Noah begged the people to come inside the ark and be safe. But the people didn't love God. They refused to listen. Instead, they just teased Noah and joked about the flood. They had made their choice.

The door of the ark was wide open. God called Noah and His family to come inside. God would save Noah and his family, just as He had promised. And God has also promised to save us from this sad, evil world. Soon Jesus will come back to take His faithful followers to heaven with Him. We can trust His promise!

Mission Story



Focus: Zhuen memorizes the Bible and shares with his friends.

Sharing God's Words

Location: Help a child locate **Taiwan** on your **globe** or world **map**.

Zhuen, who lives in Taiwan, happily started memorizing the Bible when he was in grade 3. Mother promised that she would tell a Bible story every time he memorized a new verse. Zhuen loves listening to stories, especially from the Bible. His whole family memorizes the same verses and recites them out loud together during family worship.

Some church leaders heard about what they were doing and invited them to recite Bible verses at an important mission meeting. Many people were amazed. They decided to also memorize Bible verses with their children for family evening worships!

One day Zhuen's father got a new job in a new city, so Zhuen and his family moved. At first Zhuen felt very sad about saying goodbye to his friends. But one day at his new school his teacher asked, "What does it mean to share?" Zhuen remembered a favorite Bible story that Mother had told him. "I know a story about a little boy who shared his lunch of five loaves and two fish, and it fed more than 5,000 people," he said.

No one in the class had ever heard the story, not even the teacher. They had never read the Bible. Zhuen was asked to share the story with the class. He was so happy to share his love for Jesus in his new school.

Then one of Zhuen's classmates had to move after his father got a new job. Zhuen saw that his friend was sad. He understood how the boy felt. He had felt the same way when he had moved. "Can I pray for you?" he asked. "God can make you feel happy again."

The boy agreed, and Zhuen shared the Lord's Prayer that he had memorized from the Bible, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (for full prayer, read Matthew 6:9-13). Zhuen loves to pray with his classmates.

Zhuen is faithful.

- **How did Zhuen show he was faithful?** (He learned Bible memory verses faithfully and shared Bible stories with others.)

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. I can be faithful to Him.**





Talking Noah

What you need:

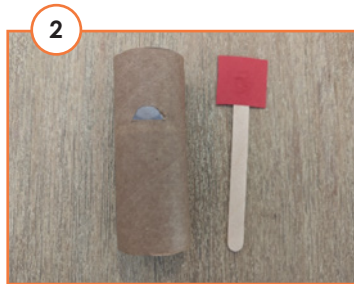
Cardboard tube, colored fabric, rubber band, ribbon or string, red paper, cotton ball, craft stick, googly eyes, craft glue, and scissors (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Cut a small “mouth” shape out of the cardboard tube (2).
- Cut some squares of fabric ready for the children to “dress” their “Noah.”

Create it together:

- Glue a small piece of red paper to a craft stick (2).
- Glue a piece of fabric around the cardboard tube (3).
- Make the headpiece by securing a piece of fabric with a rubber band (3).
- Tie a ribbon or string around the tube as a waistband (4).
- Glue on googly eyes or draw with markers (4).
- Glue on the cotton ball for the beard (4).
- Children can move the craft stick, with the red paper on it, up and down inside the tube to make it look as if “Noah” is talking!





Greyfriars Bobby

A policeman named John Gray got a little dog to keep him company on his rounds on cold winter nights in the city of Edinburgh.

John named the little dog "Bobby."

Through thick and thin, summer and winter, John and Bobby were faithful friends for years.

Then John became sick and died. He was buried in Greyfriars graveyard.

Bobby missed his master. He stayed on top of where John was buried, even when the weather was terrible.

The graveyard gardener tried to get rid of Bobby, but the little dog wouldn't leave his master's grave.

The only time Bobby left the graveyard was at 1:00 every day. He would go to the same restaurant he had gone to with his master, and the cook would give him lunch.

The people of Edinburgh grew to love Bobby and would wait at the graveyard gate at 1:00 so they could see him. They were kind to him.

Because Bobby now lived in Greyfriars graveyard, he became known as Greyfriars Bobby.

Bobby stayed on his master's grave for 14 years, until he died.

Bobby is buried near his master, John Gray.

A drinking fountain was made to remember Bobby, and there is a statue of him on top.

The restaurant across the road from the statue is called "Greyfriars Bobby," in memory of the faithful little dog.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 8

A Rainbow Promise

Bible Reference: Genesis 7

Big Idea	God is loving. He is always with me.
Memory Verse	"I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5b).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 95-103, 105, 106
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 8. The Great Controversy 10. The Experience of Salvation 11. Growing in Christ
Word of the Week	Save: To rescue or free someone, or something, from danger or hurt.
Lesson Summary	True to His word, God sent a worldwide flood to cleanse the earth from sin. His offer to save was accepted only by Noah and his family, who entered the safety of the ark. God also guided animals—in pairs and seven pairs—into the ark. God is our loving God who saves. God was with Noah and his family throughout the storm. He cares, guides, and provides. He set a rainbow in the sky to remind them of His loving promises.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that we can trust God to always be with us. Feel grateful that God is always with us in every situation. Respond by thanking God for always being with us.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Can you imagine the trauma of riding inside a rocking, tipping, tossing ark day in and day out for five months? Even though it would have been challenging for Noah and his family, it was the only place to be, the safest place to be, for God was there. This was His offered haven of safety.

Noah and his family endured with God by their side. They faced the discomfort with God by their side. God saw them through.

Then God hung a rainbow in the sky—a token of love in the new world. “What compassion for erring man, to place the beautiful, variegated rainbow in the clouds, a token of the covenant of the great God with man! . . . This symbol in the clouds was to confirm the belief of

all, and establish their confidence in God; for it was a token of divine mercy and goodness to man” (Ellen, G. White, *The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 77, 78).

Noah was saved, and his family had been spared. God’s love was so vivid, so tangible, Noah could see it in living color in the sky. His heart bubbled over with gratitude. Before doing anything else, Noah built an altar to the Lord.

As you share this incredible story with the children this week, may they know and feel that God is always with them. When we know God is with us, we can endure difficulties that come our way. When we know God is with us, gratitude and praise can be on our lips.





Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 8

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Make a rainbow stick (two options).
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"Our God is Amazing"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure"** or another song about the Bible. Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5b).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Create an "Ark Bottle" which shows a cork floating in water inside a bottle to show how God was keeping Noah and His family safe.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Mime and callback, "Yes, God was always with them!"
- Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.**

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Collector Card 8: Emperor Shrimp**
- **Nature Lesson:** "Better Together"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Rainbow Pop-up
- **Review:** Use craft to share story/Big Idea.
- **Mission Challenge:** Tell this week's Bible story (in your own words) to someone in your family using toys or blocks.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.** (Blow bubbles over the children as they leave.)



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Option 1: source colored crepe paper, paper, or ribbon, tape, and sticks.

Option 2: source rectangular pieces of paper, crayons, tape, and sticks.

Note: You may like to make extras so that all children are able to participate when rainbow sticks are used during the lesson.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: an “ark bottle” made with a clear bottle that has blue water (drop of blue food coloring, optional) and a cork floating inside it (or something else that floats).

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: “Ark bottle”; blue fabric; cardboard box “ark”; two bird puppets (one black, one white) or soft toys or pictures on craft sticks; branch; rocks/block for altar; toy animals; green fabric; and the rainbow sticks children made before Sabbath School.

Source a **felt set** or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source items for Story Explorer Box: a rainbow stick and a large piece of cardstock/poster you have created with the words “Yes, God was always with them!”

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 8: Emperor Shrimp](#).

Craft Materials

Source [week 8 craft template](#), **sheets of blue cardstock, colored markers, scissors, glue**.

Source a bubble wand and bubble mixture.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- “It’s About Love”
- “Pack It Up”
- “Good Morning, Jesus”
- “Our God is Amazing”
- “Missionary, Missionary”
- “Happy Birthday”
- “Visitor Song”
- “For Jesus”
- “Let’s Pray”
- “The Greatest Treasure”
- Scripture Song: “Hebrews 13:5b”
- “Goodbye Song”



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- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 8: Emperor Shrimp
- ☐ Week 8 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Week 8 Craft Template

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Colored crepe paper or rectangular pieces of paper, paper, or ribbon. Crayons, tape, and sticks.
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: “Ark bottle.”
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: a rainbow stick and a large piece of cardstock/poster you have created with the words, “Yes, God was always with them!”
- ☐ Storytelling Props: “Ark bottle,” blue fabric, cardboard box “ark,” two bird puppets (one black/one white) or soft toy or pictures on a craft stick, branch, toy animals, green fabric, rocks or blocks for an altar, and the rainbow sticks children made before Sabbath School.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)
- ☐ Bubble wand and mixture



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Ask them about their favorite color and why they like it.

DO: Sit together and make a rainbow stick while listening to “It’s About Love” in the background.

Option 1: Tape strips of colored paper, crepe paper, or ribbon onto a stick.

Option 2: Draw stripes of rainbow colors on a paper rectangle and tape it onto a stick.

As the children work, ask:

- **What feeling could each color remind you of?** (Yellow: happy, Green: growing, Blue: sad, Purple: brave, Red: angry.)
- **Which colors remind you of Noah in last week’s story? Why?**

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “Pack it Up.”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “Good Morning, Jesus”
- “Happy Birthday” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “Our God is Amazing”
- “Visitor Song” and acknowledgment
- “Missionary, Missionary”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “For Jesus” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “Let’s Pray.” Then pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed and ask Him to help the children understand the special story you will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “The Greatest Treasure.”

- **How do we know that God is always with us?** (The Bible tells us!)

Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Hebrews 13:5b**. **Say it together:** “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Listen to, and then sing, the **Hebrews 13:b5 Scripture Song** together.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Ring your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to find a cork floating on blue water inside a bottle. Explain that this “ark bottle” is going to be used in our story today (rock it back and forth).

DISCUSS: Hold a **rainbow stick** and share how the color **yellow** makes you feel happy because God shows in today’s story that He is always with us, even in an ark bobbing around on a tossing sea. (Wiggle your “ark bottle.”)

SHARE: Invite the children to stand up and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. He is always with me.**

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

J SHARE: Pray, asking God to help the children understand today’s story. Then share the story “**A Rainbow Promise**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.



STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

  **DO:** Ring your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a rainbow stick and a card/poster that says “Yes, God was always with them!” Practice saying this phrase enthusiastically with the children. They will say it in response to your question after they have mimed each of the activities below.

1. **“The animals are hungry!”** (Mime feeding animals.)

Teacher: “Was God with Noah and his family when they fed the animals?”

Children: “Yes, God was always with them!”

2. **“The wind’s getting stronger!”** (Wave arms side to side.)

Teacher: “Was God with them when the wind was getting stronger?”

Children: “Yes, God was always with them!”

3. **“The rain’s falling harder!”** (Slap hands on thighs.)

Teacher: “Was God with them when the rain was falling harder?”

Children: “Yes, God was always with them!”

4. **“We can leave the ark!”** (Mime excitement.)

Teacher: “Was God with them when they stepped onto dry land?”

Children: “Yes, God was always with them!”

Teaching Point: God was with Noah and his family in the ark on the stormy sea, when they came out of the ark, and when they saw His beautiful rainbow promise in the sky. God will always be with us too!

Invite the children to wave their rainbow sticks as they repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON and NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Share the **Nature Lesson:** “Better Together.” Give each child **Nature Card 8: Emperor Shrimp** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Create the **Craft Activity: Rainbow Pop-up**. Talk about God’s special promise to Noah and review the memory verse again as you do this.

 **REVIEW:** God sent a rainbow to remind Noah’s family of His promise. Noah thanked God for the colorful rainbow. The colors in the rainbow can remind us to say “Thank You” to God too.

- **As you think about our story today, what would you like to thank God for?** (Always being with us, helping us to wait patiently, for always keeping His promises.)
- Encourage the children to either **give their craft away** or use it to tell someone new the story of Noah.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.**

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Tell this week’s Bible story (in your own words) to someone in your family using toys or blocks.

SING: Sing “**Goodbye Song**.” Share that next week we will be learning about some proud people who built a tall tower.

 **PRAY:** Invite a child to pray from their heart in response to what has been learned this week. As the children leave, **blow colorful bubbles over them** as a reminder to trust God’s promises.



Tell the Story **A Rainbow Promise**

Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use a **cardboard box "ark"** with a flap door that you have precut, ready for **toy animals** to go inside.
- Children make **animal sounds** as they "walk" toy animals onto the "ark."
- Use **puppets, toy birds, or birds on craft sticks** (one black, one white) for the raven and dove.
- Have a **branch** for the white bird to bring back to Noah.
- Children hold the edges of **blue fabric** and create a "stormy sea" with the "ark bottle" in the center.
- Place **green fabric** down as land appears.
- Children use **flat rocks or blocks** to make an altar with you.
- Children wave their **rainbow sticks**.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 8 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **felt set**, if available, and expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- God told Noah, "Come into the ark." People made fun of Noah and his family.
- The animals marched into the ark—in pairs of twos and seven pairs of the same kind (males and females). (**Toy animals, into box ark.**)
- God shut the door of the ark (**use your arms to close the door**).
- After seven days the rains poured down and water came up through the earth. Noah and his family were safe in the ark—God was with them. (**Clap hands for rain, blue fabric for stormy sea, "ark bottle" in the center.**)
- After 40 days the rain stopped. Water covered the whole earth! Noah, his family, and the animals were safe (**blue fabric is still**).
- God sent a wind to blow the water away. The ark landed on a mountain.
- Was it time to leave? Noah sent a raven, and later a dove, into the sky. Would they find a new home? No, they both came back to the ark (**toy birds, ark**).
- After a week Noah sent out the dove again. It came back with a leaf branch. The waters were going down! (**White bird, ark, small branch**).
- God opened the big ark door. Noah and his family went outside and made a thank-You altar to God. (**Green fabric, "walk" all the animals out of the ark, stones/blocks to make an altar.**)
- God made a rainbow—a promise and reminder that He would never flood the whole earth again. (**Children wave rainbow sticks.**)

TELL THE STORY

- God said to His friend Noah, "You and your family go into the boat" (Genesis 7:1, ICB). It was time! The ark was well-made and ready to float. God was ready to wash the world clean from evil. Sadly, the people didn't believe God would send a flood. They made fun of Noah.
- Suddenly something stopped the noisy crowd. What was happening? A big parade of animals was coming! (**Give children animals to bring into the toy "ark."**) Some animals came in two of the same kind; and some, in seven pairs of



the same kind, both males and females. They waddled, walked, crept, slithered, glided, and hopped their way toward the ark. Invisible angels led them in perfect order! What noises did they make? (Children to make animal noises.)

► The people watched all the animals enter the ark, but they refused to come in. God gave them a choice, but He always lets people choose.

► After seven days God sent the rain, just as He had promised Noah. Lightning flashed and thunder crashed! Rain poured down from the sky. (Children clap hands to make the sound of heavy rain.) Water gushed up through big cracks in the earth. The floodwaters rose higher and higher.

► The ark tossed in the rough water and wild winds. (Invite children to hold the edges of blue fabric. Place the “ark bottle” in the center. Gently toss the fabric up and down together to create a stormy sea.) But Noah and his family were safe inside. God was with them.

For 40 long days it rained and rained. ► Then the wind died down, and the rain stopped. All was quiet and still. (Stop moving the blue fabric and place it down on the floor.) Outside the ark, water covered everything! Noah and his family were safe inside the floating zoo.

After many days God sent a wind to dry up the water. Finally, the floating boat went bump! They were on dry land at last—on the top of a high mountain. But still the door stayed shut.

Was it time to leave the ark? One day, after waiting and waiting, Noah opened the window. He gently lifted a raven, and later a dove, into the sky. The birds flew off with a flutter and a flap. (Open a window in your cardboard ark. Bring out a black toy bird and then a white toy bird, flying them high above the children.) Would they find a new home? No, they both came back to the ark (fly the birds back inside the ark). There was still too much water around.

After a week Noah sent out the dove again. This time it came back with an olive leaf in its mouth. (Fly the white bird from the ark window and back again with a small branch.) The waters were going down. Their time on the boat was nearly over!

► Creak . . . creak . . . God was opening the big ark door! Finally, after a year on the ark, the washed-clean world was ready for them to live in. Noah and his family smiled excitedly as they stepped off the boat and wiggled their toes in the fresh new grass. (Lay out green fabric and have the children walk all the animals out of the ark while making their sounds.)

Noah was so happy and thankful to God! ► He collected rocks and stacked them to build a thank-You altar. (Children help you stack stones/blocks to make an altar.) He and his family said a big thank You to God for watching over them and saving them.

Suddenly a bright, colorful gift from God appeared in the sky. It was the first rainbow ever! (Children wave rainbow sticks.) God told them the rainbow was a reminder that He saves, protects, and loves His children. Rainbows would be a colorful promise that He would never flood the whole earth again. Whenever we see a rainbow, we can remember God's goodness and His promise to save us.

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



Focus: The emperor shrimp feels safe with the sea slug—they are always together.

Better Together

- **Can you name some creatures that live under the sea?**
- **Have you ever seen these two sea creatures?** (Show picture.)

There are lots of things in nature that are better together. The emperor shrimp and the nudibranch (pronounced new-di-brank), otherwise known as a sea slug, are great on their own, but even better together.

- **Which one is the emperor shrimp?**
- **Which one is the sea slug?** (Invite the children to point to each in the picture.)
 - An emperor shrimp is very small—about the size of a paper clip.
 - Emperor shrimp live deep in the ocean and have long front legs called claws.
 - The ocean is a dangerous place, especially if you're less than an inch (two centimeters) tall.
 - The emperor shrimp wouldn't be alive at all without the sea slug to protect it. You will never see an emperor shrimp all by itself.
 - They are almost always riding on the back of a sea slug—the most brightly-colored, slowest-moving creature in the sea.
 - The bright colors warn other creatures that the sea slug can hurt them with its stinging gills, so they stay away.
 - The emperor shrimp can also quickly hide underneath the sea slug or inside its stinging gills, where it is completely safe.
 - As the sea slug slowly moves and eats, it stirs up the sand, causing little pieces of food to float up to where the emperor shrimp can munch on them for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
 - The tiny emperor shrimp enjoys one of the safest and most pleasant rides in the sea—all thanks to its friend, the sea slug.
- **Why does the emperor shrimp need the sea slug? (It keeps it safe and gives it food.)**
- **How are the emperor shrimp and the sea slug like Noah and God?** (Noah was "better together" with God. God never left Noah and his family while they were safe inside the ark.)

Teaching Point: There is something else that is just better together: you and God! God knows what you need and provides such things as water and air and warm sunlight for you to enjoy every day. He also sends His angels to protect you and remind you to make good choices so that you stay away from danger. No matter how you look at it—life is just better with God in it! I'm so glad that He is always with us!

God and Me: Better together!

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always with me.**





Rainbow Pop-up

What you need:

Week 8 craft templates, sheet of blue cardstock, colored markers, scissors, and glue (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Cut out the templates.
- Fold the blue cardstock in half.

Create it together:

- Color the circle and glue onto the front (2).
- Fold the rainbow template in half (vertically) and repeat another three times (3).
- Unfold and then refold along each crease, accordion-style (4).
- Fold in half lengthwise and glue together to make a fan (5).
- Open the card and glue the ends of the rainbow fan to either side of the card (6).
- Glue the promise clouds inside the card (6).





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
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WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
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WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 9

The Tall Tower

Bible Reference: Genesis 11

Big Idea	God is loving. He is never proud.
Memory Verse	"My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands" (Proverbs 3:1).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 117-124
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 7. The Nature of Humanity 8. The Great Controversy 11. Growing in Christ 22. Christian Behavior
Word of the Week	Proud: A proud person thinks they are more special or important than others. Usually people who are very proud of themselves feel as if they don't need God or anyone else to help them.
Lesson Summary	After the Flood, God told Noah and his family to spread out all over the earth, but as time went by, people who hadn't chosen God did not. They were proud in their own ways and decided to build a tall tower to protect themselves from another potential flood. God stopped the building of the tower by confusing their language, and they all separated and spread out over the earth.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that God is never proud but always loving. Feel happy knowing that God made us all different, and He loves us all. Respond by choosing to make God's way my way.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

The story of the Tower of Babel is a sobering one. When we stare into its details, we see that pride and selfishness fueled the arrogance, defiance, and self-centeredness of Babel's people.

"The Tower of Babel represented doubt of God's Word and defiance of His will" (*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 285). "The whole undertaking was designed to exalt still further the pride of its projectors and to turn the minds of future generations away from God and lead them into idolatry" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 119).

Pride is a sin that still grips us. We often underestimate the damage it causes.

Now is the time to teach humility. Although they are egocentric by nature, now is the time to encourage and teach our little ones to be aware of humility so that they will come to say, *God's way is my way*.

Humility allows us to be taught by God's Spirit; to grow and be gradually transformed to be more like Him.

May our prayer be: *Give us all humility, Lord. And may it start with me.*



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 9

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Make towers.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"God Is Our Loving Father"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands" (Proverbs 3:1).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Pass out picture cards to each child. Call out to find others with the same picture card. Reflect on the noise and confusion—it's like the confusion in today's story.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Review:** Discuss what it means to be proud.
- **Activity and Discussion:** Build a tower with 6 "proud face" cups and discuss what proud people are like. Build a tower with "happy face" cups and discuss what people who are not proud are like.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 9: Mound-building Termites**
- **Mission Story:** "Shanker's New Life"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Paper People
- **Review:** Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and pray for the people in other countries.
- **Mission Challenge:** Wrap up a good surprise and give it to a family member. You might wrap up something you've made, found, or saved. Thank God that we can trust Him to give us good surprises.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Source **building materials** of your choice for children to construct a tall tower together.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: print a set of the **picture cards**. Alternatively, draw your own. Examples: a star, heart, tree, sun, flower, book, boat, umbrella, cat, house, moon, shoe, apple. Make two to four of each picture.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**:

- Sand tray and peg people: draw some with smiles and some with sad faces.
- Blue, brown, green, and yellow fabric or paper, and toy vegetables and fruit.
- Wooden blocks or building materials of your choice.
- A world map or a globe.
- A paper heart for each child.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: 12 or 24 paper cups. On six (or 12) cups, draw a simple face with a straight line for the mouth—these are your pride faces. On the other six (or 12), draw a simple face with a big smile for the mouth—these are your happy faces.

Source a **felt set** or the **Program PowerPoint**.

Nature/Mission

Print for each child **Nature Card 9: Mound-building Termites**.

Craft Materials

Source **paper people cutouts**, **craft glue**, **scissors**, **craft sticks**, **tape**, **fabric/colored paper**, **pictures of people from different countries** for inspiration.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "God's Big Family"
- "God Is Our Loving Father"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Proverbs 3:1"
- "Goodbye Song"



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- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 9: Mound-building Termites
- ☐ Week 9 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Picture cards
- ☐ Week 9 paper heart template

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Building materials
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: picture cards.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: sand tray; peg people: draw some with smiles and some with sad faces; blue, brown, green, and yellow fabric or paper; toy vegetables and fruit; wooden blocks or building materials of your choice; a world map or a globe, paper hearts.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: 12 or 24 paper cups.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child with a smile as they arrive.

- **What do you think makes God smile when He thinks of you?**

PLAY: Challenge the children to **build the tallest tower** they can. Encourage them to work together while building, or just use one hand for an extra challenge. Listen to **"It's About Love"** in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing **"Pack It Up."**

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again in different languages, such as: Japanese: *kon-nichiwa*; Chinese: *ni hao*; Italian: *ciao*.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
- **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
- **"God's Big Family"**
- **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment
- **"God Is Our Loving Father"**

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing **"For Jesus"** and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing **"Let's Pray"** song. If possible, invite **someone from another country** to pray in **your language**, then their **own**.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."**

Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Proverbs 3:1**. **Say it together:** "My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands."

Listen to, and sing, the **Proverbs 3:1 Scripture Song** together.

- **What do you think it might mean to "let your heart keep my commands"?** (Have God's love in our hearts and want to follow His ways.)
- **What could happen when people don't keep God's love in their hearts?**

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Ring your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal your set of picture cards. Hand a card to each child. Ensure that they keep the picture secret and that at least two to four children get the same one.

On the count of three, invite children to say out loud what their picture is and find others who call out the same word. Then ring your bell and ask the children:

- **Could you understand each other?**

DISCUSS: Talk about how noisy and confusing this activity sounded! Share that in today's story, there were noisy, confusing names being called out all at once too. This happened because people were very proud and wanted to do things their own way. They weren't humble, like God. They should have thought, *God's way is my way*.



SHARE: In today's story, the people of Babel became loud and proud too.

- **What does it mean to be proud?** (Feeling as if you are more special and important than others. That is not God's way.)

Say the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.** Have the children stand and repeat it back to you.

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**The Tall Tower**" in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Ring your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal six (or 12) "proud face" cups and six (or 12) "happy face" cups.

Show a cup with a proud face and ask:

- **Why did God confuse the languages and make the tower fall?** (The people were proud and thought only of themselves.) Review what it means to be proud. (A proud person thinks they are more special or important than others. Usually people who are very proud of themselves feel as if they don't need God or anyone else to help them).
- **What kinds of things might proud people say?** ("I'm the best." "I'm the strongest/smarest." "I should have the best.") As the children share their answers, build a tower together using the "proud face" cups.
- **Is being proud God's way?** (No.) Knock the tower down.

Show the six "happy face" cups.

- **What kinds of things might people who are not proud say?** Invite children to build another tower as they answer this question. ("You are good at this." "I'm glad you're my friend, you go first." "I will follow God." "Thank you.") God's way is never proud. His way is kind; it puts others first.

God wanted the people in our Bible story to spread around the world to tell others about His great love. Show the children your world map or globe. Find your country. Show the world map again, with the hearts the children place on it during the story. Ask:

- **Did God's plan to spread His love around the world happen?** (Yes!)

Teaching Point: God loves everyone—even those who are proud and have chosen not to follow His ways. He wants everyone in the world to have a chance to know His love.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 9: Mound-building Termite** and share the following facts:

- A tiny termite is no bigger than your fingernail.
- Inside the nest are lots and lots of little tunnels that help keep everything nice and cool.
- Termites never sleep.
- They are found in Africa, Australia, and North America.
- Together these little creatures can build a gigantic, tall nest above the ground!

Even the tiniest of creatures can build incredible things, reminding us of how loving and creative our God is. We can trust that He has great plans for us too. Give each child **Nature Card 9** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the mission story: "Shanker's New Life."

Full Program Outline Continued



CRAFT

CRAFT: Paper People From Different Countries. Reinforce how God loves ALL the people of the world. When we choose God's way as my way, we will love all people too.

  **REVIEW:** Invite the children to place their paper people on the floor (on the world map, if possible) and connect their hands in a circle to show how we are in a big circle of friendship. Sing **"Jesus Loves the Little Children"** as you look at the paper people. Then give a little time of prayer for children to pray for the people in these countries.

(Alternative lyrics: "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Stranger, friend, and neighbor too, He loves them as He loves you . . . Every color, every race, all are covered by His grace . . . Morning, evening, day, and night, they are precious in His sight . . . Jesus loves the little children of the world.")

Today we've learned that **God isn't proud. He is humble and kind.**

We've learned that **God's love is for everyone**, and it goes on forever.

Today we can **choose to say**, "God's way is my way."

Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.**

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Wrap up a good surprise and give it to a family member. You might wrap up something you've made, found, or saved. Thank God that we can trust Him to give us good surprises.

SING: Sing "Goodbye Song." Share that next week we will learn about a friend of God named Abram.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for loving everybody in the world, including the children. Ask God to help the children follow His ways and not be proud.

Tell the Story **The Tall Tower**

Big Idea: God is loving. He is never proud.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use **happy and sad peg people** in a **sand tray** as you share about those who did or didn't choose to follow God.
- Lay **vegetables and fruit** on **green fabric** to illustrate what Noah and his family planted.
- Use **blue fabric** for the river and **brown fabric** for the flat plains.
- Use **blocks** or **other building materials** to build the tower.
- Use a piece of **yellow fabric** as "lightning" to strike the tower down.
- Lay a **world map** on the floor/use a **globe**.
- Invite children to place **paper hearts** on the map.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 9 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use **felts**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.



TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- God told Noah's family to have many children and to live around the world. Ham's family turned away from God. They built a city near a river (brown and blue fabric) and decided to build a tall tower (wooden blocks on brown fabric).
- The tower grew higher and higher (children to build the tower).
- God knew pride would hurt not help them. So God confused their language.
- Lightning hit the top of the tower, and it was smashed. ("Strike" the tower with yellow fabric.)
- People soon found others who spoke the same words, and they moved all over the world (world map or globe).
- God's plan for people to fill the whole world happened (paper hearts on map).

TELL THE STORY

► Noah and his family began their new life in the freshly cleaned world. They planted new farms and grew new food (place vegetables and fruit on green fabric). God told them: "Have many children. Grow in number and fill the earth" (Genesis 9:1, ICB). Yes, that's just what they would do!

Time passed, and Noah's family grew bigger and bigger. Sadly, some chose to turn away from God and disobey His law of love. ► Ham's family learned to be unkind and mean. Their children learned to be like that too. They were proud and selfish (children place sad peg people in the sand tray). People who had chosen Satan's ways didn't like their cousins talking about God. They packed up and moved down the mountains to live on the flat land near a big river (blue fabric river with sad peg people beside it).

The people who lived on the flat land (children place sad peg people on brown fabric) slowly became more and more proud. "We are the best!" they said. "We are the strongest and the smartest!" They thought a lot of themselves. They didn't want to spread out around the whole earth, as God had told them to.

► Instead, "They said to each other, 'Let's build for ourselves a city and a tower.' " (Empty a pile of wooden blocks onto brown fabric.) " 'We will become famous. If we do this, we will not be scattered over all the earth'" (Genesis 11:4, ICB). They wanted to build a fancy city and a big, tall tower to show how important and strong they were. They wanted to be powerful like God. But God is loving and kind, unselfish and humble; they were not like God at all.

► The people were very busy, making bricks, baking bricks, and laying bricks. The tower grew higher and higher and higher (children to build the tower). They thought that if they worked very hard, they could even reach heaven.

► God knew the people would never be happy with their proud, selfish leaders. Pride would hurt them and others! So God said, "Come, let us go down and confuse their language. Then they will not be able to understand each other" (Genesis 11:7, ICB).

► Suddenly everyone in the city started speaking strange words they had never heard before. Workers shouted for more bricks, but different sounds came out! Some may have called out, "Ziegel!"; some may have called out, "Ladrillos!"; and others may have called out, "Batu bata!"

The messengers looked on, confused. People yelled louder, but it didn't help. Faces turned red and angry. Whenever anyone opened their mouth to speak, strange new words came out! Everyone was confused and frustrated!

Work on the huge tower stopped. A bright streak of lightning flashed through the sky, hitting and breaking the top of the tower. ("Strike" the tower down with yellow fabric.) It fell to the ground with a big crash. The tower was never finished! The proud tower builders had learned the hard way that people can never save themselves—only God could do that.

► People soon found others who spoke the same words, and they moved all over the world (lay out a world map or use a globe). Some went to the hills, some to the seaside, and others sailed on boats to new lands. Wherever they went, God would be there. Some would stay proud and not choose God. But God would always work on their hearts and love them. (Start to give paper hearts to children.)

God's plan for people to fill the whole world happened. Nothing can stop God's plans or His love for all people. (Children can spread hearts across the map.)

Mission Story



Focus: God changes Shanker's life because He loves him.

Shanker's New Life

Location: Help a child locate **India** on your **globe** or world **map**.

Even when Shanker was a little boy, he often made trouble. It seemed he always felt angry inside, so he argued with anyone who didn't agree with him. He even tried to hurt other people, pushing them when he got angry. Now that he was a big boy, Shanker was making more and more bad choices and being friends with other troublemakers.

His mom and dad were sad that their son was hurting himself and other people. They knew that they needed to do something to help him. They decided to send him away from their home city of Mumbai, the biggest city in India, to a Christian school in another city.

Shanker's journey to the new school took two days by train. He felt alone and a little scared. What would it be like in this new school? Also, where would he live?

His teachers were kind to him, and his classmates didn't try to fight back when he argued with them. A kind teacher helped him with his math and encouraged him to take time to read his Bible every day.

He was surprised when he was told he would go to worship every day, where he heard about Jesus for the first time. "As I learned about Jesus, my life started to change," Shanker says. "My classmates and teachers helped me know more about God, and I started to see that only Jesus could make me happy."

Now Shanker loves reading the Bible and praying. He takes part in worship and is a leader in his favorite sport. As team captain he gathers his teammates together before a game with another school to pray that God will protect them from getting hurt and help them be good examples to the other team.

Sometimes members of the other team try to make Shanker's team angry. They use unkind words, but Shanker's friends ignore those words. If they lose, they are good sports; and if they win, they praise God. Shanker says, "My life changed completely after I asked Jesus into my life. Now Jesus comes first for me."

• **What changed Shanker from being proud and angry to being kind and loving?**

Repeat the **Big Idea**: **God is loving. He is never proud.**





Paper People From Different Countries

What you need:

Paper people cutouts, craft glue, craft sticks, fabric/colored paper, tape, scissors, and pictures of children from different countries for inspiration (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Cut out people shapes in various skin tones.
- Print pictures of children from different countries or have a picture book to show.
- Cut up small pieces of fabric ready to use.

Create it together:

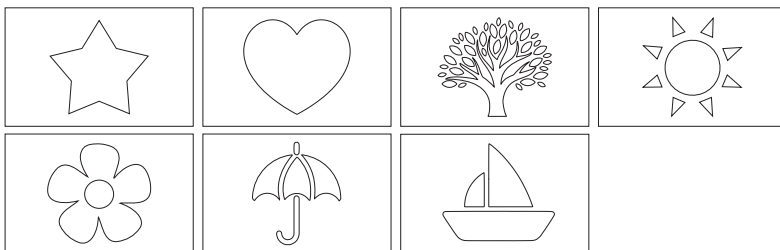
- Stick on fabrics and/or colored paper to "dress" the paper people (2).
- Attach a craft stick to the back of the people with tape (3).



Resources

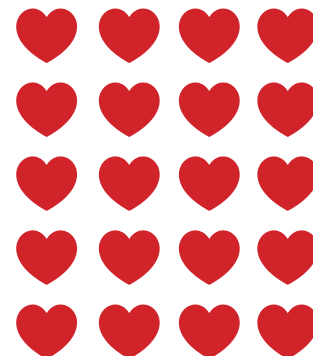
Picture Cards

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.



Paper Hearts

Print the template from the Alive in Jesus website, www.aliveinjesus.info.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

- WEEK 1 A Brand-new World
- WEEK 2 Life in God's Garden
- WEEK 3 The Sabbath
- WEEK 4 Lucifer's Sad Choice
- WEEK 5 Adam and Eve Choose
- WEEK 6 Cain and Abel
- WEEK 7 Noah Builds an Ark
- WEEK 8 The Rainbow Promise
- WEEK 9 The Tall Tower
- WEEK 10 **Abram, Man of Faith**
- WEEK 11 Abram Lets Lot Choose
- WEEK 12 A Brave Rescue
- WEEK 13 Baby Isaac

Week 10

Abram, Man of Faith

Bible Reference: Genesis 11

Big Idea	God is loving. I will follow Him.
Memory Verse	"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way" (Psalm 37:23).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 125-128
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 11. Growing in Christ 19. The Law of God
Word of the Week	Faith: When you have faith in someone, you trust that what they say is always true. Some people put their faith in things or in other people, but God is the only one we can always trust.
Lesson Summary	God led Abram, Sarai, Lot, and all their household from Ur into the land of Canaan as an act of love. God promised to make Abram the father of a great nation. As Abram started this journey of faith, his connection to God through prayer enabled God to grow his faith with every obedient step.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that following God means to have faith in Him and trust His words. Feel a desire to follow God. Respond by choosing to follow God.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Abram could have stayed in the comfortable, familiar place that was home—instead, he chose to listen and follow God's voice. He left the land of his fathers, taking with him his large family and all that he had—never to return. He didn't even know where he was going—but he went anyway. God called him and promised to lead him. Abram followed.

Is God calling you? Perhaps you've heard His call clearly and plainly, or perhaps it's still a small prompting in your heart. Whatever it might be, we know that truly there's no better place to be than within God's will. He doesn't call us without leading us and equipping us along the way.

It takes courage to step out in faith. It takes a firmness of spirit to leave the comfort of one's home and all that is familiar. To follow God in every part of our lives is a high calling indeed, and one that we'll never regret. He will direct every step.

"God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him" (Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 479).



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 10

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Follow a piece of string that leads to books, puzzles, etc.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"A Big Hello"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure"** or another song about the Bible. Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way" (Psalm 37:23).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Explain "steps being ordered." Lead a blindfolded friend. We will follow a friend we know and trust.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Use a strong magnet to move paper clips. We follow where God leads when we do what His Word asks us to.
- Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.**

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Collector Card 10: Globe Skimmer Dragonfly**
- **Nature Lesson:** "The Globe Skimmer"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Globe Skimmer Dragonfly
- **Review:** We are to share God's love as Abram did.
- **Mission Challenge:** Do some secret acts of kindness for your family at home this week. Leave a heart in the place where you did the kind act. The person who finds a heart can do something kind for someone else!
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Create a trail around the room with a long piece of **string**. At the end, place a selection of **books, puzzles, or other resources** of your choice.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: something you can use for a **blindfold**.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: world map, colored blocks, suitcase or bag, clothes, pillow, blanket, containers, green and blue fabric, toy fruit, plush animals.

Reuse cardboard box altar from week 6, or source stones to stack.

Make destination signs: "Ur," "Haran," "Shechem," "Bethel," and "Egypt." Put these up in different areas around your Sabbath School room.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: paper clips, a piece of cardstock, and a strong magnet.

Source a **felt set** or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 10: Globe Skimmer Dragonfly](#).

Make a paper fan to use in the Nature Lesson.

Craft Materials

Source **narrow leaves, paper, craft sticks, markers, craft glue, google eyes** (if available), and **pipe cleaners/chenille stems**.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

- ☐ Music:
 - "It's About Love"
 - "Pack It Up"
 - "A Big Hello"
 - "God's Big Family"
 - "Missionary, Missionary"
 - "Happy Birthday"
 - "Visitor Song"
 - "For Jesus"
 - "Let's Pray"
 - "The Greatest Treasure"
 - Scripture Song: "Psalm 37:23"
 - "Goodbye Song"
- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 10: Globe Skimmer Dragonfly
- ☐ Week 10 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact



Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ String, books, puzzles, other resources
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: blindfold.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: paper clips, a piece of cardstock, and a strong magnet.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: world map, colored blocks, suitcase or bag, clothes, pillow, blanket, containers, green and blue fabric, toy fruit, plush animals, cardboard box altar from week 6, or stones to stack, destination signs: "Ur," "Haran," "Shechem," "Bethel," and "Egypt."
- ☐ Paper fan
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child as they arrive. Ask them if they met with any friends during the week.

PLAY: Invite the children to follow a piece of string to find a selection of books, puzzles, or other quiet resources for them to engage with. Listen to “It’s About Love” in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “Pack it Up.”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School and tell them how happy you are to worship God together in Sabbath School as friends.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “A Big Hello”
- “Happy Birthday” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “God’s Big Family”
- “Visitor Song” and acknowledgment
- “Missionary, Missionary”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “For Jesus” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “Let’s Pray.” Pray that God will take the offering to be used where it is most needed and ask Him to help the children understand the special story you will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “The Greatest Treasure.”

Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Psalm 37:23**. **Say it together:** “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.”

Listen to, and sing, the **Psalm 37:23 Scripture Song**.

Invite the children to stand up and follow your instructions:

Take two steps forward. Take four steps toward the window. Turn and take a step toward the door. Step back to your chair.

Explain to the children that when you gave these instructions, you were “ordering their steps.” The memory verse tells us that “the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord” (Psalm 37:23).

- **How do you think God “orders” our steps?** He doesn’t tell us to take steps around the room . . . (Accept answers for now.)

Share that today’s story will teach us more about what our memory verse means when it says, “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord” (Psalm 37:23).



SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal a blindfold. Invite two children (good friends) to engage in a trust activity. One child can wear the blindfold and follow the voice of their friend around the room. The “caller” is to talk to their friend to lead them (with their voice only) on a safe path while they follow instructions. After a short walk, ask the blindfolded child:

DISCUSS: • **How did you know where to go?** (Followed friend's voice.)

- **Would you have followed the voice of a stranger you didn't know?**
- **Why did you follow your friend?** (Know their voice, trust them, have faith they would lead you safely.)

SHARE: Today's story is about a man who trusted God and followed Him because he knew God's voice very well. Invite the children to stand and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. I will follow Him.**

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

SHARE: Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story “**Abram, Man of Faith**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal paper clips, a piece of cardstock, and a strong magnet. Place the paper clips on top of the cardstock and lead them by moving the magnet around underneath.

- **What is leading the paper clips?** (A magnet we cannot see.)
- **How might the magnet and paper clips remind us of God and Abram?**

Teaching Point: Abram's faith in God was so strong that he let God lead him, even though he could not see God. We may not hear God's voice out loud as Abram did, but we can follow God by doing what His words in the Bible ask us to do.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON and NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Share the **Nature Lesson:** “The Globe Skimmer.” Give each child **Nature Card 10: The Globe Skimmer** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Globe Skimmer Dragonfly. Make a dragonfly with a craft-stick body and leaves for wings as a reminder to trust and follow God.

REVIEW: Ask:

- **How can you be a missionary like Abram this week to follow God? Whom can you talk about God to this week?**

Say the **Big Idea** together: **God is loving. I will follow Him.**

MISSION CHALLENGE: Do some secret acts of kindness for your family at home this week. Leave a heart in the place where you did the kind act. The person who finds a heart can do something kind for someone else!

SING: Sing “**Goodbye Song**.” Share that next week we will be learning about kind Abram and his nephew Lot.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for being our friend, and for helping our faith in Him to grow. For any children who would like to thank God for His friendship, pause in your prayer for them to say, “Thank You, God, for being my friend!”



Tell the Story Abram, Man of Faith

Big Idea: God is loving. I will follow Him.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Travel to one of your “destination” **signs** each time you share where Abram and his family went. **Colored blocks** and **world map**.
- Stop to point out hills, valleys, and wide-open spaces as you walk with the children. Pick **fruit** along the way. Use **plush animals** to “walk” with as a reminder of everything that went with them.
- Use a small **suitcase** or **bag** to “pack” items inside for each journey.
- Have **clothing, pillow, blanket, containers, etc.**, to place inside the suitcase.
- Use **green** and **blue fabric** to lay out to illustrate the land of Canaan.
- Use the **cardboard box altar** (week 6) or **stones** to build an altar with the children each time this arises in the story.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 10 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **felt set**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- New homes, farms, and big cities popped up around the world—but most people had forgotten about God again. (Place colored blocks onto a world map on the floor.)
- God looked for friends to remind people of His love (children greet friends).
- God found a friend named Abram who lived in Ur. Abram chose God while others worshipped idols (Ur sign).
- God asked Abram to leave Ur and follow Him to a new land. He promised to bless him and others because of him.
- Abram obeyed! He packed up everything and set off for Haran (pack suitcase, plush animals, Haran sign).
- God led Abram to Shechem in Canaan. It was beautiful! (Shechem sign, green and blue fabric, unpack, sit animals down.)
- Abram built a thank-You altar to God. Then he built another one in Bethel (Bethel sign, altar).
- Abram built altars everywhere they stopped. He told everyone about God—he was a missionary! (Altar, suitcase.)
- Abram led his family to Egypt to find food when there was no rain. When he lied instead of trusting God, God didn't stop being his friend—He forgave and helped Abram (Egypt sign).
- In good times and bad, Abram learned to trust God. He knew that God is loving. He would follow Him.

TELL THE STORY

► New homes, new farms, and even big cities popped up around the world. (Place colored blocks onto a world map on the floor.) God's plan to fill the world with people was happening! But sadly, most people had forgotten about God again.

God loved all the people, so He looked for a helper to remind them of His great love. God began a kind of “treasure hunt”! He didn't need a map or even clues. He didn't look for shiny rubies or sparkly diamonds. He looked for friends! (Children greet the person next to them as a friend.) Adam, Abel, Seth, Enoch, and Noah had been God's true friends.

► Now God was looking for a new, faithful friend. He found a friend named Abram who loved Him. Abram had grown up in the city of Ur. Nearly everyone in Ur worshipped idols. But not Abram! No, Abram refused to become like everyone else. Abram chose the one true God and talked to Him every day.



► One day God said, "Leave your country. . . . Go to the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you. . . . And you will be a blessing to others" (Genesis 12:1, 2, ICB). Leave? Without knowing where he was going?

► Abram obeyed! Just like that. He knew that God is loving, so he could follow Him.

Busily Abram and his family packed up "everything they owned" (Genesis 12:5, ICB). (Pack suitcase with the children.) They strapped their bags and baskets onto their camels and donkeys (bring along plush animals) and set off. Abram smiled with excitement as he walked along the dusty road toward Haran (point to Haran sign). God had promised He would bless him, lead him, and make him the father of many, many people.

Abram did not know it yet, but they were going to Canaan. God was leading him there (head toward Shechem sign). Finally they arrived in Canaan at a place called Shechem. It was beautiful! The grass was lush and green. (Lay out green and blue fabric, unpack the suitcase, and place animals down.) Juicy grapes covered the vine trees, and fresh, clear water filled the rivers and streams.

► With a thankful heart "Abram built an altar there to God" (Genesis 12:7). (Use cardboard-box altar or use stones to build one with the children.) It was the very first altar to God in the land of Canaan. He gathered everyone close and offered a sacrifice to say, "Thank You, God." Soon it was time to travel again. Abram and his family packed up again and went to Bethel. (Take suitcase and animals, and go to Bethel sign.)

Everywhere they stopped, Abram and Sarai always built an altar to God (use altar again). Abram and Sarai invited others to join them. They wanted everyone to learn about their one true God and worship Him too. They were wonderful missionaries!

► After some time there was no rain in Canaan. Abram's traveling household and animals became thirsty and hungry. Abram led them to find food and water in Egypt (take suitcase and go to Egypt sign). Abram was worried they wouldn't be safe there, so instead of trusting God to protect them, he disobeyed God's law of love and told the people and the king of Egypt a lie about his family.

► Lying is never the right choice. But God didn't forget about Abram or stop being His friend. God forgave Abram and helped him leave Egypt safely.

In good times and bad, Abram was learning to trust his Best Friend, God. He knew that God is loving. He would follow Him.

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



Focus: The globe skimmer shows us how we can trust God, even though we cannot see Him.

The Globe Skimmer

- **Can you name an insect that flies?** (Bee, moth, mosquito, etc.)
- **Do you know what type of creature this is?** (Show picture.)

The wind is an amazing thing; you can't see where it is coming from or where it is going, and you can't hold it in your hand, but you can feel it on your face. (Wave a paper fan over the children to feel the "wind.") Sometimes it blows so softly you can barely feel it, and at other times it can blow so hard that it can almost push you over!

Wind is made when hot air runs into cold air. Sometimes, in some places, this makes a "flyway" in the sky—like a highway of fast air. These flyways of wind help flying birds and insects reach faraway places more easily and quickly.

An insect that trusts the wind to take it to a new place is the globe skimmer dragonfly. The little dragonfly is about as big as your pointer finger. It can travel farther than any other insect on earth! Each season globe skimmers head out on a journey into the unknown. They cross big oceans and go to places they have never been before.

Do you know why they make these big dangerous journeys? They are looking for the best place for their eggs to hatch. When the wind changes, it lets them know that it is the right time to go. They catch a ride on the flyway and trust it to lead them to the right place at the right time, and it always does.

Just as the globe skimmer trusts the wind in the flyway, we can trust God to lead us safely. We can follow God, knowing that He wants what is best for us right now, when we are bigger, and when we are grown up. His ideas are far better than you could ever imagine!

- **How does the wind help the globe skimmer?** (It takes it where it needs to go.)
- **How was Abram like the globe skimmer?** (He went on a journey into the unknown.)





Globe Skimmer Dragonfly

What you need:

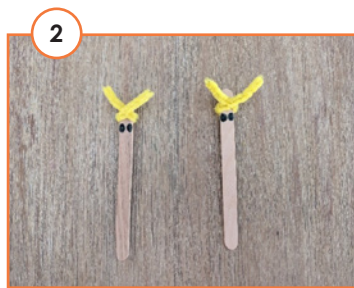
Sheet of paper, narrow leaves you have collected, two craft sticks, markers, craft glue, googly eyes (if available), and pipe cleaner/chenille stem (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Collect some narrow leaves from nature that children can use for their dragonfly wings.
- Use scissors to “shape” them if needed.
- Cut the pipe cleaners/chenille stem smaller for antennae.

Create it together:

- Wind the pipe cleaner around the top of each craft stick for antennae (2).
- Glue on googly eyes or draw them with markers (2).
- Glue the craft sticks and leaves on the page to create two dragonflies (3).
- Use markers to draw “flight paths” for the dragonflies (3).
- Encourage children to share what they learned about the globe skimmer dragonfly with a friend, pointing to Jesus as the Creator.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 11

Abram Lets Lot Choose

Bible Reference: Genesis 13

Big Idea	God is loving. I will put others first.
Memory Verse	"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 132-134
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 7. The Nature of Humanity 11. Growing in Christ 21. Stewardship 22. Christian Behavior
Word of the Week	Honor: When you honor someone, you treat them with respect. You do things that show they are special and important to you. You put them first.
Lesson Summary	God blessed Abram and his nephew Lot in Canaan, and they become wealthy. Their servants argued over the grazing land because there wasn't enough for them all. Abram solved the problem without fighting by honoring Lot above himself and letting him choose land first. They agreed to move to separate places to live.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that God can help us put others first. Feel a desire to put others first. Respond by choosing to ask God to help us honor others.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Abram's friendship with God affected every area of his life. As Abram walked daily with God, he became humble and generous, and had genuine respect for others. This is the fruit of an abiding relationship with God. God's ways become our ways. Selfishness is laid aside, and we think of others rather than ourselves. We become a different kind of parent, spouse, and friend because we reflect a little of God's character the closer we come to Him.

Sadly, many in our fallen world today don't know this kind of friendship. There is a selfish world of "me first." This was Lot's experience.

Yet, like Abram, we can rise above the culture around us and live close to God. Then, from the result of our

friendship with Him, our selfless witness can reflect God to those around us, as Abram did. Others will come to know of God's character through the little daily moments that speak of what we stand for and whom we lovingly serve.

As you and the children delve into this week's lesson about honoring others by putting them first, our prayer is that you will choose God as your personal, best friend and that you will let His loving character saturate every area of your life.

"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another" (Romans 12:10).



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will put others first.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 11

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play a statue game incorporating taking turns using the song **"It's About Love."**
- Listen to a worship song of your choice. Then play **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"Our God is Amazing"**
 - **"Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- Use **masking tape** to make two lines on the floor for a "You First" game. Ask: Was it hard to remember to let others go first? How did it feel to be asked to go first? When you let others go first, you are "honoring" them.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. I will put others first.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity: Balloon and Confetti Illustration.** Confetti attracts to the balloon as we can attract people to God by being kind and putting others first.

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 11: African Cichlid Fish**
- **Mission Story:** "Bread for Trash"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Paper Plate Honoring Crown
- **Review and Mission Challenge:** Tell the people in your family that you love them every day this week.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Play a statue **game** that encourages turn taking.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: place some **masking tape** inside the box.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: peg people, a sandbox, heart stickers (or draw hearts) on craft sticks, fabric in two shades of blue and various shades of green, pillows, toy animals, coins in a bag, cardboard altar from week 8.

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: a small container of confetti or paper torn into tiny pieces and a balloon.

Source a **felt set** or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 11: African Cichlid Fish](#).

Print paper hearts and place some in a small envelope for each child.

Craft Materials

Source **extra-large paper plates, scissors, markers, sticker jewels or colored paper, and craft glue**.

Print [jewel printouts](#) if desired.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "Good Morning, Jesus"
- "Our God is Amazing"
- "Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Philippians 2:4"
- "Goodbye Song"



qr.aij.info_KA1t

- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 11: African Cichlid Fish
- ☐ Week 11 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Week 11 Craft Template

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: masking tape.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: confetti or paper torn into tiny pieces and a balloon.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: peg people, a sandbox, heart stickers (or draw your own) on craft sticks, fabric in two shades of blue and various shades of green, pillows, toy animals, coins in a bag, cardboard altar from week 8.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. I will put others first.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Take an interest in their lives by chatting about the things that interest them (in preparation for a memory verse discussion).

PLAY: Invite the children to play a version of the statue game with turn-taking. While the song “It’s About Love” plays, children walk around the room. When the music stops, everyone freezes like a statue. Then, with the music off, choose one child to do something fun—such as pretending to be an animal for others to guess. Before they do this, they should choose another child and say, “You go first.” That child will do their action first, followed by the first child, thus showing the importance of letting others go first. Then start the music again and repeat.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “Pack It Up.”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “Good Morning, Jesus”
- “Happy Birthday” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “Our God is Amazing”
- “Visitor Song” and acknowledgment
- “Jesus Loves Me and I Love Jesus”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “For Jesus” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “Let’s Pray.” Invite a child to pray. Then pray over the offering and for God to bless the children and your Sabbath School time together today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “The Greatest Treasure.”

Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Philippians 2:4. Say it together:** “Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.” Listen to, and sing, the **Philippians 2:4 Scripture Song** together.

- **How do we show that we are interested in other people?** (We talk to and listen to others to show that they are special and important to us. We treat them with respect. As an example, highlight how you spoke with each of them when they arrived at Sabbath School.) Looking out “for the interests of others” means that we honor them.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal the masking tape. Place two parallel lines of tape on the floor (five steps apart) for a “**You First**” game. One line will be the start line; the other the finish line. Explain that the goal is to get from one line to the other. Have the children stand shoulder-to-shoulder behind the start line.

DISCUSS: When you call a child’s name with a direction (for example, “Mario, take one step [or take two jumps]”), that child must first turn to the person next to them and say, “You first.” After the other person moves, then that child can move. If that child forgets, they must go back to the start line. Continue to call out simple instructions for different children.

- **How hard was it to let others go first, knowing that they might beat you to the finish line?**
- **How did it feel to be asked to go first by a friend?**

When you let others go first, you are honoring them. You think of them before yourself.



SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

SHARE: Today's story is about a man who honored other people; he thought of them before he thought of himself. He will help teach us our **Big Idea**. Stand and say it together: **God is loving. I will put others first.**

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

SHARE: Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story "**Abram Lets Lot Choose**" in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

DO: Play your bell or sound maker and invite a child to open the Story Explorer Box to reveal a balloon, a container of confetti, and a piece of paper.

Place the piece of paper on a hard surface and spread the confetti on top. Blow up the balloon and rub it on your hair to develop static. Hold it several inches from the confetti for the children to see what will happen.

- **What happened to the confetti?** (The confetti will be attracted to static on the balloon.)
- **Why were people attracted to Abram?** (He was friends with God, was kind, and put others first.)

Teaching Point: Just as the balloon attracted the confetti, people were attracted to Abram because he was kind and put others first. When we treat others with kindness, they may want to know about our kind God too.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is Loving. I will put others first.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 11: African Cichlid Fish** and share the following facts:

- These clever little fish make homes out of rocks and shells.
- They have beautiful, rich colors of reds, blues, and yellows.
- The mother carries her baby fish eggs around in her mouth until they hatch.
- Sometimes the mother fish will go without food for days to keep her baby eggs safe, hiding them in her mouth. She puts them before her own needs.

Thank You, God, for teaching us through Your nature!

Give each child **Nature Card 11** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the mission story: "Bread for Trash."

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Paper Plate Crown With Jewels. Give each child their named premade paper crown and four "jewels." Invite the children to move around and honor each other by saying something kind to another child and then sticking a jewel onto one of the four points on that person's crown. Invite each child to decorate their crowns and wear them. When we honor others, we are treating them as God's special princes/princesses.

REVIEW: • **What can you do this week to put others first in your home?**

MISSION CHALLENGE: Tell the people in your family that you love them every day this week.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. I will put others first.**

SING: Sing "**Goodbye Song**." Share that next week we will learn more about Abram.

PRAY: Pray for God to give the children hearts that are happy to put others first.



Tell the Story Abram Lets Lot Choose

Big Idea: God is loving. I will put others first.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use **peg people** or a **felt set** to tell the story.
- Use **plush animals** for Abram's flocks, and **coins in a bag** for his silver and gold.
- Create "landscapes." Set up **green fabric** over pillows for mountains, **blue fabric or paper** for streams, and different shades of **green fabric** for flat plains.
- Use the **cardboard altar** from week 8.
- Use **heart stickers (or draw hearts) on craft sticks** to place inside a **sandbox** to illustrate how Abram and Sarai made friends in Canaan.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([week 11 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Abram had lots and lots of animals and riches. He always remembered His blessings came from God and thanked Him. (Felt or peg man. Toy animals on green fabric. Coins in bag.)
- Abram was humble and made others feel important (stick or peg people).
- Lot had lots of animals too (more toy animals).
- There wasn't enough grass. The workers began to fight (peg people arguing).
- Abram asked God for help. Abram said he and Lot should separate.
- Abram let Lot choose the land first. (Walk around and look at the "landscapes" with children.)
- Lot chose lush land near the bad city of Sodom.
- Abram chose a peaceful spot and made an altar (cardboard box).
- God promised to give Abram all the land, forever, and a big, big family! (Point to "landscapes" again.)
- Abram and Sarai made friends, honored others, and built altars to God. (Smiling peg people in sandbox. Heart craft sticks.)

TELL THE STORY

► (Use a peg or felt man for Abram.) Abram looked left, then right. He looked ahead and behind. Everywhere he turned there were wandering sheep, skipping goats, clip-clopping donkeys, grunting camels, and bellowing oxen. He owned so many animals. (Give toy animals to children to place on green fabric.) There were too many to count! God had already blessed Abram with so much—and it wasn't just animals. God had blessed him with silver and gold too! (Jingle coins in a bag.)

Wherever Abram went, people saw how God was blessing him. In fact, they honored him like a mighty prince. But Abram never acted more important than others. Instead, he made others feel important. He showed love and kindness to everyone (use peg people or felts).

Like Abram, Lot was rich with his own herds, flocks, and tents. (Give children other toy animals to place on a different part of the green fabric.) God had blessed him too! ► There was just one problem on Abram's farm: there wasn't enough grass for all the hungry animals. Abram and Lot's workers began to argue and fight (use expressive words and actions). Pointing their fingers angrily, they may have shouted: "Keep your sheep away from the best grass on the hill—



it's our turn!" (Move some sheep away.) "No, it's not! You're just greedy!"

Abram thought about his problem and prayed to God for wisdom. He wanted everyone to be happy and peaceful. He told Lot that they should separate and live in different places.

► Abram pointed across the land and told Lot to choose the fields he would like. How kind of Abram! God had given all this land to him—but Abram was choosing to share his land.

► Lot's eyes opened wide with delight (open eyes wide and smile). He could choose first! Lot should have stopped and said, "No, Uncle Abram, you choose first." But he didn't. Lot wanted the very best for himself. Greedily he searched for the greenest and most beautiful land. (Look at the various "landscapes" and talk about why each one might be best.)

► Finally Lot pointed. "There! Down on the lush, flat, green land!" That was where he wanted to live. He thought it looked perfect. It had lots of green grass, good food, and water. And it was really close to the busy city of Sodom. ► He moved his family, workers, and animals to that place (move animals, peg people away). He was so happy with his me-first choice! But the Bible says that "the people of Sodom were very evil" (Genesis 13:13, ICB). Uh-oh, that doesn't sound like a good place to live, does it?

Up in the hills Abram hummed as he set up his tent. It was so peaceful in the spot he had chosen for his new home. His tent looked out at green grass and big, shady trees. But best of all, it faced an altar to God. (Use cardboard altar from week 8 to build an altar.)

God loved seeing Abram set up his home around the altar. He had a surprise to give His friend. All the land in every direction would be his, and his family's, forever! (Point to the "landscapes" around the room.) ► God promised Abram, "I will make your descendants as many as the dust of the earth" (Genesis 13:16, ICB). Descendants are children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. A family too big to even count? That is a very big family! What a kind gift from his loving Friend, God.

► Abram and Sarai made lots of friends in Canaan (place smiling peg people in a sandbox). They told all their friends about God and His love for everyone (place hearts on craft sticks around the peg people). The people in Canaan noticed that Abram was different from other people. He was happy, friendly, and kind. He put others first instead of himself. He left thank-You altars to God everywhere he went. Abram was different because he had God's love in his heart!

The Bible says, "Be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves. Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others" (Philippians 2:3, 4, ICB). And that is exactly what Abram did. He chose God's way and honored Lot more than he did himself.

TEACHER NOTES

Mission Story



Focus: Mary continues to honor and be kind to Adna, and because of her witness, Adna becomes Jesus' friend.

Bread for Trash

Location: Help a child locate **Angola** on your **globe** or world **map**.

Adna was a grumpy person. She liked to argue and fight with her neighbors in Luanda, Angola.

Every time Adna saw her neighbor Mary, she yelled at her. But Mary only smiled and greeted her happily. "It's good to see you today!" Mary said. "May God bless you!"

Adna yelled louder and tried to pick a fight, but Mary would simply smile.

This made Adna very angry. She took a bag of garbage from her house and set it beside Mary's front gate. Mary didn't complain. She didn't say a word. She picked up the bag of garbage and took it down the street to the big trash container.

Then Mary went and gave Adna some freshly baked bread. "It's good to see you today! This bread is for you," said Mary. Adna was so surprised! But she still wanted to fight. So when she had another big bag of garbage, she left it at Mary's front gate again. Mary picked up the bag and threw it away. Then she came to Adna. "It's good to see you today!" she said. "This bread is for you."

This happened again and again. Adna left bags of garbage at Mary's gate, and Mary brought over bread.

One Sabbath morning Mary came out of her house just as Adna was leaving a bag of garbage at the front gate. Mary was dressed up and ready to go to church, but she smiled and took the garbage away. Then she went to Adna's house with bread.

Adna began to cry. "Thank you very much for the bread," she said. "Please wait for us. We also want to go to church with you. My family and I would like to learn to love your Jesus."

Today Adna and her family are happy Seventh-day Adventists. She no longer likes to be grumpy or unkind. Instead, she smiles at her neighbors and says with a smile, "It's good to see you today! May God bless you."

• How did Mary show that she honored grumpy Adna?

Showing kindness through our actions even when someone is unkind to us is honoring them and sharing God's love.



Paper Plate Honoring Crown

What you need:

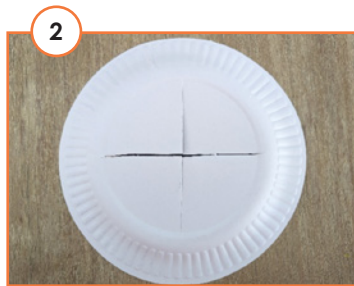
Extra-large paper plates, scissors, markers, craft glue, sticker jewels or printable jewels and shapes cut out of paper or contact paper (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Lightly fold paper plate in half and cut a line within the border (2).
- Fold the other way and cut another line (2).
- Fold all four pieces out to create the four crown points (3).
- Cut out small shapes from colored paper or contact paper.
- Print jewels to color from the AIJ website, if using.

Create it together:

- Stick the four jewels to each other's crown while saying something kind to each other (4).
- Continue decorating the crown with markers and shapes.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

My God Is Loving

WEEK 1	A Brand-new World
WEEK 2	Life in God's Garden
WEEK 3	The Sabbath
WEEK 4	Lucifer's Sad Choice
WEEK 5	Adam and Eve Choose
WEEK 6	Cain and Abel
WEEK 7	Noah Builds an Ark
WEEK 8	The Rainbow Promise
WEEK 9	The Tall Tower
WEEK 10	Abram, Man of Faith
WEEK 11	Abram Lets Lot Choose
WEEK 12	A Brave Rescue
WEEK 13	Baby Isaac

Week 12

A Brave Rescue

Bible Reference: Genesis 14

Big Idea God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.

Memory Verse "A friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17).

References *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 134-136

Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 11. Growing in Christ
- 21. Stewardship
- 22. Christian Behavior

Word of the Week

Loyal: When you are loyal to someone, nothing can stop you from being their forever friend. You can always be trusted to stand for what is true and right.

Lesson Summary

When Abram learned that his nephew Lot and his family had been captured by enemies, he prepared for a surprise attack at night. Abram and his men freed the prisoners, collected the items that had been stolen, and went back to Sodom. They then met Melchizedek. Abram gave him a tenth of all they had recovered. Abram returned the rest to the king of Sodom and kept nothing for himself.

Learning Goals

The children will:

Know that God is loyal.

Feel grateful for loyal friends.

Respond by choosing to be loyal to God, friends, and family.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

There is much to admire about Abram's character. His loyalty, both to God and to Lot, shines brightly and is a testament to God's presence in his life.

We see his loyalty expressed in many ways—in his proud witness of Yahweh as he sought unity and peace with Lot, in his humility as he offered Lot the first choice of the land, and when he rescued Lot, despite Lot's lack of gratitude.

Loyalty. It is so integral to who God is and His desire for our lives. God wants to help each of us to "choose to be a loyal friend"—loyal to Him and loyal to each other. As you explore this week's story with the children, may they know how much our loving God desires to be their loyal friend too.

For truly, "a friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17).





Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 12

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Assemble puzzle pieces to illustrate friendship.
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"A Big Hello"**
 - **"God's Big Family"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure"** or another song about the Bible. Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "A friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Demonstrate sticking together (two children in one T-shirt; shoe and sock). Loyal friends stick together. God is our most loyal friend.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Use colored water to illustrate progression of bad choices and clear water to show loyalty.
- Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 12: Ground Squirrel**
- **Nature Lesson:** "The Belding's Ground Squirrel"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Tithe envelope
- **Review:** What might you do this week to be a loyal friend?
- **Mission Challenge:** Plan to invite someone over for a meal this Sabbath. Plan the menu together. Think of ways you can make your guest feel special and loved by God.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Obtain a **puzzle picture** suitable for this age group.

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: a **large T-shirt** (that two children will fit into together), a **shoe**, and a **sock**.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: green fabric, peg people, plush animals, pots, a spoon to pack into a box, 10 objects of your choice to illustrate what tithe is, cardboard altar from week 8.

Prepare a piece of cardboard with rows of sad "peg people" sticky-taped onto it to be a prison. You might also like to draw lines to illustrate the prison.

Source a felt set or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: place inside a water bottle, two glass jars, and some food coloring.

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 12: Ground Squirrel](#).

Craft Materials

Source **sheets of colored paper, stickers and colored shapes, markers, tape, scissors, ribbon or string**.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

☐ Music:

- "It's About Love"
- "Pack It Up"
- "A Big Hello"
- "God's Big Family"
- "Missionary, Missionary"
- "Happy Birthday"
- "Visitor Song"
- "For Jesus"
- "Let's Pray"
- "The Greatest Treasure"
- Scripture Song: "Proverbs 17:17"
- "Goodbye Song"



- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 12: Ground Squirrel
- ☐ Week 12 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Photo of ground squirrel

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Picture puzzle
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Whistle for nature story
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: a large T-shirt, a shoe, and a sock.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: water bottle, two glass jars, and some food coloring.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: green fabric, plush animals, pots, a spoon to pack into a box, 10 objects of your choice to illustrate what tithe is, a piece of cardboard with rows of sad "peg people" sticky-taped onto it to be a prison, cardboard altar from week 8.
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Talk with them about their friends and what is so special about having a friend.

PLAY: Invite the children to a table where the **puzzle pieces** are spread out. Encourage them to work together and assemble all pieces together to make the picture. As the children work, talk about what it is like to have special friends that work together. Listen to **"It's About Love"** in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing **"Pack it Up."**

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School today and tell them how excited you are to see them!

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- **"A Big Hello"**
- **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
- **"God's Big Family"**
- **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment
- **"Missionary, Missionary"**

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going this quarter.

GIVE: Sing **"For Jesus"** and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing **"Let's Pray."** Pray, asking God to take the offering to be used where it is most needed. Also ask Him to help the children understand the special story and lesson you will learn about today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."**

- **What do you think makes a good friend?** (Accept ideas; discuss.)

Explain that the Bible gives us a short answer to this question. Show the children how to find the **memory verse, Proverbs 17:17. Say it together:** "A friend loves at all times."

Listen to, and sing, the **Proverbs 17:17 Scripture Song**.

- **Have you ever heard the word "loyal" to describe a friend?** Let's find out a little more about what it means to be loyal.

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

J DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal a large T-shirt. Invite two friends to get into the T-shirt together. Instruct them to try to find the sock and shoe hidden in the room before you can count to 10. (Invite the other children to count slowly with you.)

DISCUSS: Ask the children in the T-shirt:

- **How well did you stick together to find the shoe?**
- **How well do a sock and shoe stick together when you wear them?**
- **How might sticking together in a T-shirt and a sock/shoe remind us of good friends?**

SHARE: Good friends stick together. We call this being loyal to each other. Loyal friends are kind, loving, and "there for each other" no matter what. They are "forever friends."



SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

Our loving God is our loyal friend too. He is the most loyal friend we can have.

Invite the children to stand up and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**

Today's Bible story is about how loyal Abram rescued his nephew and good friend Lot from trouble.

TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Share the story “**A Brave Rescue**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Play your **bell** or **sound maker** and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a water bottle, two glass jars, and some food coloring. Pour water into the two glass jars. Add a drop of food coloring into one jar for each answer to the following question:

- **What bad choices did Lot make in our story today?** (He moved close to Sodom, visited Sodom, stayed the night in Sodom, moved into Sodom, made friends with the people in Sodom.)

Compare the water in the two glasses and highlight how the water got darker and darker with each tiny drop of color.

- **Which jar reminds you that one bad choice can lead to another and another?** (The jar of colored water.)
- **Which one reminds you to stay loyal to God and your friends who love Him?** (The clear water jar.)

Teaching Point: The dark jar reminds us of what happens when we choose friends that are making the wrong choices. Like the clear jar, our big loving God can help us to see clearly and choose loyal friends.

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE LESSON and NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Share the **Nature Lesson:** “The Belding's Ground Squirrel.” Give each child **Nature Card 12: Ground Squirrel** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Tithe Envelope. Make and decorate a tithe envelope to remind the children about why it is important to give to God.

Encourage the children to use it to return their own tithe to God. Remind the children that tithe belongs to God, and we are simply returning it to Him since this is what He's asked us to do.

 **REVIEW:** Ask:

- **What might you do this week to be a loyal friend?** Remember to ask God to help you!

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Plan to invite someone over for a meal next Sabbath. Plan the menu together. Think of ways you can make your guest feel special and loved by God.

SING: Sing “**Goodbye Song**.” Share that next week we will be learning about kind baby Isaac.

 **PRAY:** Invite the children to link arms if they'd like to invite God to help them to be a loyal friend.

Invite a child to pray. Pray also and ask God to help the children to be loyal friends. Thank Him for always being their special loyal friend no matter what.



Tell the Story **A Brave Rescue**

Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Create a green landscape with a **green piece of fabric**.
- Use **peg people** for characters in this story.
- Have a piece of **cardboard with rows of "peg prisoners"** taped onto it, ready for the children to "rescue."
- Use **plush animals, pots, spoons**, etc., to represent the stolen goods.
- Use **10 objects** of your choice to illustrate what tithe is. Use cardboard altar from week 8.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story ([week 12 Program PowerPoint](#)).
- Use **felts**, if available.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children's interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Abram's home in the hills was happy and peaceful—with an altar to God, His loyal friend (**cardboard altar**).
- Lot lived down on the flat land near wicked Sodom. (**Point to the lush green "landscape" from last week.**)
- Lot got closer and closer to Sodom . . . until he moved there! He made bad friends. (**Start to move back and forth in the room.**)
- Four kings from far away attacked Sodom and their neighbors. They took all their things, food, and people as prisoners—even Lot! (**Peg people with sad faces, cardboard prison.**)
- A messenger told Abram. Abram was loyal and loving. *Oh, no! Poor Lot! I must help him!*
- Abram took 318 brave men from his camp, and they ran and rescued Lot and all the prisoners. (**Use peg people; rescue peg people from prison.**)
- Abram took all the people and all the stolen things back to Sodom (**children load items into a box**).
- A king and priest, who worshipped God, came out to greet Abram—Melchizedek. He asked that God would bless Abram (**peg person**).
- Abram wanted to give a thank You back to God. He gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything (**show 10 small objects; take one**).
- The king of Sodom told Abram he could keep all the rest of the goods, but Abram said no. His loyal God would look after him—He will provide for us too (**peg person**).

TELL THE STORY

► Abram's home in the hills was a happy and peaceful one. Abram could talk with God under the shady trees. He could offer sacrifices to God on the altar, right near his tent (**cardboard altar**). He knew God was his loyal friend, and that was all he needed.

Down on the flat, green land were Lot's tents, just down the road from the wicked city of Sodom. It wasn't long before Lot started to think: *Hmm . . . Sodom is not far away. I can go there, but I won't go there very often.* (**Start to move back and forth in the room.**)

Then later: *Oh, let's go to Sodom and have some fun!*

Then later: *Oh, it's too far to go back to our tent tonight. Let's just stay the night in Sodom.*



► Lot slowly changed. He ended up moving right into Sodom to live beside people who didn't love God and treated each other very badly. Before long they became friends.

Lot didn't know that trouble was headed for the city of Sodom! Four troublemaking kings attacked Sodom and their neighbors. What a scary surprise! (Peg people.) ► They took all the people as prisoners and stole all their things, and all their food too! Poor Lot was a prisoner! (Show the peg people with sad faces taped to the cardboard "prison.")

A messenger ran as fast as he could and told Abram what had happened. Abram was very upset. *Oh no! Poor Lot! I love him! He's in trouble. I must help him!* Abram was so loyal and loving. He was like Jesus, who also came to this world to rescue us from our bad choices.

► Abram thought and prayed, and then gathered 318 brave men from his camp to help him rescue Lot from the enemy camp. (Peg people.) They raced off to find Lot.

Abram and his men crept up to the camp and chased the enemy away. What a surprise those soldiers got! Abram and his men rescued all the prisoners! (Children to rescue peg people from the cardboard prison.)

Lot gave Uncle Abram a big hug. He was so thankful that Abram had saved him. Abram took the prisoners and their things and set off for Sodom (children to help you load items into a box).

On their way a special king and priest who worshipped God came out to greet Abram. His name was Melchizedek (peg person).

"Abram," said Melchizedek, "may God Most High give you blessings. . . . He has helped you to defeat your enemies" (Genesis 14:19, 20, ICB).

► Abram was so happy to hear these words that he wanted to give a thank-You back to God. "Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything he had brought back from the battle" (Genesis 14:20, ICB). So for every 10 pieces of gold, he gave one of those to the king and priest Melchizedek! (Show 10 small objects, and then hold one up. Explain that this one is "tithe," and it belongs to God.)

► Soon the king of Sodom appeared on the dusty road (peg person). He was very grateful to Abram for rescuing his people. He said, "You may keep all these things yourself. Just give me my people who were captured!"

Abram shook his head. No, no, no (shake your head). Abram wouldn't take anything. He knew he didn't need a king's riches. His loyal God would always provide for him. He is our loyal God, and He will provide for us too.

TEACHER NOTES

Nature Lesson



Focus: Ground squirrels are loyal to their families. They keep them safe by making loud noises to alert them of danger.

The Belding's Ground Squirrel

Show the children a whistle and invite a child to blow it to make a sound.

- **Can you whistle without using this whistle?**

Show the photo of the ground squirrel.

These little whistling creatures are very loyal friends.

These little ground squirrels live in the mountains among the sage bushes in North America. They eat mostly seeds, flowers, nuts, mushrooms, and green plants.

Bobcats, weasels, coyotes, eagles, and badgers live there too. Sadly, they like to eat ground squirrels. Ground squirrels need to look out for each other to stay safe and not become dinner for a bigger animal!

If they spot trouble, you would think that the very best thing for a ground squirrel to do would be to stay v-e-r-y still and v-e-r-y quiet.

Ground squirrels are loyal to their friends and family—they want to protect them, not just themselves. When the ground squirrel sees danger, it opens its mouth wide, pushes its body forward, and squeals a loud alarm call. There are even two types of this special call. If the enemy is walking on the ground, they make five trills; and if it's flying in the air, they make one long whistle (use the whistle to illustrate). Wow! What a clever squirrel.

- **What do you think all the other squirrels do when they hear these sounds?**

They quickly run and hide. But the ground squirrel who sounded the alarm call doesn't run and hide. Instead, he stands completely still, keeping his eyes on the enemy. He puts himself in danger to rescue his friends and family. What a loyal little ground squirrel!

- **How does this remind you of Abram in our story today?** (Abram also put himself in danger to save his family.)

Teaching Point: Being loyal to our friends and family means sticking close and putting them first. When we do this, we show that "a friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17).

Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He can help me to be a loyal friend.**





Create and Decorate a Tithe Envelope

What you need:

Sheet of colored paper, stickers and colored shapes, markers, tape, scissors and ribbon or string (1).

Preparation instructions:

- Pre-fold the paper so it's ready to be made into an envelope.
- Cut lengths of ribbon or string.

Create it together:

- Fold the paper along the creases and tape the sides together, as shown (2).
- Fold the top flap down and cut a V shape to complete the envelope (3).
- Decorate the tithe envelope using stickers, colored shapes, and markers (4).
- Tape a ribbon to the top of the envelope so it can be hung in a special place (5).
- While the children are making the envelopes, talk to them about why we give.





Kindergarten

YEAR A • QUARTER 1

God Is Loving

- WEEK 1 A Brand-new World
- WEEK 2 Life in God's Garden
- WEEK 3 The Sabbath
- WEEK 4 Lucifer's Sad Choice
- WEEK 5 Adam and Eve Choose
- WEEK 6 Cain and Abel
- WEEK 7 Noah Builds an Ark
- WEEK 8 A Rainbow Promise
- WEEK 9 The Tall Tower
- WEEK 10 Abram, Man of Faith
- WEEK 11 Abram Lets Lot Choose
- WEEK 12 A Brave Rescue
- WEEK 13 **Baby Isaac**

Week 13

Baby Isaac

Bible References: Genesis 15; 17:1-22; 18:1-15; 21:106

Big Idea	God is loving. He is always faithful.
Memory Verse	"Know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God" (Deuteronomy 7:9).
References	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 138, 139
Fundamental Beliefs	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 1. The Scriptures 3. The Father 4. The Son 7. The Nature of Humanity 11. Growing in Christ 22. Christian Behavior 28. The New Earth
Word of the Week	Impossible: When something isn't able to happen, it's impossible. For example, it's impossible for humans to fly on their own. (Surprise: God makes impossible things happen!)
Lesson Summary	Three men visited Abraham and Sarah's home. They told them that Sarah would have a baby boy. Sarah laughed because she thought it was impossible. She was too old to have a baby, she thought. God fulfilled His promise, and baby Isaac was born to Sarah and Abraham. Abraham and Sarah loved their new baby very much. This was the beginning of the big family that God had promised them.
Learning Goals	The children will: Know that God is faithful and keeps His promises. Feel that nothing is impossible for God to do. Respond by trusting God to help them each day.



A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

God is faithful, even when things seem impossible.

Have you ever doubted this? Perhaps you've felt as though your situation is helpless and things are out of your control. Perhaps someone has promised you something, only to let you down—and you wonder if God is dependable when others aren't.

God is faithful, even when we are not. He is constant, even when others are not. And He is there for you, even when you feel as though no one else is.

The promises in His Word testify of this and strengthen our friendship with Him. They are an anchor to our soul, grounding us in the One who loves us more than any other. “The unfailing promises of God will keep your

heart in perfect peace” (Ellen G. White, letter 91, 1887, in *Letters and Manuscripts*, vol. 5, p. 94).

Perfect peace. God offers it to you today. Claim His promises as personal prayers, knowing that “with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). What a precious promise to claim!

This Sabbath, as you lead little ones in their walk with God, may you personally rest in His promises.

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful” (Hebrews 10:23)



Simple Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.

Kindergarten, Year A, Quarter 1, Week 13

EARLY ARRIVALS

- Patience game: Blowing balls with straws
- Listen to **"It's About Love"** or a worship song of your choice. Then listen to **"Pack It Up"** as you transition into the program.

WELCOME AND SONGS

- Welcome
- Songs
 - **"Good Morning, Jesus"**
 - **"God Is Our Loving Father"**
 - **"Missionary, Missionary"**
 - **"Happy Birthday"** for any child with a birthday this past week
 - **"Visitor Song"** and acknowledgment

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE

- Share a **Mission Fast Fact**.
- Collect offering and sing **"For Jesus."** Show and color **Offering Chart**.
- Sing **"Let's Pray"** song, then pray.
- Sing **"The Greatest Treasure."** Child holds class Bible.
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song**: "Know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God" (Deuteronomy 7:9).

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (GET READY FOR THE STORY)

- **Activity:** Stick **pin in balloons**. God makes impossible things possible.
- Share the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.**

TELL THE STORY

- Pray, then use the **Storytelling Props** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (UNPACK THE STORY)

- Read God's heaven promise in 2 Peter 3:13. Show the **Promise Picture Card**.
- Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.**

NATURE/MISSION

- **Nature Card 13: Penguin**
- **Mission Story:** "Mother and the King Cobra"

CRAFT

- **Craft:** Starry Sky Picture
- **Review:** Ask for God's help when required to wait patiently.
- **Mission Challenge:** In family worship, explain to your family what you love about God.
- Sing **"Goodbye Song."**
- **Pray.**



Program Preparation

Opening Activities

Make simple lines in different directions on a table using **colored tape**.

Provide **straws** and **lightweight balls** (table tennis balls or pom-poms).

Source items for **Secret Surprise Box**: two balloons, thick sticky tape, and a safety pin.

Source a birthday gift of your choice to give to a child with a birthday this past week.

Tell the Story

Source suggested **Storytelling Props**: gray-colored fabric, walking stick, sheet to create a tent, small flashlights, bowl, picture of a starry sky, towel, cup, toy fruit, baby doll, peg people (optional).

Source items for **Story Explorer Box**: Bible marked at 2 Peter 3:13 with a **Promise Picture Card**. Write these three discussion questions on three separate pieces of paper:

- How did God help Abraham and Sarah wait patiently?
- How did God show that He was faithful in the story?
- How do you act when you have to wait patiently for something?

Source a felt set or the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Nature/Mission

Print for each child [Nature Card 13: Penguin](#).

Craft Materials

Source **black paper**, **chalk**, **colored paper**, **silver star stickers** (if available), [week 13 craft template](#), **scissors**, **glue**, **crayons/colored pencils**.

Print [Abraham and Sarah pictures](#) to color and cut out.

Print [memory verse](#) star from the AIJ website.

What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website (www.aliveinjesus.info)

- ☐ Music:
 - "It's About Love"
 - "Pack It Up"
 - "Good Morning, Jesus"
 - "God Is Our Loving Father"
 - "Missionary, Missionary"
 - "Happy Birthday"
 - "Visitor Song"
 - "For Jesus"
 - "Let's Pray"
 - "The Greatest Treasure"
 - Scripture Song: "Deuteronomy 7:9"
 - "Goodbye Song"



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- ☐ Offering Chart
- ☐ Nature Card 13: Penguin
- ☐ Week 13 Program PowerPoint
- ☐ Mission Fast Fact
- ☐ Week 13 Craft Template
- ☐ Promise Card

Additional Resources to Source

- ☐ Colored tape, straws, lightweight balls
- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ Bell or sound maker
- ☐ Secret Surprise Box: two balloons, thick sticky tape, and a safety pin.
- ☐ Story Explorer Box: Bible marked at 2 Peter 3:13 with a Promise Picture Card, and three questions on paper.
- ☐ Storytelling Props: gray-colored fabric, walking stick, sheet to create a tent, small flashlights, bowl, towel, cup, toy fruit, baby doll, a felt set, picture of starry night, peg people (optional)
- ☐ Craft materials (see above)



Full Program Outline

Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.

EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

CONNECT: Warmly welcome each child by name as they arrive. Talk about what they may have had to wait for during the past week.

PLAY: Invite the children to use a straw to carefully blow a lightweight ball or pom-pom along one of the tape lines on the table. Talk with the children about how much patience they needed to do this activity. Patience takes practice! Listen to “**It’s About Love**” in the background.

SING: Transition into the Sabbath School program by singing “**Pack It Up.**”

WELCOME AND SONGS (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME: Warmly welcome the children again to Sabbath School and tell them how happy you are to see them.

SING: Sing the following songs with actions and props:

- “**Good Morning, Jesus**”
- “**Happy Birthday**” for any child with a birthday this past week
- “**God Is Our Loving Father**”
- “**Visitor Song**” and acknowledgment
- “**Missionary, Missionary**”

OFFERING, PRAYER, MEMORY VERSE (6 MINUTES)

SHARE: Share a **Mission Fast Fact** about where the offering is going to this quarter.

GIVE: Sing “**For Jesus**” and invite a child to collect the offering in your offering container. After the money has been counted by an adult, invite a child to color the next section of your **Offering Chart** to show how much has been collected this quarter.

PRAY: Sing “**Let’s Pray.**” Invite a child to pray. Then pray over the offering and for God to bless the children and your Sabbath School time together today.

SING and DISCUSS: Invite a child to hold the special class Bible. Sing “**The Greatest Treasure.**”

• Why should we trust in God?

Explain that the Bible gives us a very good reason to trust God! Show the children how to find the **memory verse**, **Deuteronomy 7:9. Say it together:** “Know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God.” Listen to, and sing, the **Deuteronomy 7:9 Scripture Song.**

God keeps His promises. He is faithful. We can trust His Word and trust Him to do the impossible!

SECRET SURPRISE BOX (7 MINUTES)

DO: Play your **bell** or **sound maker**. Invite a child to open the **Secret Surprise Box** to reveal two balloons, tape, and a safety pin. Blow the balloons up and tie them.

DISCUSS: • **What will happen if I stick this pin into this balloon?** (Pop!)

• **Could I stick the pin into this other balloon and not have it pop?** (That would be impossible! It could not happen!)

Place a two-inch (five-centimeter) piece of thick tape on the balloon, and then stick the pin in through the tape. (The balloon will not pop.)

SHARE: What we thought was impossible became possible with a piece of sticky tape. Just like the tape, **God makes impossible things possible.** When He promises something, we can trust His words, because He is always faithful.

In today’s Bible story our faithful God did something impossible!

Invite the children to stand and repeat the **Big Idea** after you: **God is loving. He is always faithful.**



TELL THE STORY (10 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, asking God to help the children understand today's story. Then share the story “**Baby Isaac**” in an interactive and engaging way using the **storytelling suggestions** and **Program PowerPoint**.

STORY EXPLORER BOX (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** If possible, divide the class into **three groups** and give three adults one of the following questions on a slip of paper. Have the three groups rotate to each adult and discuss their question with them.

- **How did God help Abraham and Sarah to wait patiently?** (Showed Abraham the stars and reminded him of the promise. Visited to tell Abraham he would have a son.)
- **How did God show that He was faithful in the story?** (His promise came true. Sarah had baby Isaac.)
- **How do you act when you have to wait patiently for something?** (Invite children to mime their answer.)

Play your **bell** or **sound maker** to call the children back together and invite a child to open the **Story Explorer Box** to reveal a Bible with a colorful ribbon marked at **2 Peter 3:13** and the matching **Promise Picture Card**.

- **What special promise are we faithfully waiting for that God has given us?**

Open the Bible and read 2 Peter 3:13 aloud: “But God made a promise to us. And we are waiting for what He promised—a new heaven and a new earth where goodness lives” (ICB). Invite the children to share what they like about what they see on the **Promise Picture Card**.

Teaching Point: Explain that God was faithful to Abraham and Sarah. His special promise to them came true! God's promises to us will come true too, because He is faithful. Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.**

NATURE/MISSION (3 MINUTES)

NATURE COLLECTOR CARD: Hold up **Nature Card 13: Penguin** and share the following facts:

- Penguins love their families a lot.
- Penguins wave their flippers when they are happy to see each other!
- Males find shiny pebbles to bring as a special gift to their female partner.
- Mother and father penguins take turns faithfully looking after their baby penguins.

God is amazing to have created such faithful little penguin families that love and look after each other for all their lives. Give each child **Nature Card 13** to place in their Nature Collector Bag.

MISSION STORY: Share the mission story: “Mother and the King Cobra.”

CRAFT (15 MINUTES)

CRAFT: Starry Sky Picture. Draw stars on black paper and decorate with pictures of Abraham, Sarah, and their tent to remind the children that God keeps His promises.

 **REVIEW:** We can trust in God's promises. As we wait, God can help us to be patient. When you need to wait for something this week, ask God to help you wait patiently. Repeat the **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.**

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** This week in family worship, explain to your family what you love about God.

 **GIVE:** Let the children take their collection of nature cards home. Affirm all they've learned this quarter, and give each a high-five or shake their hand. Tell them you're proud of them!

SING: Sing “**Goodbye Song**.” Share that next week we will be learning about Isaac's own sons—two twins who were very different.

PRAY: Pray, thanking God for faithfully keeping His promises. Ask Him to help the children remember that He can do impossible things for us.

Tell the Story **Baby Isaac**



Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. Include additional props as needed, depending on what you have available. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

Storytelling Suggestions

- Use **gray fabric** and a **walking stick** to illustrate how old Abraham and Sarah were.
- Create a “**tent**” by facing two chairs away from each other, a yard (one meter) apart, and draping a sheet over them.
- Use **flashlights** to flicker “stars” on the roof and show **pictures** of a starry night sky.
- Choose several children to wait as “Sarah” inside the tent or have all children sit in tent, space permitting.
- Use a **bowl, towel, cup, and toy fruit** to illustrate the kind things Abraham did for his visitors.
- Show the ► pictures from the student guide as you tell the story (**week 13 Program PowerPoint**).
- Use a **baby doll** as baby Isaac.
- Use a **felt set**, if available, or peg people.
- Use expressive tones and actions to engage the children’s interest.

Pray: Before you begin, pray. Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

TELL THE STORY: QUICK CUES

- Abram and Sarah were very old. God had promised them a big family, but it seemed impossible! (Gray fabric on head, walking stick.)
- God promised Abram that his family would be like the stars—too many to count! (Flashlights on ceiling.)
- God gave them new names as a promise too. He called Abram Abraham—a father. He called Sarai Sarah—a princess (children repeat names).
- Three strangers came to visit Abraham. He was kind and friendly to them (tent, wash feet, cup, play food).
- The strangers knew Sarah’s name. Two were angels, and one was Jesus Himself!
- The stranger (Jesus) told Abraham that Sarah would have a baby in a year’s time (use peg people or felts).
- Sarah was listening and laughed in her mind! It seemed impossible—they were too old. She lied about laughing (use peg people or felts).
- Jesus knew Sarah laughed. He showed her that He knows everything. And His promises are always true.
- Baby Isaac was born. God had done the impossible! (Baby doll.)
- One day Jesus would be a descendant of this family. God always keeps His promises.

TELL THE STORY

► Abram was now an old, old man, and Sarai was a wrinkly old woman. (Place gray-colored fabric over your head, use a walking stick.) It was a long time since God had said to Abram, “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you” (Genesis 12:2). Poor Abram and Sarai still didn’t have a child of their own. It seemed impossible! (Use facial expressions.)

God wanted to encourage His friend. He told Abram, “You will have a son of your own” (Genesis 15:4, ICB). ► Then God led Abram outside in the middle of the night. “Look at the sky,” God said. Abram looked up. The black sky was scattered with millions of glittering stars (children flicker flashlights on the ceiling). God told Abram his family would be like the stars—too many to count. What a big family! God would do the impossible!

► Abram and Sarai waited for their promised baby. They waited . . . and waited . . . and waited. Are you good at waiting for things?



It was hard to be patient for such a long time. Abram was now 99 years old, and Sarai was nearly 90! God helped them by giving them new names. These names would be a promise reminder. God called Abram Abraham, meaning father of many nations. He called Sarai Sarah, which means princess. (Ask: What names did God give them?)

► One day, old Abraham was sitting in his tent's shady doorway (use peg people or felts). He looked up and saw three men nearby (count three children). He ran from his tent to meet them. Abraham was kind and friendly. He helped to make the visitors feel important and special. He made sure their dusty feet were washed and that they had a restful seat. (Use peg people or felts.) He gave them a cool drink (show cup). He made sure there was yummy food to eat (show toy fruit).

The men asked their friendly host, "Where is your wife Sarah?" (Genesis 18:9, ICB). How did they know Sarah's name, and why did they ask about her?

Abraham told them Sarah was inside the tent. (Invite several or all children to be Sarah and sit inside the tent.) Though Abraham didn't realize it yet, these men were not just men. Two of them were angels, and one of them was Jesus Himself!

► Then one of the men (who was Jesus) said to Abraham, "I will certainly return to you about this time a year from now. At that time your wife Sarah will have a son" (Genesis 18:10, ICB). Sarah was secretly listening. When she heard these words, she laughed to herself, because she knew she was far too old to have a baby! (Children to giggle.)

Sarah hadn't laughed out loud, but Jesus had heard her thoughts. Then something disappointing happened. Sarah told a lie to Jesus. She said, "I didn't laugh." Jesus spoke straight to her, "No. You did laugh" (Genesis 18:15, ICB). Sarah learned a lot that day. She learned that Jesus knows everything and that God's promises are always true.

► How happy everyone was when little Isaac was born (teacher cradles doll or passes around for children to have a cuddle). Everyone knew that Isaac truly was a special gift from God. He was a miracle baby!

Isaac would have a son, and he would have a son . . . and one day Jesus would be a descendant of this very special family. God always keeps His promises. God is loving. He is always faithful.

TEACHER NOTES

Mission Story



Focus: God makes the impossible possible for a mommy from India.

Mother and the King Cobra

Location: Help a child locate **southern India** on your **globe** or world **map**.

Seven-year-old Lakshmi [LAHK-shmee] and her mommy were searching in the forest near their home for firewood to sell in the marketplace. As her mommy stooped to pick up a piece of wood, she saw an anthill. She knew it was the home of a king cobra snake, a deadly snake who she worshipped as a god. Mommy began praying softly to the snake. While she was still praying, a king cobra slithered out of the anthill and bit her leg hard. Strong poison went into her leg. Mommy screamed.

Lakshmi came running and saw the snake on her mother's leg. She didn't know what to do, but she remembered that her teachers at her Christian school encouraged the children to pray to Jesus whenever they needed help. "Mommy!" Lakshmi cried. "Pray! Say, 'Jesus, save me!'"

Mommy stopped screaming and said, "Jesus, save me! Jesus, save me!" The snake disappeared into the anthill. Mother tore a strip of cloth off her sari [dress] and tied it around her leg to help stop the poison from spreading. Then they both hurried home.

Mommy sat down and looked at her leg. She was so surprised that the bite mark on her leg wasn't red or swollen. She had never heard of someone living after a king cobra's bite before. It was impossible! Washing her wound, she sat down to rest.

"How did you know to ask Jesus to save me?" she asked Lakshmi.

"He is the God of the universe," Lakshmi said, excitedly. "It's good to worship God, who created our world, rather than created beings who live in this world." Mommy nodded slowly. Lakshmi shared everything she could remember about Jesus as the two rested in the shade.

People soon found out about Lakshmi's mommy's snakebite. They were amazed that she wasn't hurt. The teeth marks on Mommy's leg were proof that her life had been saved by a God who was more powerful than any of the gods they had worshipped before.

Lakshmi taught her mommy to pray and read the Bible. Today she is God's good friend.

- **What did Lakshmi's mommy think was impossible?** (That she would live after a snakebite.)
- **Who made the impossible happen?** (God!)

Repeat **Big Idea: God is loving. He is always faithful.**



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Starry Sky Picture

What you need:

Black paper, chalk, colored paper, silver star stickers (if available), week 13 templates, scissors, crayons or colored pencils, and glue (1).

Preparation Instructions:

- Cut a trapezium shape out of colored paper.
- Make a cut up the middle so that it can be folded out for a "tent."
- Cut out the memory verse stars.
- Cut out the Abraham/Sarah pictures.

Create it together:

- Glue "tent" onto the black paper and fold out the opening (2).
- Dot the page with chalk to make stars (3).
- Color in the Abraham and Sarah pictures, and glue onto the page (3).
- Color in memory verse star and glue onto page (3).
- Add silver star stickers (if using) (3).

