

LESSON 1

RAHAB AND THE SPIES

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Prepares the Way

SCRIPTURE: Joshua 2

GOD'S BIG STORY: A woman named Rahab hides and protects two Israelite spies in her home in Jericho as God prepares the way for His people to live in the land He promised them.

WORD OF WONDER: God keeps His promises forever. —from 1 Chronicles 16:15

Activity: Hide and Seek

Activity: I Spy

Worship

God's Big Story

Snack

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Rope Climb

Activity: Hide and Seek

SUPPLIES: doll or stuffed animal (optional)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! Today we're going to hear how God prepared the way to save a woman and two spies! The two spies needed to hide, and the woman helped them. God kept the spies and the woman safe! Let's play a game where we hide and try to find each other.

Encourage the kids to hide around the room (or pretend to hide by covering their eyes) while you count to 10. Then walk around "seeking" them, or pretending to find them, as they move their hands. Kids can also take turns doing the seeking.

Another way to play is to have them hide a doll or stuffed animal and take turns seeking it.

Activity: I Spy

SUPPLIES: toy people figures (3), piece of red cord or yarn, plastic linking blocks (8–10), bin, rice or sand

Ahead of time, hide the toy people figures, red cord or yarn, and blocks in the bin and cover them with rice or sand. Encourage the kids to look for the red cord, toy figures, and blocks. Help them use the blocks to build a wall and use the people figures to climb up and down the wall. Watch kids closely around rice or sand.

Allergy Caution: Be aware of any food allergies or sensitivities among your kids and volunteers before doing this activity!

We're going to see how all these things you found have something to do with today's story. I wonder what red rope, three people, and blocks have to do with God's big story today! Let's get ready to see how God prepares the way. "Preparing the way" means God knows ahead of time what help will be needed and God plans His help. We'll learn more about it in today's story.

Our Wonder Truth today is: GOD PREPARES THE WAY.

Encourage kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

PREPARES—Hold both of your palms open in front of you.

THE WAY—Hold your palms open parallel and move them back and forth.

Worship

Today we'll learn about how God prepares the way for us and leads us. Let's sing together and thank Him!

Play songs from the Little Learners Playlist and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Rahab and the Spies God's Big Story Video](#), Bible Story Picture (optional)

God's big story today is about two spies and a woman named Rahab. Encourage the kids to say, "Rahab." **Let's find out what Rahab did.**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video, read the story from the Bible, or use the script provided. You can show the Bible Story Picture to give kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

You get to help me tell the story! I'll tell you what you can do as we go. Let's give it a try.

God promised to care for His people and bring them to a land He promised them. Let's cheer!

Allow kids to respond. **The land was called Canaan, and God's people had to defeat their enemies who lived there. Let's do a superhero pose!** Allow kids to respond.

Joshua sent two spies to go and see the city of Jericho. Let's use our spy glasses to see. Show kids how to make binoculars with your hands held up to your eyes. Allow kids to respond. **The city of Jericho had really high walls. Let's pretend to climb a tall wall!** Allow kids to respond. **The spies had to make sure the king didn't see them. They snuck into Rahab's house, and she hid them on the roof. Quick! Let's find a place to hide.** Allow kids to respond. **The king's men came looking, but Rahab sent the king's men away. They thought the spies had left the city, so they locked the city gates. Now the spies were stuck inside! Let's say, "Oh, no!"** Allow kids to respond.

But God prepared the way! Rahab's house had a window, and the spies escaped by going out the window and climbing down a rope. Let's pretend to climb down a rope! Allow kids to respond.

The spies escaped the city of Jericho and went back to Joshua. They told Joshua what they had seen. Their enemies heard that God had saved them, and they were terrified. God prepared the way for His people! Let's cheer! Allow kids to respond.

Snack

Instruct kids to sit in the floor. Pass out snacks and say a prayer together.

Invite kids to repeat after you:

Dear God. kids repeat

You know me, love me, and lead me too. kids repeat

Please help me follow You. kids repeat

Thank you for snacks so yummy. kids repeat

That fill my happy tummy! kids repeat

Amen

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

WORD OF WONDER
God keeps His promises forever.

—from 1 Chronicles 16:15

Our Word of Wonder for the Problems and Promises series is from 1 Chronicles 16:15:

“God keeps His promises forever.”

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **GOD**—Point up.
- **KEEPS**—Spread your right hand out before you from left to right.
- **HIS PROMISES**—Place an index finger on your lips. Move your hand downward and open your palm.
- **FOREVER**—Draw large circles in the air with your index finger.
- **FROM 1 CHRONICLES 16:15**—Open your hands in front of you, like opening a book.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's pray and talk with God. Let's thank Him for guiding us and helping us.

God, thank You for always being with us. Thank You for taking care of us and preparing the way for us. Thank You for Your love and for always keeping Your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May God remind you how much He loves you. You are never alone. May you know God always prepares the way for you. He loves you so much! He keeps His promises forever.

Activity: Rope Climb

SUPPLIES: jump rope, low step stools or small chairs (optional)

Set out a jump rope. **We can trust God, no matter what. He prepares the way for us, and He always keeps His promises! He is always with us. Let's play a game to remember how the spies climbed out of the window to escape, to remind us that God prepares the way.**

Let the kids take turns pretending to climb up a jump rope while you hold one end of it above your head. You can also set up a few step stools or low-to-the-ground chairs and help the toddler climb safely on them, or lay the rope on the ground and have them pretend it's a ladder they can climb.