

# SESSION TITLE: Joshua & Caleb

BIBLE PASSAGE: Numbers 13-14

STORY POINT: Joshua and Caleb trusted God.

KEY PASSAGE: Proverbs 3:5-6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.

## SCHEDULE

<b>Introduce the Story</b>	
(1) Activity Page & Intro Question	5 minutes
(2) Session Starter Activity	5 minutes
<b>Teach the Story</b>	
(3) Big Picture & Timeline	2 minutes
(4) Watch Bible Story Video	4 minutes
(5) Bible Story Discussion	4 minutes
(6) Sing	4 minutes
(7) Pray	2 minutes
<b>Apply the Story</b>	
(8) Craft	15 minutes
(9) Snack & Reflection Questions	10 minutes

# PREPARE the Home/Small Group Session

Set aside some time to prepare for your session. This is a special and unique opportunity and is likely different from what kids are used to, which may cause some challenges. Pray over your time and prepare the best you can.

1. Print this packet, activity pages and coloring sheets. \*
2. Gather necessary materials\*
  - a. Crayons, markers or colored pencils
  - b. Internet-capable device (with Bible video cued)
  - c. Bible
  - d. Craft materials
  - e. Snack
3. Verbally prep children for the Sunday School lesson. Let them know that you will be having a very special Sunday School at home (or in a small group with a few friends)! Let them know your expectations for participating.

**\* If you do not have a printer or the materials needed,** Anthem Kids Lead Nicole Raden has packets of supplies you can pick up at her home. The kits include the printed worksheets, coloring pages and any other craft materials noted in the lesson. Let Nicole know if you'd like to come pick up a packet via email at [nicole.raden@anthemchurch.org](mailto:nicole.raden@anthemchurch.org) or text at (360) 383-6411.

# INTRODUCE the Story

## **(1) INTRO & ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)**

To introduce the lesson, print out the appropriate activity page for kids to complete. As they fill them out, ask the intro question to get them thinking about the lesson you will be covering.

### **MATERIALS**

- Preschool Activity Page – “So Much Fruit”
- Younger Activity Page – “Spy the Land”
- Older Activity Page – “Good Land Grapes”
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils

**QUESTION** - Prompt kids to discuss a time someone made a promise to them. Who made the promise? Did he or she keep that promise?

**SAY** - When a person makes a promise, we expect him or her to keep it. When God makes a promise, we know for certain that He will keep it. Today, we will hear about a group of people who sinned by doubting God’s faithfulness to keep promises.

## **(2) SESSION STARTER ACTIVITY (5 minutes)**

### **Emotions Role Play**

#### **MATERIALS**

- None

Take turns acting out different emotions. Select a kid and whisper a common emotion into that kid’s ear, such as happiness, sadness, anger, and so forth. He will then need to act in a way that shows that emotion, and the other kids will guess what emotion he is pretending to feel. Let the final emotion acted out be ‘afraid.’

**SAY** - Our feelings are real, but that doesn’t mean they are always reliable. It’s normal to feel

sadness, anger or fear. However, we must be careful about letting our emotions tell us what to do. In our story today, we will hear about men who felt afraid and acted sinfully because of their fear.

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## ///**TRANSITION TO TEACH THE STORY** ///

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### TEACH the Story

#### MATERIALS

- Internet-capable device (Computer, laptop, tablet)
- Bible

#### **\*\*Note\*\***

*If your children are young, you may want to summarize some of the intro and story explanation. It does not need to be read in its entirety.*

### **(3) Big Picture Question & Timeline (2 minutes)**

**SAY** - First, I want to introduce you to a new big picture question. Remember that our big picture questions help us focus on big ideas found in the Bible story. Using our big picture questions helps us understand the new things we learn from God's Word. Our big picture question is: ***What does it mean to sin?*** If you pay attention to this story, you should be able to start forming a good answer.

We learned about how God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt. He led them in the wilderness and taught them the right way to live to honor Him. When they were hungry, God provided them with food; and when they were thirsty, God gave them water. God dwelt with His people and taught them how to love Him and how to offer sacrifices when they sinned against Him. You would think the people would have gotten really good

at trusting God's promises. We will learn today that they continued to struggle with trusting God. Our story today is called "Joshua and Caleb."

#### **(4) Bible Story Video (3 minutes)**

**VIDEO TITLE** - "Joshua and Caleb"

#### **(5) Bible Story Discussion & Review (4 minutes)**

**SAY** - Wow! No matter what God did to prove His faithfulness, the Israelites always seemed to turn away from Him or believe wrong things about Him. Joshua and Caleb trusted God to give His people the promised land, but none of the other Israelites did. They thought God was leading them to die!

The enemies living in the promised land were powerful, and they had strong cities. That was all true. Even so, God is more powerful, and He has the ability to defeat any enemy. By refusing to enter the promised land, God's people were showing that they believed the lie that God wasn't strong enough or good enough to protect them and fight for them.

It's too easy to read this story and think the 10 scouts who were afraid were foolish. I tell myself that I would have been like Joshua or Caleb. But you know, I distrust God sometimes too. A lot of times, actually. Every time I choose sin instead of obedience, it shows I do not trust that God's commands are good for me. Even though God has never been unfaithful to me, I am unfaithful to Him. I sin even though I should trust Him and obey.

That brings us to our big picture question: ***What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.*** Sounds like sin is pretty unavoidable, right? That's why the gospel is such good news!

**[Christ Connection]**

God knows that we all sin. Sometimes we sin in ways we don't even totally understand or know about! Although we all deserve punishment for our sin, God sent Jesus to rescue us from sin.

The Israelites rebelled against God because they did not trust Him. Jesus trusted God perfectly. He took the punishment we deserve for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and gives us eternal life.

## **(6) Sing! (4 minutes)**

*Note – the music videos have hand motions to move along with! Kids are more likely to participate if you do, so get ready to move. 😊*

### **MUSIC VIDEO TITLES (OPTIONS)**

1. Trust! (Elementary)
2. Walking by Your Side (Elementary)
3. Trust in the Lord (Preschool)

## **(7) Pray (2 minutes)**

**SAY** - Father, thank You that we can trust You to keep Your promises. Thank You for leading us away from sin. Help us trust You more each day. Give us courage and wisdom to share the gospel with our friends and families. Amen.

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# **EXPERIENCE the Story**

## **(8) Grape Clusters Craft**

### **MATERIALS**

- Circles of purple or green paper
- Tape

- Green pipe cleaners
- Markers or crayons

Provide circles of purple or green construction paper or sticky notes. Invite the kids to write or draw on multiple circles things they need God's help with this week. Remind them that it can be anything from a test or quiz at school to a frustrating situation at home to a game or competition with their sports team.

Help the kids tape their "grapes" to a green pipe cleaner to look like a vine. Invite the kids to keep their cluster with them this week and pluck off a grape each day to pray about the thing they wrote down.

**SAY - Joshua and Caleb trusted God to give His people the promised land.** Trusting God is important. Only He has the power to help us through *any* situation. When we don't trust God, we sin. What does it mean to sin? **To sin is to go against God and His commands.** God sent Jesus to pay the price of our sins, and when we trust in Him, God forgives our sin and promises us eternal life with Him.

## **(9) Snack & Reflection (10 minutes)**

### **MATERIALS**

- Grapes or another fruit

Serve grapes (or another fruit) for snack. Remind children that the promised land was filled with good fruits to enjoy. **Joshua and Caleb trusted God** to give them the land, but the others did not. Jesus always trusted God. He took the punishment we deserve for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and gives us life with Him forever.

As they eat, guide kids to think about and answer questions reviewing and reflecting on the story:

- **How did Moses pick the 12 men to go scout out the land?** (*Moses picked a leader from each of the twelve tribes of Israel, Num. 13:4-16*)
- **What did the scouts report about the land?** (*It was good, flowing with milk and honey, but defended by strong people with fortified cities; Num. 13:27-29*)

- **Who trusted God?** *(Only Joshua and Caleb trusted God to give them the land. The other scouts were afraid; Num. 14:6-9)*
- **Was it sinful for the 10 scouts to feel afraid?** *Guide the kids to discuss the idea that feeling afraid is not sinful. We are humans and sometimes we will face things that scare us. The 10 scouts who were afraid sinned when they doubted God and did not trust Him to give them the land He promised.*
- **Why do you think God allows us to go through difficult or scary circumstances?** *Help kids see that when we face hard times, we learn to trust Him. Remind the kids that asking for help is wise. We never have to face scary times alone.*
- **How can trusting God help us face our fears?** *Guide kids to think about who God is and what He can do. Lead them to see that He has promised His people eternal life through Jesus. When we trust Jesus, we know that no difficult situation lasts forever. We always have hope. We can persevere through hard times by remembering what Jesus did to save us.*

## **Extra Activity Options**

### **Coloring Page**

A coloring page is also provided and can be used as needed to go along with the story.

### **Key Passage**

We have a new Key Passage this week for kids to begin memorizing! You can print it out and help kids practice over the next few weeks. Note that the songs “Trust!” and “Trust in the Lord” are meant to help with memorization.