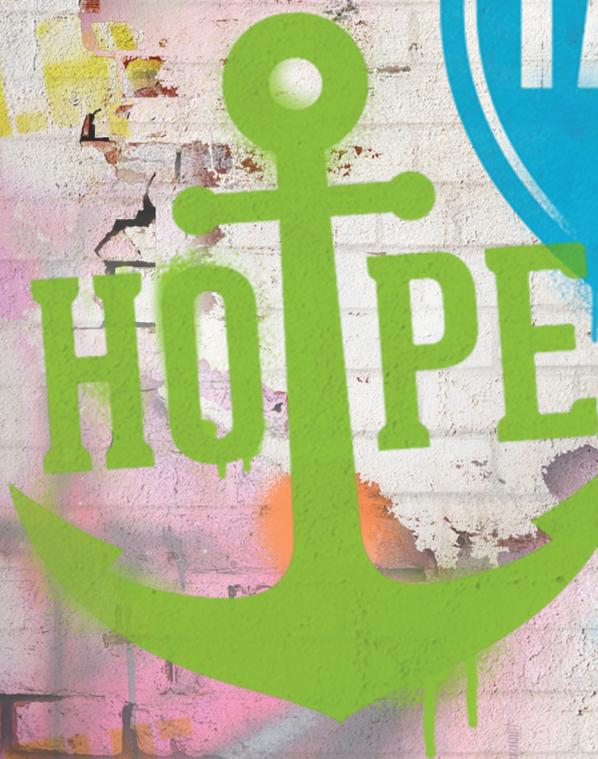




BIG



LEADER GUIDE

YOUNGER CHILDREN

RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 6-8

FAITH



LEADER'S GUIDE YOUNGER CHILDREN

BIG PICTURE:

FAITH

BIG IDEA:

DOING FAITH

BIG POINT:

WE CAN HAVE FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD

BIG WORD:

SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND. ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)



USER AGREEMENT

Upon purchase of this resource, Hillsong Kids BIG gladly grants the buyer (The Licensee) or the organisation they represent, a free and non-exclusive license to tailor Hillsong Kids BIG print materials to fit their unique leadership requirements. However, it is prohibited to make changes to doctrine, scripture references, biblical principles and concepts presented. Please see doctrinal guidelines we have expressed in our What We Believe statement.

These resources are intended to be printed for use only by the buyer or the organisation they represent and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by others. Any unauthorised reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of copyright laws.

© Hillsong Church. All rights reserved.

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture FAITH HOPE & LOVE - FAITH. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE'.

The BIG 'Faith Hope & Love' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

Learning Outcomes

- At the conclusion of this lesson children will:
- Understand that faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
 - Discover Heroes of Faith in God's word.
 - Know that we can have faith in God because He will never fail.
 - Our faith is demonstrated by our actions.

BIG POINT:

WE CAN HAVE FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD

BIG WORD: SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND.
ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

INTRO

Trust Fall fails.

Today we are going to begin to learn all about faith. The Bible says in Hebrews 11:1 (NIV), "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." When you're going to teach about faith, you would usually get a volunteer on stage and ask them to trust and have faith in you as they fall backwards with their eyes closed and trust that you will catch them. They have to have faith in you, confidence in the hope that you will catch them, their eyes are closed, they need to have assurance in what they do not see! They can't see you! They need to trust that you will be there to catch them. Well that's the idea anyway, but that's not always the way it goes...

Take a look at these clips where the trust fall hasn't gone as planned.

(PLAY CLIPS)

Hopefully no one was hurt, but we found that pretty funny. Here's the thing, people aren't perfect. People make mistakes, get distracted, don't follow instructions, mess up and fail. God is perfect. He doesn't make mistakes, He doesn't mess up and forget about us while we're trusting Him to catch us. Life can sometimes feel like we're falling backwards with our eyes closed. We don't know what's ahead, we don't know what will happen to us but we do know God. God is all knowing, all powerful, all understanding and completely trustworthy. Proverbs 3:5&6 (NIV) Says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." We can have confidence in God and assurance that He will not let us down. We can have faith and trust in God.

Scripture References:

Proverbs 3:5&6

Romans 4

2 Corinthians 5:7

Hebrews 10:23

Hebrews 11:1

Supplies Needed:

Search online video sites for 'trust fall fails' and choose an appropriate clip or two to show to the children during your introduction (There are plenty of them around the internet. A favourite of ours is when a girl falls forward instead of backwards). Depending on the size of your group, an iPad/tablet computer would be a great way to display them.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

STORYTELLING

Share the story of God's promise to Abraham reinforcing today's big point "We can have faith and trust in God" throughout the story.

"That's impossible, there is just no way that it could happen. I'm so, so old!" Said Abraham. God had given Abraham a promise. It was a promise that seemed so outrageous, so beyond belief that Abraham and his wife Sarah thought God must have been joking. You see this was a promise that didn't seem physically possible at all. Abraham and Sarah were old. Very old. Older than your grandparents and maybe even older than your great grandparents and God told them that they would have a baby. Now, you don't see many elderly women walking around pregnant do you? No! It's basically impossible!

Abraham was probably wondering why God would choose Him, but then again, this isn't really a story about Abraham and why he was so special. It's a story about God and why HE is so special. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

God had spoken to Abraham when he was 75 years old and said, "Leave your country, your family, and your father's home for a land that I will show you. I'll make you a great nation and bless you. I'll make you famous; you'll be a blessing. I'll bless those who bless you; those who curse you I'll curse. All the families of the Earth will be blessed through you."

A great nation?! Abraham didn't know how this could happen when he didn't even have one child. He was a man of Faith, so Abraham did just what God had told him. He packed up his whole household and left. God didn't give Abraham all the details of where he was going or what would happen when he got there, he had to have faith in God. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

Abraham and Sarah waited and waited and waited, years passed by and they didn't seem to be any closer to what God had promised them. They may have started to think that God had forgotten about His promise altogether. They couldn't see an answer, they couldn't see how it could happen. With faith in God they waited. Then they waited some more... and even more after that. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

God said to Abraham, "Open your eyes, look around. Look north, south, east and west. Everything you see, the whole land spread out before you, I will give to you and your children forever. I'll make your descendants like dust—counting your descendants will be as impossible as counting the dust of the Earth. So—on your feet, get moving! Walk through the country, its length and breadth; I'm giving it all to you."

With faith in God Abraham and Sarah waited, waited, waited and waited even more. Years passed by Sarah still hadn't had a baby! God had told Abraham that he would have so many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren that it would be impossible to count them. Well, right now he could count them, in fact he could count them on one hand. Well, actually he didn't even need to do that. There were zero. Zilch. Zip. None. At that time counting his children wasn't impossible. God's promise is what seemed impossible. So with faith in God they waited still. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

Reminder:

This is a great time to play the 'Big Story' video to your group. We find it breaks up your Big Message Live really well and keeps the children focused.

Supplies Needed:

Image of Abraham and Sarah supplied in print material.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

Abraham was scared. He was afraid that the older he and Sarah were, the less time they had left to be able to have any children. He was afraid that maybe God wasn't going to give them a child at all and maybe it had all been one big joke. God came to Abraham in a vision and said "Don't be afraid. I'm your shield. Your reward will be grand!"

Abraham said "God, what good are your gifts as long as I don't have any children, there will be no one to inherit them once I'm gone. You've given me no children!"

God took him outside and said "Don't worry, Look at the sky. Count the stars. Can you do it? Count your descendants! You're going to have a big family, Abraham!"

With faith Abraham believed God. Abraham believed that he would have more descendants than there are stars in the sky! Abraham and Sarah had to trust God. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

Many many years passed by and what did Abraham and Sarah do? Yes, they waited and waited and waited some more. They waited until Sarah was ninety years old and Abraham was ONE HUNDRED years old! God spoke to Abraham and said "I will bless Sarah, she will have a baby son and from Sarah will come nations and kings of nations."

"Ha ha ha!" He laughed, "How can I have a son now, at one hundred years old and my wife Sarah is 90 years old?" Abraham just laughed and laughed at how crazy this whole thing seemed.

God told him "Your wife Sarah will have a baby son and you will call him Isaac". The name Isaac means laughter!

Sarah laughed too, "How could an old woman like me have a baby! And with a husband that's one hundred years old?"

This isn't really a story about Abraham and why he was so special. It's a story about God and why HE is so special. Is there anything that is too hard for God? Is there anything that God cannot do? Faith is trusting God to do what only God can do. We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

Sure enough, God DID keep His promise to Abraham and Sarah, they had a son. At the exact time God had planned all along. They named Him Isaac just as God had told them to and Abraham threw a huge party to celebrate! We can have faith and trust in God. God keeps His promises.

OBJECT LESSON

Aeroplane

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

When you get in an aeroplane you trust that it's going to fly and not drop out of the sky. You can't see anything holding it in the air, you can't see the forces that make it take off the ground and climb higher and higher into the sky.

There are four forces that make an aeroplane fly and stop it from falling to the ground. Those are THRUST, DRAG, LIFT and GRAVITY.

Supplies Needed:

A model aeroplane or a paper aeroplane, diagram of forces (supplied in print material) printed or shown on screen.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

THRUST is generated by the aeroplane's engines. Have you heard how loud aircraft engines are? The power they produce pushes the plane forward.

DRAG is the force produced by the resistance of the air against the forward motion of the plane. If you swish your hand quickly from side to side you will feel a little of this drag resistance force.

When the force of THRUST is greater than the force of DRAG, the aeroplane moves forwards.

GRAVITY is the force that keeps us all from floating around. Gravity pulls towards the centre of the earth. That's why when people are in space, very far away from the earth, they float around because the pull of gravity is less.

LIFT is the force that is produced when the thrust and drag work together to move the plane forward fast enough to give the plane's wings LIFT that is greater than its GRAVITY pull so it moves upwards.

We can't see these forces, but we have trust that they are at work. We have confidence in the aircraft and all of those forces working together that we will be safe when we are in an aeroplane. I imagine the first person to fly in an aeroplane might have been scared, not knowing if they could trust it to fly. Now there are approximately 93,000 flights, taking off from over 9,000 different airports around the world in a single day. Sometimes there are as many as 13,000 flights in the air at the same time. Every person on those flights wouldn't get on the plane if they didn't trust and have confidence that it would fly.

It's a little bit like our faith in God. We can't see the forces at work, God is bigger and more powerful than any force we can describe and we can't see God, but we have to have confidence in Him for us to step out and live our lives. We can have faith and trust in God. Hebrews 11:1 (NIV) says, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Faith isn't just a far away wish that God will take care of us, provide for us, protect us and fulfil His promises to us, faith is CONFIDENCE and ASSURANCE in what we don't see. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV) says, "For we live by faith, not by sight." We can have faith and trust in God. This confidence and assurance changes how we live our lives. Just like people step onto the plane because they have confidence and assurance that they will be safe, without that confidence they would never fly anywhere. When we live with confidence and assurance that God is with us our lives will go places that we can't even imagine! We can have faith and trust in God.

POINTS

1. God is faithful.

Having faith in God isn't about how good and how well we can trust Him. Our faith in Him is powerful because HE is trustworthy, faithful and never failing. We trust God because of who He is and what He has done in our lives. He loves you, has a plan for you and is faithful to you. He's not going to leave at the first sign of trouble, He's not going to give up when things seem to hard and He's not going to forget about you. HE is faithful and we can have faith and trust in Him. Hebrews 10:23 (NIRV) "Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have." The One who promised is faithful.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

2. What don't you see? Certain of these things.

Can we see God? Do you know what God looks like? Can you see faith? Can you touch it? Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." We might not be able to see God physically, but we can see what He does, we can feel the effects of Him working in our lives.

While we can't see God in the flesh we have faith in Him. We know we can trust Him. We can see Him throughout His word, The Bible, taking care of His people and keeping His promises to them. We can see Him at work in the lives of our families, people at church and around the world. Having faith is trusting God to do what only He can do! God can do anything! When we can't see a way out, when we can't see the answers to our problems, when we can't see that miracle coming to pass, we can have assurance that God will take care of it. When we can't see a way, God makes a way! We can be certain of what we don't see. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV) says, "For we live by faith, not by sight."

3. Doing Faith

Faith changes how we live our lives. Faith in action is living a life that is based on our Faith in God. Faith is demonstrated in what we do. Saying you have faith in God to take care of you is one thing but putting that faith into action is when things happen! If someone says they have faith in God but never trust Him to provide for them they won't ever give. If someone says they have faith that God will help them make friends when they go to a new school but never speak to anyone and hide, then they are not putting that faith into action! Faith is shown in our actions! James 2:26 (NirV) says, "The body without the spirit is dead. In the same way, faith without good works is dead." DOING faith means that faith isn't just something we say but it's something we do! Put it into action and see God work in your life. Proverbs 3:5&6 (NIV) says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

Learning Outcomes

- At the conclusion of this lesson children will:
- Understand that faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
 - Discover Heroes of Faith in God's word.
 - Know that we can have faith in God because He will never fail.
 - Our faith is demonstrated by our actions.

BIG POINT:

WE CAN HAVE FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD

BIG WORD: SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND.
ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

CONNECT TIME

Think of your favourite colour. Got it? Now think of something that you like which is that colour. For example; your favourite colour is pink and you like pink bubble gum!

Go around the group and share your answers.

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. What does it mean to have faith in God?

It means that we trust God, we can be sure that He is real and that He will take care of us. We don't need to worry because we can have faith and trust in God. Faith is trusting God to do what only God can do. We know that nothing is impossible for God, so we can have faith in Him no matter what.

2. How did Abraham have faith and trust God?

God gave Abraham a promise and even though it seemed impossible, he trusted God and God didn't break His promise. God told Abraham and Sarah that they would have many, many descendants more than there are stars in the sky. It seemed impossible because they didn't even have one child yet. They waited many years and had to have faith in God that He would give them a son.

3. How can you have faith and trust in God?

When we live our lives having faith in God and we put our faith into action, we can do amazing things for God. Things that seem impossible, we can be sure of because we have faith in God.

We don't live with fear or worry because we trust in God. When we live with faith we don't need to be afraid. Our faith is shown in our actions and how we live our lives. If we didn't believe God would take care of us we might live with fear and never try to do anything for God. When we live with faith we step out, try new things, invite people to church, serve at church and help others because we know that God is with us and has a plan for our lives. When things go wrong we keep trusting God and keep having faith.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: DOING FAITH

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the activity sheets in this time.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: Children can make a pennant flag decoration, to join together and display in your program, reminding them everyday to have faith and trust in God.

Directions: Give each child a flag printed on card paper from the template supplied. Allow them to colour in their flag and help them to cut it out. Punch a hole in the top corners of each flag and then string the flags together in the right order to say "We can have faith and trust in God."

Explanation: Having faith and trusting in God isn't just something we do when we have a big problem to face. We have to have faith in God everyday! Faith in God will change how we live out our everyday lives, putting our faith into action and trusting God. Talking about faith vs. living with faith, faith in action/shown in our actions.

BIG WORD

"Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." Romans 5:1 (NIV)

Practice the Big Word song as a group and help each other to learn the actions.

GAME

Mighty Memory

One by one say the name of each object and place it on the tray. Give players one minute to memorise all the objects. Cover the tray with a cloth and give each player a pencil/pen and some paper. Ask the children to write down as many objects as they can remember.

PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you that we can have faith in You and that You will always be with us. Help us to live with faith and to trust You with our lives. Help us to put faith into action and do amazing things for You.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Supplies Needed:

Pennant Flag template from print material, printed onto card paper. Colouring pencils or crayons. Hole puncher and string.

Supplies Needed:

A tray, a cloth, a selection of small objects, pencils or pens, paper.



LEADER'S GUIDE YOUNGER CHILDREN

BIG PICTURE:

FAITH

BIG IDEA:

FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

BIG POINT:

FAITH IN GOD DEFEATS FEAR

BIG WORD:

SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND. ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)



USER AGREEMENT

Upon purchase of this resource, Hillsong Kids BIG gladly grants the buyer (The Licensee) or the organisation they represent, a free and non-exclusive license to tailor Hillsong Kids BIG print materials to fit their unique leadership requirements. However, it is prohibited to make changes to doctrine, scripture references, biblical principles and concepts presented. Please see doctrinal guidelines we have expressed in our What We Believe statement.

These resources are intended to be printed for use only by the buyer or the organisation they represent and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by others. Any unauthorised reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of copyright laws.

© Hillsong Church. All rights reserved.

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture FAITH HOPE & LOVE - FAITH. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE'.

The BIG 'Faith Hope & Love' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Learn that if we have faith we don't need to fear.
- Discover the power of faith through the account of Jesus calming the storm.
- Know that their faith in God can defeat fear.

BIG POINT: FAITH IN GOD DEFEATS FEAR

BIG WORD: SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND. ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

INTRO

Introduce today's Big Idea FEAR GET OUTTA HERE by playing a multiple choice game based on some crazy fears/phobias. Show the name of the fear and give the multiple choice options of what they think it could be a fear of. Alternatively show the name of the fear on the screen and reveal its surprising meaning.

- Nomophobia - Fear of not having mobile phone access.
- Anthophobia - Fear of flowers.
- Chorophobia - Fear of dancing.
- Cyclophobia- Fear of bicycles.
- Euphobia- Fear of hearing good news.
- Germanophobia- Fear of Germany or German culture.
- Leukophobia- Fear of the colour white.
- Lutraphobia- Fear of otters.
- Octophobia - Fear of the figure 8.
- Porphyrophobia- Fear of the colour purple.
- Pteronophobia- Fear of being tickled by feathers.
- Pupaphobia - Fear of puppets.
- Rhytiphobia- Fear of getting wrinkles.
- Sesquipedalophobia- Fear of long words.
- Alektorophobia- Fear of chickens.
- Chionophobia- Fear of snow.
- Chronomentrophobia- Fear of clocks.
- Arachibutyrophobia- Fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of the mouth.
- Pteronophobia- Fear of being tickled by feathers.

There are some crazy fears that people have. These might seem funny to some of us but fear is a very real thing for people to deal with. Fear grips a hold of a person and holds them back from living the life God has planned for them.

"God didn't give us a spirit that makes us weak and fearful. He gave us a spirit that gives us power and love. It helps us control ourselves." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIRV)

Today we are going to discover that the antidote to fear is faith. Fear and faith can't be in the same place at the one time.

Scripture References:

- Matthew 6:25-34
- Matthew 14:22-34
- Mark 4:35-41
- 1 John 4:18

Supplies Needed:

Images supplied in print material.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

FHL
1.2

STORYTELLING

Share the story of Jesus calming the storm & Peter walking on water. To help the children feel involved, include them in the story by giving them a 4D experience! Wind, waves, sound effects, water spray and the smell of fish!

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus said to His disciples "Go, now, to the other side of the lake." The disciples got into the boat and were about to set sail. The sky was clear and the waves seemed peaceful as they lapped the side of the boat. It was night time but there didn't seem to be any signs of bad weather so they set sail. As Peter and John pulled in the rope John sneezed...(Spray a little water!). Meanwhile Jesus went by himself up a mountainside to pray.

As they started to get out a little further and were settling into their journey across the water, things changed. Like an earthquake the wind blew (blow fans) and the boat began to rock from side to side (have children sway side to side) and dark clouds rolled in (dim lights), rain and waves splashed into the boat (squirt water sprays across the crowd), the thunder roared (play storm sound effects) and the lightning lit up the sky (flick on and off lights). It was a storm like they had never seen before.

Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen and had encountered storms all their life, but this one was so much worse. They did everything they could to get the water out of the boat and keep it afloat but their sails were in tatters and the waves didn't let up. The disciples were afraid, they made sure that everyone on the boat was still there and that no one had been thrown overboard.

"What is that?" Said Peter.

John was confused..."What are you talking about?"

"Look.. Out there on the water.. Its... its... a..."

"Ghost!" They all screamed in fear.

It wasn't a ghost. It wasn't another ship. It wasn't their imagination... It was Jesus! He was walking out towards them. Walking ON THE WATER! He wasn't in a boat and He wasn't sinking, He really really was walking on the water. He called out to them "Be brave, it's me! Don't be afraid."

Peter called out to Jesus "Lord.. If it really is you, tell me to come out to you on the water"

"Come." Jesus said.

Peter looked out to Jesus, stretched one leg out of the boat, then the other and began walking on the water out to where Jesus was. Peter took his eyes off Jesus and looked across the water at the wind and the waves and began to wobble a little, then sink a little; his fear got the best of him and he called to Jesus "Lord, save me!"

Jesus quickly reached out His hand and caught him. "Peter, why did you doubt me? Your faith is so small." As they climbed into the boat the wind stopped blowing and the waves settled and the boat became stable (turn off sound effects, fans and water spray).

All the disciples knew right there and then that Jesus really was the Son of God.

Reminder:

This is a great time to play the 'Big Story' video to your group. We find it breaks up your Big Message Live really well and keeps the children focussed.

Supplies needed:

Water sprayers, fans, storm sound effects, and if you're really keen...Some cans of sardines open and placed strategically to make the area smell fishy!



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

FHL
1.2

OBJECT LESSON

MYTH BUSTERS!

There's an old saying going around that the Bible says "Fear not" or "Do not fear" 365 times, one for every day of the year.

Today...we're going to find out if this is true or if it's a myth that can be busted! Are you ready to help me Myth Busters?

Ok, let's start with some interesting facts.

Have you ever wondered how many words are in the Bible?

Let's run some calculations... (show screen that says "Calculating") There are around 774,746 words in the bible. (Show answer screen) That is A LOT of words.

Ok let's ask, "How many times is the phrase "DO NOT BE AFRAID" found in the Bible?" (Show screen that says "Calculating")

(Show answer screen) 29 times! That's nowhere near 365 times, it's only 29 times. Let's see what else we might find.

Ok, what else can we do to try and see if this myth is true or if it's busted? Let's try "Don't be afraid, do not fear, be not afraid and fear not" how many times are these phrases found in the average Bible? (Show screen that says "calculating")

(Show answer screen) 119 times!

Our myth is busted! Let's ask another important question...

"How many times does God need to say "Do not fear" for it to be true?" (Show screen saying "Calculating")

(Show answer screen) ONCE!

Even if it was only mentioned once in the Bible, it's true and God means it! We don't need to hear it 365 times to make us believe it. Faith in God defeats fear! We weren't made to be full of fear, we were made to be full of faith. "God didn't give us a spirit that makes us weak and fearful. He gave us a spirit that gives us power and love. It helps us control ourselves." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIRV)

POINTS

1. Fear Not

When Jesus walked out on the water, in the middle of the storm, what did the disciples do? They were afraid! They thought He was a ghost! Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid...It's me!" Jesus was with them in the storm. They didn't have to be full of fear. We may face storms in our life. We might be looking head on into tragedy, we might be walking into a new school where we don't know anyone, we might be stepping into a new thing and trying something different. You don't have to be full of fear because God is with you. Just like Jesus was with the disciples in the storm, He is with you in your life no matter if it's stormy or clear. Isaiah 41:10 (NIRV) says, "So do not be afraid. I am with you. Do not be terrified. I am your God. I will make you strong and help you. My powerful right hand will take good care of you. I always do what is right."

All through God's word, He tells us, "Do not be afraid, I am with you" If we have faith in God, we don't need to be full of fear! Faith in God defeats fear.

Supplies Needed:

A model aeroplane or a paper aeroplane, diagram of forces printed or shown on screen.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

2. Faith is powerful (calms storm)

Faith is more powerful than fear. Faith can overcome obstacles, faith can see you through any situation, faith can cause miracles to happen, faith can make a way where there is no way. Faith can calm storms. Imagine being out in a wooden boat in the middle of a storm, the waves crashing, the boat rocking, the thunder and lightning billowing overhead. There are a lot of reasons to fear that storm. But there are more reasons to have FAITH in GOD. Faith is more powerful than any storm. Faith is more powerful than your fear. Faith calms the storm. Jesus called Peter out onto the water to walk towards Him. Peter didn't know what was going to happen, he stretched one leg out and stood on the water, then the other leg and began to walk. Keeping his eyes on Jesus His faith was more powerful than his fear, then the moment he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink. Jesus reached out and caught him and as they climbed back into the boat the storm stopped, the waves were calm. Faith in God is powerful enough to calm a raging storm.

3. Faith in God defeats fear (battle, faith wins over fear every time)

If you took faith on one side and fear on the other and set them to do battle, do you know who would win? FAITH! Faith in God defeats fear. God didn't make us to be people that are full of fear. He didn't make you to be weak and scared. He made you to be full of faith in Him.

"God didn't give us a spirit that makes us weak and fearful. He gave us a spirit that gives us power and love. It helps us control ourselves." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIRV)

Faith in God defeats fear. If you choose to have faith in God over and over again instead of choosing fear, you'll see that Faith wins every time.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Learn that if we have faith we don't need to fear.
- Discover the power of faith through the account of Jesus calming the storm.
- Know that their faith in God can defeat fear.

BIG POINT: FAITH IN GOD DEFEATS FEAR

BIG WORD: SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND. ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

CONNECT TIME

On the count of three, everyone make the funniest face you can. Count 1, 2, 3 GO! Look around and giggle at all your funny faces!

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. Why were the disciples afraid when they were in the boat?

They were afraid because of the storm. The disciples were good at sailing but these storms were so big that they nearly sank the boat!

2. What happened when Peter took his eyes off Jesus?

When Peter was walking on the water out to where Jesus was, he took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the wind and waves, he began to sink!

3. How can we stop being afraid when something is scary or something is worrying us?

We can trust God, have faith and keep our eyes on Him instead of our problem.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH

BIG IDEA: FEAR GET OUTTA HERE

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the activity sheets in this time.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: To remind the children that faith defeats fear by making a boat just like in today's Bible story.

Directions: Give each child a boat shape and a sail shape. Allow them to colour in as you talk about today's story. Use a straw as the boat's mast and attach the sail to straw using tape and attach the mast to the boat with second piece of tape.

Explanation: Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen, so they spent a lot of time sailing in boats. They were used to being out on the boat in big waves and storms, but the storms they faced in today's story were HUGE! They were the biggest storms they'd ever seen. They were afraid, their boat rocked from side to side and the waves crashed into the boat and it almost sank. Jesus walked out to them on the water and they didn't realise it was Him, so they grew even more afraid. Jesus had power over the storm. They didn't need to have fear, they just needed to have faith in God and their fear was gone. When we face storms in our life we might be afraid but when we have faith in God we don't need to fear, we can remember today's story. Jesus had power over the storms and He has power over the storms in our life.

BIG WORD

"Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." Romans 5:1 (NIV)

Hide the Big Word circles around the room before the lesson (If you have lots of small groups in the same room, allocate each group their own colour, children can look for circles for their group's colour).

Print the big word circles onto coloured paper and hide them around the room before the lesson. Explain to the children that they will search around the room for the coloured circles. Bring them all together and attach them to the string with pegs. Have the group help to arrange them in the right order and then repeat the verse together.

GAME

Make simple fish shapes out of newspaper (Fish should be around 40cm/16inches long). Give one fish to each player and ask them to write their name on it. Create a start and finish line for the game, making it as long as possible. Players line up in a row laying their fish on the ground in front of them. When you say, "Go" they flap their books creating wind to blow their fish and race across the floor to the finish line. The first fish over the line wins.

PRAYER

Dear God,
Thank you that we don't need to have fear. Thank You that faith in you defeats fear. Help us to trust in You and have faith that no matter how big our storm is, You will be with us and you have power over it.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Supplies Needed:

Boat and sail printed on card paper for each child from the template provided, scissors, tape, straws, colouring pencils or crayons.

Supplies Needed:

String, scissors, clothing pegs, Big Word circles printed from template supplies and cut out.

Supplies Needed:

Newspaper, scissors, pen and books (large thin books if possible).



LEADER'S GUIDE YOUNGER CHILDREN

BIG PICTURE:

FAITH

BIG IDEA:

BIGGER & BIGGER

BIG POINT:

AS WE TRUST GOD, OUR FAITH WILL GROW

BIG WORD:

SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND. ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)



USER AGREEMENT

Upon purchase of this resource, Hillsong Kids BIG gladly grants the buyer (The Licensee) or the organisation they represent, a free and non-exclusive license to tailor Hillsong Kids BIG print materials to fit their unique leadership requirements. However, it is prohibited to make changes to doctrine, scripture references, biblical principles and concepts presented. Please see doctrinal guidelines we have expressed in our What We Believe statement.

These resources are intended to be printed for use only by the buyer or the organisation they represent and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by others. Any unauthorised reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of copyright laws.

© Hillsong Church. All rights reserved.

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture FAITH HOPE & LOVE - FAITH. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE'.

The BIG 'Faith Hope & Love' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

Learning Outcomes

- At the conclusion of this lesson children will:
- Learn that we can grow our faith by knowing God's word and putting into action.
 - Discover that sharing what God has done in our lives and hearing what God has done in other's lives helps grow faith.
 - Our faith, no matter how big or small, can have huge results.

BIG POINT:

AS WE TRUST GOD, OUR FAITH WILL GROW

BIG WORD:

SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND.
ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

INTRO

The Bible is the story of God and His people. It is full of people that lived incredible lives of faith. They didn't just talk about faith, they lived with faith and did incredible things as they trusted God. They didn't have all the answers, they didn't know what would happen but they had faith and acted on it. Living by faith is what set them apart and is the reason they are recorded in God's Word. We can see their examples and be encouraged.

Let's meet a few of these Heroes of Faith...

Show each picture and read the descriptions from Hebrews 11 in The Message.

Hebrews 11 (Adapted from The Message)

ABEL - By an act of faith, Abel brought a better sacrifice to God than Cain. It was what he believed, not what he brought, that made the difference. That's what God noticed and approved as righteous. After all these centuries, that belief continues to catch our notice.

ENOCH - By an act of faith, Enoch skipped death completely. "They looked all over and couldn't find him because God had taken him." We know on the basis of reliable testimony that before he was taken "he pleased God." It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that He exists and that He cares enough to respond to those who seek Him.

NOAH - By faith, Noah built a ship in the middle of dry land. He was warned about something he couldn't see, and acted on what he was told. The result? His family was saved. His act of faith drew a sharp line between the evil of the unbelieving world and the rightness of the believing world. As a result, Noah became close with God.

ABRAHAM & SARAH - By an act of faith, Abraham said yes to God's call to travel to an unknown place that would become his home. When he left he had no idea where he was going. By an act of faith he lived in the country promised him, lived as a stranger camping in tents. Isaac and Jacob did the same, living under the same promise. Abraham did it by keeping his eye on an unseen city with real, eternal foundations—the City designed and built by God. By faith, barren Sarah was able to become pregnant, an old woman as she was at the time, because she believed the One who made a promise would do what He said. That's how it happened - that from one man there are now people numbering into the millions.

Scripture References:

Psalms 103:2

Proverbs 3:5&6

Matthew 17

Mark 5:40-55

Luke 8

Luke 17

Philemon 1:6

Hebrews 11

Ecclesiastes 3:3

Supplies Needed:

Images of Bible heroes supplied in print material.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

MOSES - By an act of faith, Moses' parents hid him away for three months after his birth. They saw the child's beauty, and they braved the king's decree. By faith, Moses, when grown, refused the privileges of the Egyptian royal house. He chose a hard life with God's people rather than an opportunistic soft life of sin with the oppressors. He valued suffering in the Messiah's camp far greater than Egyptian wealth because he was looking ahead, anticipating the payoff. By an act of faith, he turned his heel on Egypt, indifferent to the king's blind rage. He had his eye on the One no eye can see, and kept right on going. By an act of faith, he kept the Passover Feast and sprinkled Passover blood on each house so that the destroyer of the firstborn wouldn't touch them. By an act of faith, Israel walked through the Red Sea on dry ground. The Egyptians tried it and drowned.

JOSHUA - By faith, Joshua and the Israelites marched around the walls of Jericho for seven days, and the walls fell flat.

There are so many! We could talk about them all day! Joseph, Gideon, David, Samuel... Hebrews 11:32-36 (NIV) says, "Through acts of faith, they toppled kingdoms, made justice work, took the promises for themselves. They were protected from lions, fires, and sword thrusts, turned disadvantage to advantage, won battles, routed alien armies. Women received their loved ones back from the dead. There were those who, under torture, refused to give in and go free, preferring something better: resurrection. Not one of these people, even though their lives of faith were exemplary, got their hands on what was promised. God had a better plan for us: that their faith and our faith would come together to make one completed whole, their lives of faith not complete apart from ours."

The writer of Hebrews is reminding their listeners that they can have faith in what they do not see. We can live a life of faith just like the heroes in God's Word. Our faith grows when we hear other people's stories of faith. Their faith was shown in how they lived. If Noah never had faith, he wouldn't have built the Ark. If Joshua and the Israelites didn't live with faith, they wouldn't have marched around Jericho and seen the walls tumble. What could God do through you if you live by faith? We can be encouraged and believe with faith for our own lives. "I pray that you will be active in sharing what you believe. Then you will completely understand every good thing we have in Christ." Philemon 1:6 (NIRV). We can be encouraged by each other's lives, share with each other what God has done in your life. As we trust God, our faith will grow.

STORYTELLING

Share the stories of Jesus healing two women; Jairus' Daughter and the woman that was bleeding. As you tell the story, you will flip a coin to choose an ending for each woman.

Dads love their daughters. There was once a dad that had only one daughter, she was 12 years old and was very sick. Her dad's name was Jairus and he was extremely worried. Day after day his little girl lay in bed and day after day she became more and more ill. No one knew how to make her well and no one knew how to help.

Jairus was worried. He didn't know how long his daughter had left. He buried his face in his hands and sighed as he tried to think of what he could do. Then he had an idea, "That's it! I know who can help!" Jairus had heard that Jesus was in town and that Jesus had healed many people from all kinds of sickness.

There was a huge crowd gathering around to see Jesus. Jairus rushed to the temple, weaved his way through the crowd and threw himself at Jesus' feet, begging Him, "Please, please come to my house and help my little girl." Jairus led Jesus and His disciples through the crowd to take them to his house. There were so many people! They had to squish, slide, duck and weave through all the people.

Reminder:

This is a great time to play the 'Big Story' video to your group. We find it breaks up your Big Message Live really well and keeps the children focussed.

Supplies needed:

Large coin (e.g. Australian 50 cent piece)



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

In the crowd that day was a woman who had a sickness that made her bleed. She had been sick for 12 years and no one knew how to make her better and no one knew how to help. She had come to see Jesus too on that day. She thought if she could just get to see Jesus maybe He could help her. When she came to the place where Jesus was, she saw the crowd. She wondered if she would even be able to get near to Jesus, even for a moment. Then through the sea of people Jesus was coming... Jesus would come right by her.

As He came near she lunged forward and reached her hand out and could only just reach the hem of His cloak. Her hand touched the material and in that instant she was healed.

"Wait!" Said Jesus, stopping in his tracks. "Who touched me?"

No one owned up to it. The woman knew she was healed and that Jesus must have felt it. She was afraid to say anything, she didn't want everyone to notice her.

Peter said to Jesus "But the crowd were pushing against You, it could have been anyone."

Coin flip time, what happens next. Here are our two options. HEADS ENDING: But Jesus knew someone had touched Him, "I felt power go from me," He said. The crowd widened a circle around Jesus and the woman was there, at Jesus' feet. She looked up at Him and told Him it was her and that she had been healed. Jesus said to her "Your faith has made you well, dear woman, go and live a peaceful life." Or TAILS ENDING: Everyone dies. The end.

What is going to happen? Ask a volunteer to come up and flip the coin. Heads or tails?

Let's continue with our story. Just then a messenger came running from Jairus' house. Out of breath he puffed, "Don't worry. It's too late. Your daughter has died." Jairus' eyes started to well up with tears. Had they been too late... had they missed out on their miracle?

Jesus looked right at him and said, "Do not be afraid. Trust me. Just believe. She will be healed." They got to Jairus' house and Jesus made everyone wait outside. He took in only a few of the disciples, and the little girl's mother and her father Jairus. Everyone was sobbing. They thought it was all over for their little girl. Jesus told them "Stop crying, she is not dead, she is just sleeping."

Coin flip time, what happens next. Here's our two options. HEADS ENDING: Everyone laughed, did Jesus know what He was talking about? They knew that she had died and wasn't just sleeping at all. Jesus went over to the girl and held her hand and spoke to her, "My child, get up!" Her eyes opened, she yawned just as if she had been asleep. She reached her legs out and stood up, everyone was amazed. Jesus said, "Get her something to eat." She was healed. Jesus wasn't too late. He was right on time. Or TAILS ENDING 2: Everyone dies. The end.

What is going to happen? Ask a volunteer to come up and flip the coin. Heads or tails?

God's plan is better than anything we could come up with on our own. We can trust in Him and have faith in Him. We don't put our faith in luck, just flipping a coin and hoping for the best. Luck doesn't have our future planned for us, luck doesn't care for us, know us or have the best ahead for us. God does. God loves us, God knows us and He has a great future planned for us. As we trust God our faith will grow, bigger and bigger as we continue to put our trust in Him.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

OBJECT LESSON

Thermometer.

Thermometers are used to measure temperature. There are all kinds of thermometers, mostly these days people use digital thermometers, but I'm sure you've seen one like this before (show picture from print material disc).

The way a thermometer works is due to its shape and what is inside it. Inside is a liquid, usually mercury, which is held in the round bulb shape at the bottom. There is only a set amount of mercury inside the thermometer. The amount of mercury doesn't change, more isn't added or taken away, it stays the same. There is a scientific principle that a liquid changes its volume depending on what temperature it is in. Liquids take up less space when they are cold and more space when they are warm. When a thermometer is placed in something warm the mercury expands, sending it up from the bulb showing higher and higher on the small narrow tube. With a guide on the sides showing what measure it's reaching you can see what the temperature is.

"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith." Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

We are each given a measure of faith. How we use that faith and what sort of environment we place our faith in it can grow, like mercury in a thermometer. And when we are placed in different situations, our faith expands, our faith gets bigger and bigger and with faith in God we can face the challenges we are placed in.

POINTS

1. Mustard Seed Faith

As we trust God our faith will grow. We know that we can trust Him because He will never fail. But how much faith have you got? How much faith do we need to have? That's what the disciples asked Jesus, they wanted more faith and Jesus said, "Suppose you have faith as small as a mustard seed. Then you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up. Be planted in the sea.' And it will obey you." Luke 17:5-6 (NIRV).

Jesus used this mustard seed example again when the disciples asked why they couldn't perform miracles like Jesus did, He said, "Because your faith is much too small. What I'm about to tell you is true. If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, it is enough. You can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there.' And it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:21 (NIRV). Faith as small as a mustard seed was all they needed. A mustard seed is tiny especially when compared to the size of a mountain! Imagine something so small having such great power. When our faith is in God and He is working through us it is powerful.

Supplies Needed:

Thermometer picture supplied in the print material, printed or shown on screen.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

2. Seasons of faith/Even if faith.

When we believe God for something, when we pray and ask Him to do something He does answer us but not always in the way that we expect Him to. It's a little like this...

Say you ask your parents to give you a big juicy mango fruit to eat, but you live in England where they don't have mangos. You ask but you are given fresh, tasty strawberries instead. You get what you need, you're provided for and strawberries are just what you needed. God blesses us in ways we don't expect, He knows what's best for us. Just like there are seasons when different fruits are at their best, our life has seasons. What we need in each season and what we can handle in each season of our life is different. God knows what is best for us and God knows "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:3 (NIV)

If it were up to us, we might want to ask our parents to give us cake, candy and chocolate for breakfast everyday. But that isn't what is best for us! God knows what is best for us, He knows what we need.

Hebrews 11 talks about the Heroes of Faith in God's Word, people like Moses, Abraham, Jacob and Isaac. They are all remembered as people that had great faith, but they did not even see the fullness of what God had promised to them. They had faith even when they were laughed at, thrown in prison, attacked, treated badly and made fun of. Nothing made them give up on their faith. They had the kind of faith that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had. King Nebuchadnezzar had told them that they had to worship a fake God instead of the real one and only God or they would be put to death in a blazing fire furnace. Here's what they said Daniel 3:16-18 (NIRV) "King Nebuchadnezzar, we don't need to talk about this anymore. We might be thrown into the blazing furnace. But the God we serve is able to bring us out of it alive. He will save us from your powerful hand. "But we want you to know this. Even if we knew that our God wouldn't save us, we still wouldn't serve your gods. We wouldn't worship the gold statue you set up." They had the kind of faith that said even if God doesn't save us we will still have faith in Him. We pray that God does give us miracles in our lives but **EVEN IF HE DOESN'T** we still have faith in Him.

3. Share Your Faith

When good things happen you don't want to keep that news to yourself! You want to tell everyone! When we share with others the good things God has done in our lives it helps them to grow in their faith. They see what God has done in you and they see that God can do it for them too. We can have faith and pray with and for one another in hard times and we can celebrate with one another when good things happen. "Be joyful with those who are joyful. Be sad with those who are sad." Romans 12:15 (NIRV)

If you're trying to ride a bike and you've never seen it done before you'd be pretty scared and unsure, but when you see that other's can do it you begin to get a bit more confidence that you might be able to do it too. When you see other's journey of faith and how God helped them, you begin to get more confidence that you can have faith and that God will help you too. It works both ways, share what God has done for you so that others will be helped and their faith will grow as they trust God. "I pray that you will be active in sharing what you believe. Then you will completely understand every good thing we have in Christ." Philemon 1:6 (NIRV).



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Learn that we can grow our faith by knowing God's word and putting into action.
- Discover that sharing what God has done in our lives and hearing what God has done in other's lives helps grow faith.
- Our faith, no matter how big or small, can have huge results.

BIG POINT:

AS WE TRUST GOD, OUR FAITH WILL GROW

BIG WORD: SINCE WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE GAINED ACCESS BY FAITH INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND.
ROMANS 5:1 (NIV)

KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

CONNECT TIME

If you could have any animal to be your pet, what animal would you choose?

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. Who are some people that we read about in the Bible who lived with faith?

Help the children think of some of the Bible stories they've heard over the past few lessons.

Abraham, lived with faith to receive what God had promised. Even though he and Sarah had to wait a long time, they had faith that God would give them what He promised.

Peter, had faith when he walked out on the water to Jesus.

The lady who had been sick and when she touched the hem of Jesus' clothes she was healed. Jarius had faith that Jesus could heal his daughter who was dying.

2. How does hearing stories of people in the Bible living with faith help you to have faith?

The people in the Bible that lived with faith show us what God can do in the lives of people. It encourages us that we can live with faith too.

3. What can you do to live with faith?

Read God's Word, pray, keep believing that God can do incredible things in your life. Trust God with your life and know that He will never fail. As we trust God our faith will grow.



BIG PICTURE: FAITH
BIG IDEA: BIGGER & BIGGER

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the activity sheets in this time.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: To remind the children that as we trust God our faith will grow and that faith in God is powerful, like having faith as small as a seed.

Directions: Help the children to dip 5 cotton wool balls into water and place them into their resealable plastic bag and seal the top. Make a seed label using the template provided with the print material. Children can write their name and use tape to attach their label to the front of the bag. Children can take home their seed bag craft with instructions for their parents to help them stick it to a window in their house that gets some sunlight during the day.

Explanation: As we trust God our faith will grow. We don't need to have BIG faith to see big things happen in our lives, Jesus told His disciples they only needed faith as small as a mustard seed because faith is so powerful. "Suppose you have faith as small as a mustard seed. Then you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up. Be planted in the sea.' And it will obey you." Luke 17:5-6 (NIV). When we trust God with every detail of our lives, our faith will grow as we see Him provide for us and work in our lives.

BIG WORD

Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. Romans 5:1 (NIV)

Musical Big Word. Give each child a musical instrument, like bells, shakers, triangles, (or use objects like pots and spoons as musical instruments) and sing the Big Word song together while the children play along!

GAME

Potato Relay

Divide your group into two equal teams or play along with another group. Mark out a play area by lining teams up at one end. Set out two chairs at the other end that the children must go around. Children must balance the potato on the spoon and race from the starting line, around the chair and back again without dropping the potato or touching it with their hands. If the potato is dropped the player must return to the starting line. The first team to have all their players complete the course is the winner.

PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you that we can always have faith in you because you will never fail. Help us to trust you and see our faith grow and grow. Thank You that your Word gives us examples of other people that lived with faith and did great things for you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Supplies Needed:

Boat and sail printed on card paper for each child from the template provided, scissors, tape, straws, colouring pencils or crayons.

Supplies Needed:

Musical instruments.

Supplies Needed:

A large spoon, potato and chair for each team.