



GOD'S PROMISES

LEADER PREPARATION

This 'Get into the Bible' activity will help to set the scene after returning to BB following lockdown. By no means has Coronavirus disappeared but the new normal has begun. With this age group being our youngest age group, we need to be aware that they maybe don't understand why the world has changed.

Overnight our world has been turned upside down, we feel this as adults and our children and young people will also be aware of this. We need to be mindful of our children and young people's emotions during these strange times.

Be mindful of the following:

- Talking about Coronavirus may be upsetting for some children. Be sensitive when discussing.
- Some children will have been shielding during lockdown and found it very difficult.
- Some children may have had a family member very sick due to Coronavirus or lost a family member to the disease.
- Some children may have had a very difficult experience of lockdown.
- Anxiety and worry will have increased with some children.
- Avoid any humour around or about Coronavirus.
- Many children may be alarmed by what they have heard about Coronavirus.

The key takeaway: "You are not alone; God is with you"

BIG IDEA

To explore what the Bible says about God's Promises to us and how we can always know he is by our side.

VIDEO INTRODUCTION

The Quarantine SHAKE https://youtu.be/Mm895K_XfYU - Watch a fun approach to some of the advice around Coronavirus. Challenge the children to do 'The Quarantine SHAKE' by joining in with the video on a second run through for a bit of fun!

INTRODUCTION

Familiarise yourself with the NHS guidance video on the most effective way to wash your hands at <https://youtu.be/aGJNspLRdrc>

Invite one of the children to mime how they would wash their hands to the rest of the group. What did the rest of the group think of their efforts? Would anyone else do it differently? Invite them to demonstrate.

Explain that washing our hands is one of the key pieces of advice to avoid the spread of Coronavirus (and other diseases).

Show the handwashing video. Get a few volunteers to mime the method demonstrated in the video and maybe give a small prize to the winner (the rest of the group may want to sing 'Happy Birthday' x 2 whilst the mimes are taking place!).

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VIDEO - THE WORD

Use the Saddleback Kids Video 'Noah's Ark' to tell the story, view at <https://youtu.be/qzYjy6lhRag>

THE WORD

Genesis 6-9, key verses to share Genesis 9:13-16. Using the Children's Bible, tell the story of Noah highlighting the key verses.

Genesis 9:13-16 (International Children's Bible)

"I am putting my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of the agreement between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, a rainbow appears in the clouds. Then I will remember my agreement. It is between me and you and every living thing. Floodwaters will never again destroy all life on the earth. When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it. Then I will remember the agreement that continues forever. It is between me and every living thing on the earth."

LESSON

Start by saying how we have learnt about washing our hands and how lots of things are very different now. Have you noticed during the time you were off school lots of pictures appeared on windows? Do you know what the pictures were of? The response you will be looking for is rainbows. Share some pictures of rainbows which have been drawn and ask the children why they were on windows. Share that they were a sign of hope during a time when we really needed it. We wanted to thank those who were working really hard to help all the sick people. Tell the children you want to share a story of a rainbow from the Bible, share the story of Noah and highlight the rainbow and that it was a sign of God's promise. Highlighting the following key points:

- God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky for a sign of His promise.
- Noah could look at the rainbow and remember that promise.
- Today that promise is for us too and we can look at rainbows today and remember that first rainbow.
- God will never again let the waters of the earth become a flood to destroy all living things.

Share with the group one of God's promises from Deuteronomy 31:6:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Highlight that through happy times and sad times that God is always with us "He will never leave you nor forsake you" even in the most difficult times - such as these strange times.

WORSHIP VIDEO

Finish the session by playing the song "Hillsong Kids - Rainbow" - https://youtu.be/_dQZ2Sb1GPI

Share the following words...

"The rainbows in the sky to show God's promises are true
The rainbows in the sky to show the world
He's the only way for your everyday"

PRAY

Close with a prayer.