



DEBORAH LEADS

BIBLE PASSAGE (JUDGES 4-5)

Summary: Deborah was a judge in Israel. Because of their disobedience, Israel had been taken over by the king of Canaan and his general, Sisera. Deborah told Barak to go and fight them, but Barak insisted that Deborah had to come too. The Lord caused the Canaanite army to panic, and though Sisera fled he was stopped. The Lord was victorious.

Today's Brite Idea is: God is victorious.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!



God always wins.



God helps us.



God helps me.

LEADER TRAINING: KEEP IT SHORT AND SWEET

Jesus often spoke in simple, memorable ways. He used parables, short phrases and repeatable truths. Following His lead, our instructions can be both clear and kind. Short and sweet is effective and Christlike.

- **Clarity is kindness.** When instructions run on and on, preschoolers get lost or distracted. Keep your words simple so kids can follow easily.
- **Use short, focused phrases.** Instead of: "Okay friends, in just a minute we're going to move over to the rug so we can read our story together, and I need you all to be listening carefully while we do that," try: "Friends, it's story time! Let's walk to the rug." Same goal, fewer words, more impact.
- **Repeat and reinforce.** Young kids thrive when expectations are simple and repeated.
- **Add motion or cues.** Use fun phrases or gestures like: "Eyes on me!" "Hands in lap." "Walking feet." These small signals guide behavior without it being overwhelming.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: VIOLENCE

Unfortunately, violence is prevalent in our culture. A recent study revealed that 60 percent of kids had witnessed abuse, violence or crime.* Kids who have been exposed to violence can struggle with emotional and mental-health issues. Some may even engage in troublesome behavior. Media and entertainment have desensitized many to violence and, unfortunately, many kids live with the reality of violence in their everyday lives. In today's Bible story, preschoolers may be confused about why someone gets hurt. Focus on how God never fails even when bad things happen. Help preschoolers start to form a biblical worldview that can be a strong foundation when difficult things happen. God is greater than anything, any bad, evil or violence. God is still bigger and is still faithful. Remember, if a kid mentions abuse or violence that has happened to them, report that immediately and find help for the family.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Judge: a person chosen by God to lead His people

Victorious: having won a challenge or battle

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

1

BELONG

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

SILLY WELCOME

SUPPLIES: None

OR

FOLLOW THE LEADER

SUPPLIES: None

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (20 MINUTES)

DEBORAH LEADS

(JUDGES 4-5)

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

PASS AND BUILD

SUPPLIES: Printable page, scissors (prep)

OR

ACT IT OUT

SUPPLIES: None

4

BECOME

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

PRAISE TAMBOURINE

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, paper plates (2 per kid), stickers (4 per kid), stapler, tissue paper, (optional: ribbon, jingle bells, hole punch)

OR

BALLOON TAP

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 2 balloons



SILLY WELCOME

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: If you don't have space to move around, have kids sit in a circle. Instead of doing the animal motions, let them make the animal sounds together (frog "ribbit," elephant "trumpet," penguin "squawk").

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Provide alternate motions for kids with mobility needs or allow them to assist in being the caller.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** We will welcome our friends in a fun and silly way. If we all follow the directions, we all win! Let's welcome everyone with some animal movements. I will call out how to move like an animal. I want you to find a friend and say hi!
2. *Call out, "Hop like a frog to a friend and say hi!"*
3. *Kids move like the animal until the next direction is given.*
4. *Repeat with more animals (waddle like a penguin, stomp like an elephant, crawl like a crab).*
5. **Ask:** What animal was the most fun to act out?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Today we will be learning another Bible story about how God always wins. God is the greatest. Let's find out how God wins in today's Bible story!



FOLLOW THE LEADER

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For active learners who get too excited and carried away, utilize breathing to help calm down, talk calmly with them repeating after you (e.g., I have a calm body, etc.).

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's play a game and follow me! Follow the movements I do.
2. *Lead kids in various movements.*
3. *Movements: shake someone's hand, wiggle your body, touch your toes, walk on tiptoe, stretch, run in place, spin around.*
4. *If you do not have a large space, do movements sitting down such as clapping, patting their head, making a silly face, etc.*
5. **Ask:** What was your favorite movement to follow?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Today we will learn a Bible story about how Deborah leads. Let's find out how she helps lead people into a great battle and how God wins every battle!

INTRO:

Play Countdown Video and guide kids to sit together for large group teaching time.

WELCOME:

Say: Welcome! I am so glad you are here today and I'm excited to learn about a true story from the Bible with you.

RECAP FROM *Last Week*

Say: Last week we learned about how God did what He said He would do. He made the sun stand still so Joshua could win the battle.

Show teaching image: Joshua Prays & Sun Stands Still.

Say: Today, we will learn a true story from the Bible about a brave woman named Deborah who was a judge in Israel.

? BIG QUESTION

Say: Let's take a look at this month's Big Question. Can you help me do a drumroll? Ready? 1, 2, 3 drumroll!

Show Big Question Teaching Slide.

Say: Will God ever fail us?

Play the "Find It in the Bible" song.

Hold up a Bible.

Say: Who can tell me the name of this book? *Allow kids to respond.*

Say: Yes! This book is called the Bible. The Bible is the most important book of all. The Bible is full of true stories about how God takes care of His people and loves them. Today we will hear a story from the Old Testament in the book of Judges. The Old Testament is filled with lots of stories about God's creation, His people and the things that happened before Jesus came to Earth.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP:

Encourage dramatic and silly movements for kids to do throughout the Bible story to increase their engagement and excitement.



DEBORAH LEADS (JUDGES 4–5)

Say: Good morning, soldiers! Who's ready to pretend to be in the Lord's army with me? We will act out today's story as we hear it. Soldiers, stand up!

Say: God's people settled into the Promised Land, but they quickly forgot all that God had done for them. Show me your best "I forgot" face!

Say: The Israelites did bad things in the sight of the Lord. They worshiped other pretend gods. They didn't worship the true God. So God allowed an enemy king and the leader of his army to take over God's people. The king was not a nice man. He was really mean to God's people for 20 years. God's people cried out to God for help. Soldiers, drop to your knees and show me praying hands!

Say: God sent a woman named Deborah to help. Everybody say, "Hi, Deborah!" She called a man named Barak and said, "God has commanded you to fight this battle. He will help you beat the enemy." Now freeze like a statue.

Say: Barak said that he would go, but only if Deborah came too. Deborah said yes!

Show teaching image: Barak Asks Deborah to Come With Him.

Say: The leader heard they were coming and prepared his army. Soldiers, stand at attention!

Say: Deborah told Barak, "Get ready! This is the day God will help you win. The Lord is going before you!" When Barak attacked, God caused the enemy army to be very afraid. The Israelites beat the whole army, except the leader jumped from his chariot and ran away. Run in place as fast as you can! Run, run, run!

Show teaching image: The Enemy Runs Away.

Say: Oh no! He got away! He ran to a tent. He thought he was safe. He hid and fell asleep. While he slept, he was found and stopped too! Quick, soldiers, sit down!

Say: God fights for his people and He is more powerful than anything we battle. He is always the winner. He is **victorious**!

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Judge: a person chosen by God to lead His people

Victorious: having won a challenge or battle



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God wins every battle He fights. Jesus won the greatest battle of all when He came to rescue us from our sin!

Say: Let's close in prayer as we wrap up our Bible story time together. Reach your hands up really high.

Reach hands up high.

Say: Now clap them together like this.

Clap hands together.

Say: Let's pray.

Pray: God, You always have the victory! You are so great and always faithful. Help us to trust in You. Amen.



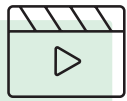
BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
1, 2, 3... drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching and Answer Image.

Say: Will God ever fail us? No, never!

Say: That's right! The Bible teaches that God is always victorious. He is always what is right and He is the greatest of all.



VERSE VIDEO

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- For nothing (shake finger "no")
- will be (spread arms out again)
- impossible (cross arms in front of you again)
- with God. (point up)
- Luke 1:37 (open hands like a book)



MONTHLY

Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



REVIEW:

Say: It's been so great being with you today, friends! Before we end our teaching time, let's review what we have learned. Let's all point up really high and say, "God always wins."

Have the kids point up and say, "God always wins."

Say: Now let's reach our hands out to the side and say, "God helps us."

Have kids reach out and say, "God helps us."

Say: Now let's point to ourselves and say, "God helps me."

Have kids point to themselves and say, "God helps me."



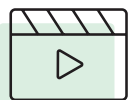
God always wins.



God helps us.



God helps me.



** Consider showing the Bible Review Video as kids eat snack, are waiting for pick-up, or another time that fits your church's schedule.*



PASS AND BUILD

SUPPLIES:

Printable page, scissors (prep)

PREP:

Print the printable page and cut out.

LEADER TIP: Play the Memory Verse Song in the background of this activity.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For active learners, strategically place the kids in the circle next to a positive model. Remind kids of criss-cross applesauce during activity or provide chairs as needed.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God can do the impossible.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** We will build our verse together while sitting down!
2. *Have kids sit in a circle.*
3. *Say the verse together with the kids: For nothing will be impossible with God. (Luke 1:37).*
4. *Hold up one picture card, say the word/phrase and pass the card around the circle.*
5. *When it comes back to you, place it in the middle of the circle.*
6. *Repeat with the next card until all cards are in order in the center.*
7. *Say the verse together slowly, pointing to each card as you say it.*
8. **Ask:** Which picture card helps you remember the verse best?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Every part of this verse reminds us that God can do the impossible! This helps us to know that God always wins. Nothing is too hard for God to do.



ACT IT OUT

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with mobility needs, allow extra space and time for specialized equipment or buddy them up with a familiar friend to assist with modified movements.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned how God helped Deborah and Barak. God always wins and helped them have victory in the battle.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's act out what happened in our Bible story! Everyone, stand up on your feet as we do some movements to remember today's Bible story.
2. **Movements:**
 - *March like Barak's army marching into battle.*
 - *Point forward like Deborah giving instructions.*
 - *Stand at attention like the soldiers ready for battle.*
 - *Run in place like the enemy running away.*
 - *Lay down to "sleep" like the enemy who thought he was safe in the tent.*
 - *Clap and cheer together because God won this battle and He wins every battle.*
3. *Repeat the movements and mix them up. Let kids tell you the order they go in.*
4. **Ask:** What part of the story did you like acting out the most?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God helped Deborah and Barak win the battle. God always wins; nothing is impossible for God!



PRAISE TAMBOURINE

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, paper plates (2 per kid), stickers (4 per kid), stapler, tissue paper, (optional: ribbon, jingle bells, hole punch)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Pre-punch holes on the edge of the plates if using ribbon and bells.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For struggling learners, provide support through extra encouragement and hand-over-hand assistance as needed.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each kid 2 paper plates.
2. **Say:** Let's make a tambourine to praise God like Deborah did! We can worship God and know that He always wins and helps us.
3. Pass out paper plates, stickers and coloring supplies. Lead kids to decorate their paper plates with the provided supplies.
4. Place tissue paper in between the plates.
5. Staple two plates together.
6. (Optional) Attach ribbons or bells to the pre-punched holes.
7. Write the kid's name on their paper/craft and set aside for parent pick up.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who helped Deborah and Barak win?
- Who wins every time?
- Can we trust God even when things are hard?
- What do you want to thank God for today?



PRAY TOGETHER:

God, You are always strong and You always win. Thank You for helping us. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.



BALLOON TAP

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 2 balloons

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Inflate the balloons.

LEADER TIP: Remind kids to tap gently so the balloon floats.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Have kids sit in a circle on the floor.*
2. **Say:** We will play a balloon game while sitting down! We will remember that God helps you and cares about you.
3. **Ask:** What are ways God can help you?
4. **Say:** God can help you believe in Him! He can help you not be afraid. God can help you love others. God can help you have joy. God can help you learn more about Him and the Bible. God can help you in so many different ways!
5. *Gently toss the balloon into the circle.*
6. *Each kid takes turns tapping the balloon up while saying "God helps me!"*
7. *If the balloon touches the ground, cheer together, "God helps us!" and start again.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who helped Deborah and Barak win?
- Who do we say wins every time?
- Can we trust God even when things are hard?
- What do you want to thank God for today?

PRAY TOGETHER:

God, thank You that You always win. Help us remember we can trust You. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3–4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions on what kids should do in each center.

- **Music & Praise Center:** Lay out musical instruments and scarves. Encourage kids to play instruments or wave scarves while singing along to a worship song playing in the background.
- **Victory Banner:** Lay out a large piece of butcher paper with coloring supplies. Write “God Always Wins!” on the paper and encourage kids to decorate it.
- **Tent Building Center:** Provide modeling dough for kids to try and build tents and chairs with the dough.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time or while waiting for parents.

Say: God’s people forgot about Him and were in trouble. God chose a woman named Deborah to help them. She told a man named Barak to lead the army. Barak agreed, but only if Deborah came too. God helped His people win the battle! God wins every battle He fights. He is always the winner. God is victorious!



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!