

Looking Back at the Whole Story

Wednesday Plan

SCRIPTURE

Selections from Exodus through Deuteronomy

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 30:20

OPTIONAL VIDEO

God's Story: Wilderness

<https://southside.cc/895-462>

God saves his people and teaches them how to live.

For the Teacher

Wednesday night closes the quarter. Don't re-walk all six story stops from Sunday — they did that. Tonight is about *moving* through the story (a station-style game) and then sending each kid home with one specific way they want to follow God this week.

KEY TRUTH

God saves his people and teaches them how to live.

Same bottom line as Sunday, by design. Wednesday uses the exact same sentence the kids heard on Sunday. Repeat it. Have them say it back. Don't paraphrase or soften it — the repetition is the point. This is the last time the kids will hear this sentence as a class for the quarter; make it stick.

Tonight is a tour with their feet. Sunday was a tour with stones. Wednesday is a tour through the room, station by station. The kids walk from one part of the story to the next, and at each stop they *do* something — kneel, raise a hand, walk through a parted sea. The movement is the point. Kids remember stories they walked through more than stories they sat through.

What to skip. Don't re-read all the verses from Sunday. The station signs reference them; you can read one or two if a station needs it, but most stations are kinetic and the verse is just there as a reminder. Move quickly between stations.

Energy management. The journey game gets loud. Let it. After the six stations, the kids will be moving fast — sit them down for the prayer card to bring it back down. A kid who walked through a "parted sea" with their hands in the air and then sat quietly to write a follow-Jesus card will remember both.

MATERIALS

- Bibles for every student
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- Six pieces of paper or cardstock to label each station (see The Work for the labels)
- A roll of painter's tape or chalk to mark a path between stations
- Two adult helpers (or two big kids) to hold up an "arch" with their arms for the last station
- **Hold Fast** prayer cards (printed in advance from this week's activities)
- Pencils

1. Gather

Welcome the kids back. Tell them tonight is the last Wednesday of the quarter, and they're going to walk through the whole story one more time — but tonight they'll walk it with their feet.

SAY

On Sunday we learned one big idea, and we're going to learn it again tonight. Say it with me: God saves his people and teaches them how to live.

Have them say it back. Then again, louder. Then in a whisper.
Write it on the board.

2. The Story

Quick Review

ASK

On Sunday we put six stones in a basket. Can anybody name one of the words we wrote on the stones?

You're looking for: *Heard, Saved, Taught, With, Forgave, Choose*. Take three or four answers. Don't worry if they don't get all six — they'll see them again at the stations.

Tell them: tonight you're going to *walk* through those same six moments. At each stop, you'll do an action and hear one verse. Pay attention — at the end, you're going to pick the one that matters most to you this week.

3. The Work

Journey Through the Story

Set up six stations around the room before class. Tape a path on the floor between them, or just point. Each station gets a sign with the name and the verse reference; you'll guide the action at each one as the group arrives. Walk the whole class through together as one group — this isn't a race or a worksheet, it's a guided tour.

Station 1 — Slavery in Egypt (Exodus 2:23–25). *God Heard.* Have the kids kneel and say “God, hear us.” Tell them: God's people were slaves and they cried out. God heard.

Station 2 — The Red Sea (Exodus 14:13–14). *God Saved.* Have the kids walk between two imaginary walls of water with their hands in the air. Tell them: Pharaoh's army was behind them. God split the sea. He saved his people.

Station 3 — Mount Sinai (Exodus 20:1–3). *God Taught.* Have the kids hold up imaginary stone tablets. Tell them: God brought his people to a mountain and gave them ten commandments — not to make their lives harder, but to teach them how to live.

Station 4 — The Tabernacle (Exodus 25:8). *God Lived With Them.* Have the kids hold their hands out like they're offering a tent. Tell them: God didn't just rescue his people. He came to *live* with them in a tent right in the middle of the camp.

Station 5 — The Golden Calf (Exodus 32:7–8). *God Forgave.* Have the kids put their hands over their face and then drop them open. Tell them: God's people made a golden calf almost as soon as they got the commandments. They broke their promise. And God still forgave them and stayed their God.

Station 6 — The Edge of the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 30:19–20). *Choose Life.* Have your two helpers stand at the front and hold their arms up to make an arch. Have each kid walk through it one at a time. Tell them: forty years later, Moses told the people, “Choose life. Love God. Hold fast to him.” Walking through the arch is them saying yes.

When everyone's through the arch, bring the group back together.

SAY

You just walked the whole quarter.

God saves his people and teaches them how to live.

Why It Matters

Sit the kids down where they can see you. Read together:

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 30:20

Loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days.

DISCUSSION

1. At which station — slavery, the Red Sea, Sinai, the Tabernacle, the golden calf, or the arch — did you most feel like *that's me right now*?

→ *Listen, don't fix. A kid who picks slavery may feel stuck. A kid who picks the golden calf may feel guilty. A kid who picks the arch may be ready to choose. Whatever they pick is honest. The right answer is whatever moves them toward "the Lord is your life."*

2. The verse says "hold fast" to God. What's one thing in your life right now that you need God to help you hold fast to him through?

→ *Push for specifics. A hard friend group, a school subject they hate, a fight at home, a fear they keep coming back to. Honest answers are the right answers.*

4. The Point

Hold Fast Prayer Card

Hand out the **Hold Fast** prayer cards. Have each student fill in the prompt:

God, this week help me hold fast to you by _____.

Tell them: pick *one* specific thing. Not "be good." Not "everything." A specific way they're going to keep close to God this week — *reading my Bible before bed. Telling the truth at school. Praying when I get scared. Being kind to my brother.*

NOTE

While they fill out the cards, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask them: "Which of the six stations spoke to you the most? What's one small thing you could do this week that fits with that one?"

Memory Verse and Closing

When they're done, have everyone come back together. Read together one more time:

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 30:20

Loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days.

Then say the bottom line one final time, with the kids:

SAY

God saves his people and teaches them how to live.

Close in prayer:

PRAY

God, this whole quarter you have shown us who you are. You rescued your people from slavery. You taught them how to live. You forgave them when they failed. And you called them to choose you. Thank you for being the same God for us. This week, help us hold fast to you, love you, and obey you — because you are our life. Amen.