

# Faithfulness in the Land

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Wednesday Plan

SCRIPTURE

Joshua–1 Kings (Quarter Review)

MEMORY VERSE

Joshua 1:9

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*God keeps his promises, even when his people don't.*

## For the Teacher

Wednesday night closes the quarter. Don't re-walk the whole timeline from Sunday — they did that. Tonight is a celebration. The kids are going to compete (in teams, gently) through three rounds of recall — names, verses, and the promise that holds it all together — and then take home a card that names the one promise they want to hold onto this week.

### KEY TRUTH

God keeps his promises, even when his people don't.

**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 the game is the lesson.** Sunday was a timeline tour. Wednesday is a three-round recall game with the bottom line landing at the end. Kids learn through repetition under just enough pressure to make them concentrate, then they go home with a card. Don't try to make the game quiet — let the energy build through the rounds, then bring it down for the prayer card.

**What to skip.** Don't re-read all the verses from Sunday. The game will hit most of them naturally. If a kid wasn't there Sunday, give them a one-sentence catch-up ("This whole quarter we walked from Joshua at the Jordan all the way to Elijah on Mount Carmel — and we saw that God keeps his promises even when his people don't"), then move on.

**Energy management.** Three rounds of competition will get loud. That's fine. The take-home card sits afterward — that's where the night settles. A kid who shouted answers in the relay and then quietly wrote on a prayer card will remember both.

### MATERIALS

- Bibles for every student
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- A small prize or two for the winning team (optional — candy, stickers, or just bragging rights)
- A timer or stopwatch (a phone works)
- **He Keeps His Promises** 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 play a game that goes all the way back to week one.

### SAY

*On Sunday we learned one big idea, and we're going to learn it again tonight. Say it with me: God keeps his promises, even when his people don't.*

Have them say it back. Then again, louder. Then in a whisper.

Write it on the board.

Tell them: tonight you're going to play *The Whole Story Relay* — a three-round game where every team tries to remember the quarter. But first, a quick review.

## 2. The Story

### Quick Review

#### ASK

*On Sunday we laid six cards on a timeline. Can anybody name one of the words we put on the line?*

You're looking for: *Jordan, Judges, Goliath, Throne, Divided, Carmel*. Take three or four answers. Don't worry if they don't get all six — they'll see them again in the relay.

#### ASK

*And what was the one big thing the whole timeline showed us about God?*

You're looking for: *He keeps his promises, even when his people don't*. Push back gently if a kid says "be obedient" or "don't be like Israel" — *that's not the main thing*. *Look at God across the timeline, not the people. What did God do every single time?*

Then say: tonight you're going to *play* through that same idea.

## 3. The Work

### The Whole Story Relay

Split the class into two teams (three if you have a big group). Have each team huddle on opposite sides of the room with their Bibles. Tell them this is a three-round game and the rules change each round. Keep score on the board.

#### Round 1 — Who Was It?

Read each clue. The first team to call out the right name gets a point. If they shout something wrong, the other team gets a chance.

1. Led God's people across the Jordan River. (*Joshua*)
2. Judge who led Israel under a palm tree. (*Deborah*)
3. Won a battle with 300 men, trumpets, and clay jars. (*Gideon*)
4. A foreign woman who said "your people will be my people." (*Ruth*)
5. Killed Goliath with a sling and a stone. (*David*)
6. Asked God for wisdom and built the temple. (*Solomon*)
7. Foolish king whose choice split the kingdom. (*Rehoboam*)
8. Called fire down from heaven on Mount Carmel. (*Elijah*)

#### NOTE

If a team is stuck, give them a Bible reference and let them look it up. The point is recall, not speed-shouting.

#### Round 2 — Finish the Verse.

Read each verse out loud, stopping at the blank. The teams take turns filling in the missing word. If they miss it, the other team can steal.

1. "Be strong and \_\_\_\_\_." (*courageous* — *Joshua 1:9*)
2. "I come to you in the name of the LORD of \_\_\_\_\_." (*hosts* — *1 Samuel 17:45*)
3. "How long will you go \_\_\_\_\_ between two opinions?" (*limping* — *1 Kings 18:21*)
4. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of \_\_\_\_\_." (*wisdom* — *Proverbs 9:10*)
5. "Your throne shall be established \_\_\_\_\_." (*forever* — *2 Samuel 7:16*)
6. "Where you go I will \_\_\_\_\_." (*go* — *Ruth 1:16*)

#### Round 3 — The Promise.

This round is not for points — it's for everyone. Have both teams come back together and stand in a line.

**ASK**

*Across the whole quarter, who kept their promises?*

You're looking for: *God did. The people kept breaking the covenant. God kept keeping it.* Then have them recite the bottom line together, three times in a row, getting louder each time:

**God keeps his promises, even when his people don't.**

**SAY**

*That's the whole quarter. Joshua to Elijah, in one sentence. The people failed. God didn't. That's the God who is with you.*

**Memory Verse Marathon**

Sit the kids down where they can see you. Tell them the quarter has one anchor verse — Joshua 1:9 — and they're going to say it from memory if they can.

Have them try to recite it together without looking. Then open Bibles to Joshua 1:9 and read it together to fill in any missing pieces.

**SCRIPTURE**

*Joshua 1:9*

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*

**DISCUSSION**

1. Pick one moment from the relay — Joshua, Deborah, Gideon, Ruth, David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Elijah — that felt the most like you right now. Why that one?

→ *Listen, don't fix. A kid who picks Joshua might be starting something hard. A kid who picks Gideon might be the smallest one in the room. A kid who picks Ruth might be the only one following God where they live. Whatever they pick is honest.*

2. The verse says "the LORD your God is *with* you wherever you go." What's one place this week — school, home, a hard conversation, a fear — where you most need to remember he's with you?

→ *Push for specifics. A specific class. A specific friend. A specific worry. The "wherever you go" promise is for the actual places they're walking into this week.*

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## 4. The Point

**He Keeps His Promises Prayer Card**

Hand out the **He Keeps His Promises** prayer cards. Have each student fill in the prompt:

*God, this week help me trust your promises when I \_\_\_\_\_.*

Tell them: pick *one* specific thing. Not "everything." Not "be good." A specific moment in the next seven days where they're going to need to remember that God keeps his promises — *when I take a test. When I'm scared at night. When my friends make fun of me. When I mess up.*

**NOTE**

While they fill out the cards, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask them: “Which person from the relay was your favorite? What’s one hard thing this week where you need God to be with you the way he was with them?”

**Memory Verse and Closing**

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

**SCRIPTURE**

*Joshua 1:9*

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*

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

**SAY**

*God keeps his promises, even when his people don’t.*

Close in prayer:

**PRAY**

*God, this whole quarter you have shown us who you are. You took Joshua across the Jordan. You raised up judges when your people forgot you. You fought through David. You promised him a forever-king and kept that promise in Jesus. You stayed our God through a divided kingdom. You sent fire on Mount Carmel. Thank you for being a God who keeps his promises, even when your people don’t. This week, when we look at our prayer cards, help us trust that you are the same God for us, wherever we go. Amen.*