

Adventures with GOD!

JESUS WILL BE WITH ME ALL MY LIFE (B.1.WINTER.7)

Biblical Reference	Exodus 3:1-22
Key Verse	Exodus 4:12
Key Concept	Jesus will be with me today, tomorrow and all the days of my life.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk about the possible things that can happen in the future 2. Tell how God promised Moses to be with him 3. Say the Bible verse by memory

Life Application

The children need to experience the security of knowing that Jesus will never leave them. In life there are so many things that change, but Jesus is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. In God's word God promises to be with us, "all the days of our life" and it is this promise that will help the children to experience and understand the security we have that Jesus is always with us. Jesus never stops loving us; Jesus never abandons us.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Decoration		5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure with God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	Booklets, crayons, glue, string/yarn, scissors	10 minutes
Bible Story	Illustrations	10 minutes
Song		10 minutes
Craft	Worksheets, crayons, pencils	15 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Room set-up and decoration: If possible, get a hold of some pictures or drawings that illustrate how people get older over the years. Sometimes magazines show a series of photographs - of a boy or girl as they are growing from baby, to toddler, to child. It would be good to pictures that show some things that normally happen in the lives of adults (university, job, marriage, travel, etc.). Make a collage or put the pictures up in a way that can help give the children a glimpse at what the future could look like.

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the Bible passage for the day two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this story? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

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Activity: In their little booklets, they can color a new page called “Jesus’ embrace.” The instructions are found in the following pages of the lesson.

Bible Story: Today the children will continue to learn about the story of Moses. Do a brief recap of what they learned about last week, reminding them that the fact that God was with Moses when he was a baby, as well as all the other circumstances in his life, even as an adult.

Some of the important ideas to emphasize are:

1. God talked with Moses about his future.
2. God told Moses that God would be with him in all of the experiences he would encounter.
3. God promised Moses to give him the necessary words to convince the Israelites that it was God who had sent Moses to them.
4. The God of Moses is the same God we worship and the children can be confident that God is with them in all situations, and in their future as well.
5. Jesus promised in Matthew 28:30 to be with us all the days of our life.

Let the children think about the things that might be a part of their future: the profession they’d like to have (nurse, teacher, engineer, writer, sales person, counselor, etc.), if they were to get married, or if they were to have children, what they would study, what sports they would play. Write out a list of the possibilities that they mention.

Song: Before you begin a time of prayer, help them to reflect on the fact that God has control of our lives. God is the only one that knows who we will be tomorrow and in the future. We can plan things and dream dreams, but God is the one who has the last word in everything. It is God who is with us as we grow and the years go by and our dreams become reality. God is with us today, tomorrow and always. Sing together a song that talks about this promise.

Craft: Make a copy of the worksheet that is found in this lesson for each child. Help them understand that they should color and find the name “Jesus.” It would be great if there was time to glue this illustration on poster board. Make a hole in the top part of the drawing and pass a string/yarn through it so it can be hung around the neck like a “medal”



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Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W: Worship: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

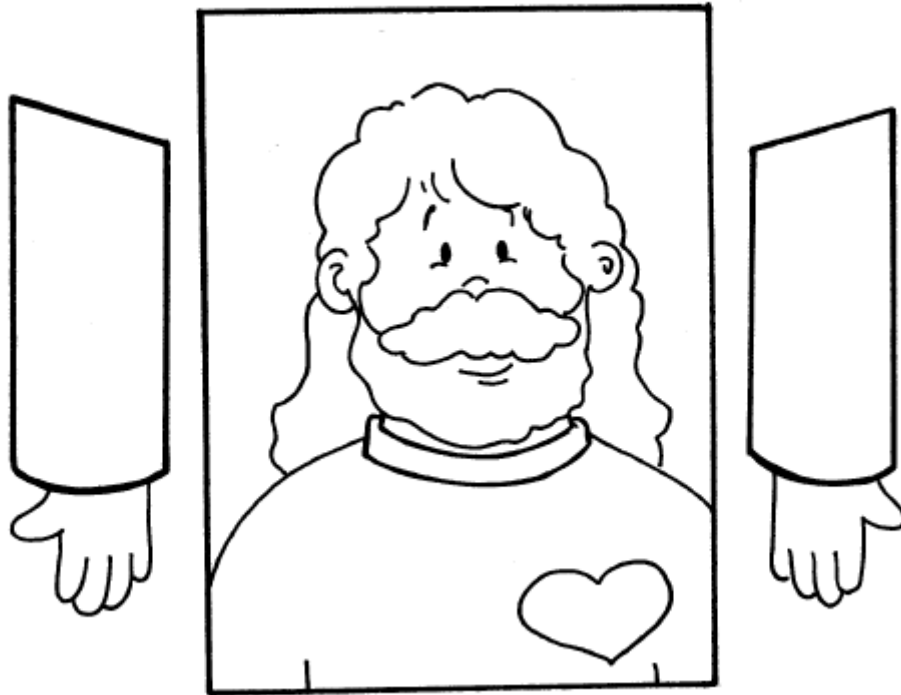
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CRAFT 1

Jesus' embrace

Some mothers brought their children to Jesus because he loves children. He took the children in his arms and blessed them. Jesus loves you too.

Color the picture of Jesus. Cut a heart out of red paper and glue it where the example indicates. Then cut out and glue the arms to the picture. When the arms are open you can see Jesus' heart and remember that he loves you.



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ILLUSTRATION



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CRAFT 2

Who is with me?

Color all of the parts that have dots in them. Leave the rest blank; don't color them.

