

CONFUSED

God Story:

Call of Abram | Genesis 12:1-9

Big Idea:

We can trust God even when we don't understand.

Key Verses:

"I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make your name great...All nations on earth will be blessed because of you." | Genesis 12:2-3 (NIRV)

Leader Tip:

Pray for the students in your group before they arrive.

Ms My Story

- 1. Conversation Starter** **7 minutes**
Talk about trust with the students and introduce this week's Big Idea.
- 2. Intro Activity** **5 minutes ***
Play a version of Broken Telephone in which the students must relay what a design looks like. Introduce the God Story.

Gs God Story

Ls Life Story

- 3. Weekly Video** **12 minutes**
Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

Ms My Story

- 4. Application Activity** **12 minutes ***
Review the Key Verses for this series. Write or draw descriptions of what the students think tomorrow, next year, and ten years from now will be like for them. Read Matthew 6:33 and discuss this promise for the future.
- 5. Wrap-Up Activity** **10 minutes**
Re-read Matthew 6:33 and pray for your group.

Os Our Story

- 6. Dismissal** **2 minutes**

* Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



1. CONVERSATION STARTER

Supplies:

- None

Instructions:

- As the students arrive, welcome them and gather everyone together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week went.
- Ask what they think the word "trust" means.
- Give the students some ideas as needed, such as telling the truth, counting on someone, believing what they say they will do, etc.
- Ask:
 - Who do you trust the most? Why?
 - Who do you think trusts you the most?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce the Big Idea: **We can trust God even when we don't understand.**

2. INTRO ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Craft sticks
- Design pages

Instructions:

- Form groups of about five people.
- Direct each group to sit down in a line on the floor. They should be facing the back of the person in front of them.
- Explain that this activity is similar to Broken Telephone: the students must relay a design from one person to another.
- Give ten craft sticks to the person at the front of each line.
- Show a design to the person sitting at the end of the line. No one else in the group should see it.

- Instruct the person who saw the design to use their finger to draw it on the back of the person sitting in front of them.
- Repeat until the design reaches the person at the front of the line.
- Direct the front person to use the craft sticks to re-create the design.
- When they're done, compare each group's craft-stick design to the original.
- Before the next round, guide everyone to move forward (or backward) in their line.
- Show a new design to the person at the back, and repeat the earlier instructions.
- Continue until everyone gets a turn at the back.
- In the final round, intentionally "run out of time." Don't allow the students to complete the design, so you can make a teaching point.
- Discuss:
 - How was your experience of being the person who saw the original design?
 - What was it like being the person who made the craft-stick design?
 - Were you frustrated when you didn't get to see the final result in the last round? Why or why not?
- Let the students know that they're going to hear about a man who received a promise (or picture) from God. This man never got to see it fulfilled—and yet he still trusted God.
- Emphasize the Big Idea: **We can trust God even when we don't understand!**



3. WEEKLY VIDEO

Supplies:

- Video file

Instructions:

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Call of Abram | Genesis 12:1-9)
 - Life Story (Kathryn Dorta trusts God with her family life)
- Invite the students to give a quick recap of the God and Life Stories.
- Ask:
 - How do these stories and the Big Idea (**We can trust God even when we don't understand**) connect?
 - Do you have a story from your own life that also connects?



4. APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Key Verses sign
- Envelopes
- Paper
- Pens
- Bibles

Instructions:

- Hang or hold up the Key Verses sign.
- Read Genesis 12:2-3 together.
- Explain that learning Bible verses can be hard. However, it's worth doing! Having them saved in our minds is helpful as we journey through life.
- Give each student three envelopes, three pieces of paper, and a pen.

- Ask them to label their envelopes "Tomorrow", "Next Year", and "10 Years from Now".
- Instruct the students to write a description or draw a picture showing what their life will probably look like tomorrow.
- On the other sheets of paper, have them describe what next year and ten years from now might look like for them.
- As they finish, invite everyone to share their work with the rest of the group.
- Discuss: Is there any way to know for sure what tomorrow will be like? Or next year—or ten years from now?
- Remind the students that **we can trust God even when we don't understand**.
- Ensure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- Guide the students to find and read Matthew 6:33.
- Discuss:
 - What does this verse mean?
 - Does this feel like a promise to you? What does it promise?
 - What does it mean for you and your future?
- Direct the students to place their papers in the corresponding envelopes.
- Encourage everyone to give their envelopes to a parent to stash away, so they can look at them sometime in the future.

5. WRAP-UP ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Envelopes from Application Activity
- Bible

Instructions:

- a. Ask the students to hold onto their envelopes.
- b. Read aloud Matthew 6:33 again.
- c. Pray for your group. Thank God for his promises to us and that we can trust him even when we don't know what the future holds.



6. DISMISSAL

Supplies:

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

Instructions:

- a. Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- b. Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- c. Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
- d. Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.