
REMEMBER & CELEBRATE

SERIES: KEEP IT REAL

Join us throughout the month of February as we hear stories that show how GOD IS REAL! We will be going through the books of Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah!

REMEMBER VERSE

PROVERBS 19:21—Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

SCHEDULE

All Services

- 0:00—0:35 Small Group (Respond Activity/Lesson)
- 0:35—0:40 Transition to Large Group
- 0:40—1:00 Large Group (B100)
- 1:00—1:05 Transition to Small Group
- 1:05—1:15 Bless and Dismiss

NOTES

LEADER RESOURCES

SERIES OVERVIEW

WEEK 1: God Is Real

Daniel

WEEK 2: God Is In Control

Esther

WEEK 3: God Redeems

Nehemiah

CURRENT WEEK: Remember & Celebrate

Feast of Harvest

EQUIP

Feast of Harvest: A Feast Celebrating God's Abundant Provision

This festival, also known as the Feast of Pentecost or Weeks, corresponded with the nation's harvest season. Pentecost, which means "50," was celebrated 50 days after Passover and recognized when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. During this festival, the Israelites celebrated a season of gladness and thanked God for abundantly providing for their physical and spiritual needs—including a way into relationship with Him.

ENCOURAGE

Philippians 4:8 reads, "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." In this verse, Paul encouraged the Philippians to continually remember and celebrate the good things that God has done and the good things He's created. He encouraged them to remember that God the provider had already given them many things over which to celebrate.

Take some time today and make a list, on paper or in your head, of the good things God has done for you. Then make a list of the good things you see around you—in nature, in your community, in your home, in the lives of your friends and family. Then praise God for these things, because He is the provider and the creator of everything good.

WELCOME

Some fun ideas to welcome kids as they check-in to your room at the beginning of service.

Invite the kids to color on the provided coloring page or work on the provided activity page.

As kids arrive, feel free to ask them this week's Connect Question. Feel free to write the question on the board and encourage some fun dialogue before you start your lesson.

QUESTION: What is the coolest thing you've ever seen in real life?

RESPOND

A chance for kids to respond to what God is putting on their hearts through creative expression.

Today, we will be playing a review game! Feel free to add any other elements to the game that is provided!

INSTRUCTIONS: Place topic signs on board. Divide class into 2 (or more) teams depending on the size of the class (some ideas to divide are: by birthday month, by clothing color, randomly numbered, etc.). Have another leader be scorekeeper. Allow the teams a minute or two to create a fun team name. Pick one team to go first. That team will choose a question from a topic category for any point value left available. (Questions get more difficult as point value increases). The leader facilitating the game will read the chosen question to the group. Allow the whole team a chance to discuss with each other their final answer. The points possible are listed on each card based on difficulty but feel free to adjust as needed. Repeat for each team. Continue game until all questions have been answered or as time permits. Encourage leaders to sit with teams to help maintain a whole team effort within each team.

SUPPLIES:

- Topic Signs
- Question Cards

REFLECT

A chance to reflect on what kids have just learned about The Big God Story.

Israel began each year's harvest season by celebrating the Feast of Harvest. This celebration reminded the people that God was their provider. During the Feast of Harvest, the people presented different offerings to God, including a grain offering. Offerings reminded the Israelites that God provided food for them.

- What does the word provider mean?
- How did God show Himself as a provider to His people in The Big God Story?
- How has God provided in your life?

BLESS

A powerful way to bless the kids and parents by sending them off with a benediction.

INSTRUCTIONS: Invite the parents into your room at the end of the service to say one last prayer together with the whole family. Instruct them to find their child and sit/stand by their side. Explain what their child learned today and read the verse below. Pray together and then dismiss.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19 – My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

BLESSING: May you know the joy of following the God who takes care of you. May you take time to celebrate that God is your Provider and that He will give you what you need.

NOTES

This script serves as an outline of what your storytelling might sound like. Items written in italics are cues for the storyteller and are not meant to be read out loud. You are fully encouraged to make it your own and add a personal touch.

The script serves as an example, however if you would like to teach based on the script and are in need of any supplies mentioned, we would be happy to supply those for you! Storytelling images mentioned will always be provided in your basket each week, but if you need any other supplies for your lesson, contact a Grove KIDS Staff member beforehand so we can supply it for you! You are also welcome to bring in your own props if you would like!

RESOURCES PROVIDED:

- None

STORYTELLING

The Feast of Harvest, also known as Pentecost and the Feast of Weeks, was a celebration that took place every harvest season, about seven weeks after Passover. During the Feast of Harvest, all of Israel stopped working, gathered together, and offered sacrifices to God from the first fruits of their produce. The people presented different offerings to God, including a grain offering. This grain offering was a loaf of bread made from the grain they harvested. The bread contained yeast, which made it different from the unleavened bread, or bread without yeast, that people ate at the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It was a time for Israel to remember and celebrate how God had abundantly provided for their spiritual and physical needs. God is our abundant provider.

QUESTION: True or False: King Ahab only worshipped the one true God.

ANSWER: False. Ahab worshipped many false gods and led God's people to do evil things.

QUESTION: How did God show His power on Mount Carmel in front of Elijah, King Ahab, and the priests of Baal?

- He spoke everyone's name out loud
- He sent down fire from heaven and burned up Elijah's sacrifice
- He made King Ahab disappear
- He sent an angel

ANSWER: B. God's display of power proved to everyone that Baal was a false god. Only God is the one true God.

QUESTION: What did the priest find in the temple during King Josiah's reign?

- A rock from the Jordan River
- A Peanut butter and jelly sandwich
- A Moon rock
- The Book of the Covenant

ANSWER: D. Through His Word, God awakened His people to obey Him and be in right relationship with Him again.

QUESTION: True or False: King Josiah did nothing after he heard the Book of the Covenant read to him.

ANSWER: False. Through His Word, God awakened Josiah's heart to renew the covenant, destroy idol worship, and celebrate Passover.

QUESTION: Why were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego thrown into the fiery furnace?

- They wouldn't bow down to the statue
- They didn't get thrown in—they fell in
- They refused to stop worshipping the one true God

d. A and C

ANSWER: D.

QUESTION: True or False: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's clothes smelled like fire when they came out of the furnace.

ANSWER: False. Not only did they come out of the fire unharmed, but they also didn't smell like smoke.

QUESTION: What did the king do when he saw that God had saved Daniel from the lions' den?

- Went back to what he was doing
- Hopped on one foot
- Sent out a decree saying that Daniel's God was the living God
- Sang a song of praise

ANSWER: C.

QUESTION: What did Esther and the people of Israel do before Esther spoke to the king about saving her people?

- Ate roast beef
- Played dominoes
- Bowed down
- Fasted and prayed

ANSWER: D.

QUESTION: Why did God give His people the ability to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem?

- He cared about their safety
- He cared that they were being tormented by their enemies
- He wanted to restore what had been broken
- All of the above

ANSWER: D.

QUESTION: True or False: The people of Israel finished building the wall in just 300 days.

ANSWER: False. God helped His people finish the wall in only 52 days!

QUESTION: What happened when Esther came before the king to ask for mercy for her people?

- She was killed for entering the king's presence
- The king listened and granted her request
- He ignored her
- He banished her

ANSWER: B.

QUESTION: What happened when Daniel was thrown into the lion's den?

- He was eaten.
- God rescued him by shutting the mouths of the lions
- He fought the lions with his sword
- He came out hurt but alive the next morning

ANSWER: B.