FAITHFUL Followers

Memory Verse: ***"The Lord is my shepherd. I have everything I need. He gives me rest in green pastures. He leads me to calm water. He gives me new strength. For the good of His name, He leads me on paths that are right." Psalms 23:1-3***

Big Idea: ***God leads His people because He loves.***

Bible Story: Rahab and the Spies | Joshua 2

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game – Shepherd and His Sheep

What you'll need: cotton balls, miniature staff or hook, a piece of green construction paper, a piece of blue construction paper
How to Play: As you read the memory verse sentence by sentence, explain each line to the kids using the visual props.

- ***The Lord is my shepherd.*** Using the mini staff/hook, explain the role of a shepherd and tell the kids that Jesus is our shepherd. And with the cotton balls, explain that we are His sheep.
- ***I have everything I need.*** Explain that a shepherd provides everything important that His sheep need- food, water, rest, guidance, and protection.
- ***He gives me rest in green pastures.*** Using the staff/hook, guide the little cotton balls (sheep) towards the green construction paper. Explain that Jesus leads us to good places where we can eat and rest peacefully.
- ***He leads me to calm waters. He gives me new strength.*** Using the staff/hook, guide the little cotton balls (sheep) towards the blue construction paper. Explain that Jesus leads us to water to quench our thirst which gives us strength.
- ***He leads me on paths that are right.*** Jesus is our good shepherd, and He will always lead us in the right direction – in the direction of God the Father.

Bible Time – Bible Bingo

What you'll need: Bingo cards and small tokens to cover bingo card squares
How to play: Use the Bingo cards provided along with the call out sheet and Bingo markers to play the game.

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: *"Hey KXP! Welcome back! Last week we left our true story from the Bible just before a big battle. Let's catch up a bit. After Moses died, God chose Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. There would be cities and people in their way as they got closer to this special land. The first big city in their way was Jericho."*

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

Rahab and the Spies | Joshua 2

Jericho had huge walls and strong protection around it. Before going into the city, Joshua secretly sent two spies to look around and gather information. We've talked about spies before, right?! ***Joshua chapter 2, verse 1 says "Joshua, son of Nun, secretly sent out two spies from Acacia. Joshua said to them, 'Go and look at the land. Look closely at the city of Jericho.'"***

When the spies made it into the city, they stayed at the house of a woman named Rahab. Now Rahab was an outcast in the city of Jericho. She had heard amazing stories about how God helped the Israelites escape from Egypt and cross the Red Sea. She believed their God was real and powerful! That's why she chose to help the spies.

When the king of Jericho heard that spies were in his city, he sent soldiers to find them. Rahab hid the spies on her roof under bundles of flax. Flax is a plant that was grown and used to make cloth. She told the soldiers the spies had already left the city. She lied so the spies wouldn't get caught or killed. ***Verses 4 and 5 say "Now the woman had hidden the two men. She said, 'They did come here. But I didn't know where they came from. In the evening, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don't know where they went. Go quickly. Maybe you can catch them.'"***

After the soldiers went away, Rahab told the spies in ***verses 9 and 10 "I know the Lord has given this land to your people…Everyone living in this land is terribly afraid of you. We are afraid because we have heard how the Lord helped you."*** She asked them to promise that when Israel came to conquer Jericho, they would save her and her family. The spies agreed and told Rahab to tie a scarlet red cord in her window. Keep her family inside her house and tell no one about their mission. The red cord would be a sign so the Israelites would know which house to protect.

Rahab helped the spies escape by lowering them out of her window with a rope. They hid in the hills for three days and then returned safely to Joshua. The spies reported in ***verse 24 "The Lord surely has given us all of the land. All the people in that land are terribly afraid of us."*** Just think-the news of the Lord's Name and His mighty miracles had reached big cities and many people. They didn't know what to think of the things they heard and this made them very afraid. But Rahab chose to believe in the God of Moses and Joshua. She believed God led His people and were always with them.

This is an incredible story! God chose to use Rahab to hide the Israelite spies and to see His plan through. Rahab wasn't an Israelite, but she trusted God. Rahab didn't just believe – she helped! Courage matters. God told Joshua to be strong and courageous. The spies acted bravely and so did Rahab. We can be courageous and act bravely too. When we see someone being treated unfairly, we can find a way to help. When we hear a lie, we can tell the truth. When we are afraid, we can pray and trust that God will be with us and lead us safely.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: *"Thanks for being here today. Your leaders and I are always glad when you come to KXP. See ya next time!"*

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids' behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | Red Cord Reminder

Supplies:

- Red yarn or string
- Construction paper
- Tape or glue
- Markers

Instructions:

1. On the construction paper, have the kids draw a simple house with a window.
2. Help them to cut out the opening for the window.
3. Help the kids tie 3 pieces of red yarn or string together at the top with a knot. Then guide them in braiding the 3 pieces together to make a cord. Tie another knot at the bottom to hold the braid.
4. Tape the red cord inside the window on the back side of their paper. Then place the cord through the window so that it can be seen hanging over the front of their house.
5. Kids can write *"Trust God!"* on the top of their picture as a reminder of Rahab's trust in the God of Israel.

Leaders Ask:

- Why was Rahab brave?
- What would YOU do if soldiers came to your door?
- How can we show that we trust God at school?

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

- As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
- **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
- Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.