



Promised Land: Rahab and the Spies

Lesson Aim: To see salvation comes to all who believe.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Sends

THE WORD

Bible Story: Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21

What He has done: God sent salvation through Rahab.

Key Verse: Joshua 2:11

THE WAY

Christ Connection: John 3:16

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Unit 9: The God Who Sends			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	God Sends Manna and Quail, Exodus 16:4-5, 11-16, 31-32	God sent manna and quail so His people would survive in the wilderness.	To know God sends us what we need.
44	The Ten Commandments, Exodus 19:4-6, 8-9, 16-19; 20:3-8, 12-17	God sent the Ten Commandments so the Israelites could be His people.	To learn the Ten Commandments and how God sent them to the Israelites.
45	The Wilderness: Balaam's Donkey, Numbers 22:21-31, 34-38	God sent an angel to correct Balaam.	To know we are to honor God with our words and actions.
46	Promised Land: Rahab and the Spies, Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21	God sent salvation through Rahab.	To see salvation comes to all who believe.
47	Joshua and Jericho, Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20	God sent Joshua and His people to conquer Jericho.	To learn to trust the plan God sends.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 27. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the brave leaders You give us. Embolden the children to answer Your call on their lives to be courageous leaders. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Spies in the Flax	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For God So Loved the World" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "I Will Always Obey Your Law" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:51a	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 46 High Seas Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21	Map—Jericho, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, Treasure Treat (scarlet cord), scissors
		Christ Connection: John 3:16	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Scarlet cord (Use uncut red yarn, cord, or rope long enough for each child to hold a section), Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "For God So Loved the World," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Red Treat	Cherry-flavored rope candy or other red snack items (apples, cupcakes with red icing), red drinks
	Up to 10	Game: Hide and Seek	None
	Up to 10	Craft: Scarlet Ribbon Bookmarks	Wide red ribbon (or red sturdy paper), fine tip markers, paint and brushes (or markers), Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 10	Discussion: The Original Spies	Bibles
	Up to 10	Discussion: Commandments 8-10	Bible or a list of the Ten Commandments
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Musical Chairs	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "For God So Loved the World," CD player, a chair for each child
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: When have you been very brave?

GAME: SPIES IN THE FLAX

Purpose: This version of tag introduces the story of Rahab hiding the spies in the flax.

Supplies: None

Today, we will learn how God used a woman named Rahab to help two Israelite spies. She hid the spies under some flax so the king's men could not find them. Flax is a type of plant that was dried and used to make clothing. Let's play a game where you save the spies from the king's men.

Directions:

1. Assign one child as the king's man and two children as the spies. The remaining children divide into pairs as the flax.
2. The flax pairs spread out around the room. Each pair should face each other and place their hands on each other's shoulders.
3. The king's man starts at one end of the room and the spies start at the other end.
4. On your signal, the king's man chases and tries to tag one of the two spies. To escape, the spies can "hide in the flax" by ducking between a flax pair and placing his or her hands on one of the flax pair's shoulders. The flax he or she replaces is now one of the spies. The spies can switch places with a flax as often as they like, but they cannot switch places with the flax who took their place.
5. If the king's man tags a spy, then he or she becomes a spy and the spy who was tagged becomes the new king's man.
6. Play for as long as you like.

Optional: To make this game more active, have children pretend it is a windy day and allow the flax move around the play area.

Limited space or children? Choose a small (preferably soft) item to represent the king's man and a small (preferably soft) item to represent the spies. Have the children stand or sit in a circle. Give the "spies" to a child in the circle and give the "king's man" to a child on the other side of the circle. On your signal, children pass both items around the circle as the king's man tries to catch the spies. When a child ends up with both the spies and the king's man, the spies have been caught and the game is over. Play as often as you like.



The God who sends

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting the offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

Worship in the Tabernacle

During each lesson of Unit 9, we will incorporate an element of the tabernacle during worship. This week, we will introduce the curtain at the entrance of the Most Holy Place.



Today, we worship God for who He is and what He has done by saving the Israelite spies through Rahab. God sent a way for us to be saved, too. Sing Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For God So Loved the World" as the offering is collected.

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God sending Jesus the Savior.



Moses and the Israelites worshiped God in the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a large tent which the Israelites took everywhere as a place to meet with God. In the tabernacle, a curtain made of fine linen and decorated with blue, purple, and scarlet yarn closed the entrance to the Most Holy Place. Only the high priest was allowed into the Most Holy Place. Nearly 1500 years later, in the moment Jesus died, this curtain was torn from top to bottom. Choose a volunteer to read Matthew 27:51a.

The curtain reminds us that now not only the high priest, but anyone who believes can go straight to God to ask forgiveness.



Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 9, Lesson 46.



Rahab helps the spies

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we continued the story about the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. While Moses was leading them, God stopped a man named Balaam from speaking words that would hurt God's people. After wandering in the desert for 40 years, God's people were ready to enter the land He had promised them.

When Moses died, Joshua became the new leader. If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Joshua planned to capture the city of Jericho, so he sent two spies ahead to check it out.** If a map is available, point to Jericho. **The spies stayed at a house in Jericho that belonged to a woman named Rahab. Today, we will discover how God used Rahab to help Joshua's two spies escape from the king of Jericho and his men.**



If you brought your Bible, open it now and share with others. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals Bible Story Scripture reference: Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21.

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

READERS' THEATRE: Let's imagine what it was like that day in Jericho. Distribute the Readers' Theatre scripts (available at Resourcewell.org) to the children, assign roles, and hand out props. Read and act out the story.

Optional: The Readers' Theatre replaces the reading of the above Bible passages. The script directly quotes various passages from Joshua 2. If you choose to omit the Readers' Theatre, read the Bible Story Scripture: Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21.



God saves all who believe

THE WAY

Additional Supplies: Treasure Treat—Scarlet cord (Use uncut red yarn, cord, or rope long enough for each child to hold a section), scissors

The people of Jericho believed in false gods. However, Rahab, who lived in Jericho, had heard how God parted the Red Sea and that miracle showed her the Israelites' God was more powerful than the false gods of Jericho or her king.

Who sent the spies to Jericho? (Joshua.) The spies were in danger because the king found out they were spying on his land and he wanted to capture them. Who hid the spies from the king and his men? (Rahab.) Rahab bravely risked her life to help the spies. She knew she should help the spies because they belonged to the one true God. How did Rahab hide the spies? (She hid them under the flax.) How did she help them escape? (She helped them climb down over the city wall on a rope.) Imagine you are the spies sliding down the rope to safety. How do you think they felt about Rahab helping them? (Children respond.)

The spies knew Joshua would soon send the Israelites to capture Jericho. What did Rahab ask the spies to do for her and her family? (Save them when the Israelites captured Jericho.) What did the spies tell Rahab to do so she and her family would be saved? (Place the scarlet cord in her window and take all of her family into her home.)

By helping the spies, Rahab showed she believed in the one true God. Later, when Jericho was captured, Rahab and her family were saved because she hung the scarlet cord in her window.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

God used Rahab in His plan to save the spies. Even though Rahab's people were an enemy of the Israelites, God saved Rahab because she proved her faith by saving the spies. Over 1400 years later, God saved the world by sending His Son.



Everyone, place your Bible on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: John 3:16. **Let's find this scripture.** Read John 3:16.

Have the children stand in a circle. Stretch the scarlet cord so each child is holding a section. Let's say our Bible Memory Verse. Repeat John 3:16 together. **Just like our Bible Memory Verse says, God sent Jesus to save everyone who believes in Him. When we believe, He gives us life forever with Him!**

Let's lift the scarlet cord high in the air. It helps us remember how Rahab believed in God. She helped the spies, and God saved her and her family. The cord also reminds us that God saved us by sending Jesus. Cut a section of scarlet cord for each child to take home for their Treasure Treat. If you are using yarn or thin cord, you may wish to help them tie it loosely on their wrist as a bracelet, just like Rahab tied the scarlet cord in her window.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: See THE WAY section for instructions on distributing today's Treasure Treat. **Today, your Treasure Treat is the scarlet cord. This special scarlet cord helped the spies save Rahab's family from death and is a reminder of the way Jesus saves us!**

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: **Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time?** Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 46 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: **Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of the spies climbing down a rope from Rahab's window.** The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For God So Loved the World," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: RED TREAT

Purpose: To review how God saved the spies and Rahab and to share stories about rescues.

Snack Suggestion: Cherry-flavored rope candy or other red snack items (apples, cupcakes with red icing), red drinks

In our Bible Story, we learned how God used Rahab to save two Israelite spies. Then, God helped them save Rahab and her family. Rahab used a scarlet (or red) cord to escape. Let's eat a red snack and share some stories about a rescue we have seen or heard about.

Directions:

1. Give each child the red snack and drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **Have you ever been rescued? Can you share a story about a rescue you have seen or heard about?**

GAME: HIDE AND SEEK

Purpose: To help the children understand how the spies may have felt while they were hiding.

Supplies: None

In our Bible Story, Rahab helped the spies hide. In this game, the spies will hide from the king. While you're hiding, imagine how the spies felt while they were hiding from the king and his men.

Directions:

1. Select an area in which to play the game. Designate a specific area with clear boundaries.
2. Choose one child to be the king.
3. The king closes his or her eyes and counts to twenty.
4. The other players (spies) hide while the king is counting.
5. The king calls out, "Ready or not, here I come."
6. The king looks for the spies. The last person found is the king for the next round.

Limited Space? Choose two items (two spies) to hide somewhere in the room. Choose a child to be Rahab. Rahab hides the two items together somewhere in the play area. On your signal, the other children race to find them. The child who finds the items (spies) becomes Rahab. Play as often as you like or until every child has a turn as Rahab. If the same child finds the spies twice, have him or her choose another child who has not had a turn to be Rahab.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: SCARLET RIBBON BOOKMARKS

Purpose: Children will create scarlet ribbon bookmarks for their Bibles to help them remember God saves all who believe.

Supplies: Wide red ribbon (or red sturdy paper), fine tip markers, paint and brushes (or markers), Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: For each child, cut a 10-inch ribbon. Cut a "V" shaped notch on one end of each ribbon.

God sent Rahab to save the spies. We also know Jesus came to save us. Our Treasure Treat is a scarlet cord which will remind us that Jesus saves all who believe and trust in Him. Let's make a scarlet bookmark. Put the bookmark in your Bible or a favorite book so every time you open it, you are reminded that Jesus came to save you.

Directions:

1. Give each child a ribbon.
2. With a fine tip marker, help children copy the words of John 3:16 onto their ribbons.
3. Children use the paint or markers to decorate their bookmarks.

DISCUSSION: THE ORIGINAL SPIES

Purpose: To help children see how Joshua and Caleb entered Canaan as spies many years earlier.

Supplies: Bibles

Did you know Joshua was also a spy in Canaan? (Children respond.) **A short time after God's people left Egypt, they arrived at Canaan, the land God had promised them. Moses sent Joshua, Caleb, and ten other men into Canaan to check it out. The other ten men told everyone how big and frightening the Canaanites were, but Joshua and Caleb believed God would help them fight their enemies and win the land. God's people did not listen to Joshua and Caleb. They were afraid; they cried and complained to Moses. Let's read what happened.** Read Numbers 14:20-23, 30.

God's people did not believe God was stronger than the Canaanites. What was their punishment for not trusting God? (They had to wander in the desert for 40 years.) **Who were the only adults that God was going to allow to enter Canaan after 40 years?** (Joshua and Caleb.) **Why?** (They trusted God could defeat the Canaanites.) **After 40 years in the desert, God made Joshua the leader of His people and Joshua led them into the land God had promised.**

GOT TIME? *continued...*

DISCUSSION: COMMANDMENTS 8-10

Purpose: To help the children gain a deeper understanding of God's commandments.

Supplies: Bible or a list of the Ten Commandments

Read Exodus 20:15-17a. Use the following descriptions to discuss the meaning of commandments 8-10.

- 8 You shall not steal.** What are children tempted to steal? (Candy, toys, money, etc.) If you've ever stolen something, give it back today.
- 9 You shall not give false testimony.** Giving false testimony is lying. Gossip can lead to lying. How can someone stop the habit of gossiping? (Whenever you talk about someone who is not in the room, pretend they are right there next to you. Don't say anything you would not say in front of that person.)
- 10 You shall not covet.** Coveting is when we want something that belongs to someone else. What do some children covet? (Games, toys, bicycle, bedrooms, homes, etc.) How can someone stop coveting? (Thank God for every gift you or others receive. Pray for God to bless the person who owns the coveted item.)

TEN COMMANDMENTS AND EXPLANATION

Use this list of the Ten Commandments with explanation for the Treasure Treat or to review the Ten Commandments in class.

- 1 "You shall have no other gods before me."** *(Believe in the one true God.)*
- 2 "You shall not bow down to idols or worship them."** *(Make God the most important one in your life. Put God first before any favorite activity, belonging, friendship, and even before yourself.)*
- 3 "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God."** *(Always speak respectfully and truthfully when you use the names "God" or "Jesus." Do not use His name in swearing or cursing. Only use His name when you are talking to Him in prayer or about Him to others.)*
- 4 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."** *(Always take a day each week to rest and worship God in a special way by attending church, worshiping God with other Christians, etc. In everything you do that day, keep your mind on God. Think about who He is and what He has done for you and your family.)*
- 5 "Honor your father and your mother."** *(Obey your parents. Talk to them and about them respectfully, no matter what.)*
- 6 "You shall not murder."** *(Do not kill anyone. Jesus teaches us to never hurt or hate anyone.)*
- 7 "You shall not commit adultery."** *(Stay pure and faithful to your husband or wife.)*
- 8 "You shall not steal."** *(Do not steal.)*
- 9 "You shall not give false testimony."** *(Do not lie.)*
- 10 "You shall not covet."** *(Do not want something that belongs to someone else.)*

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from John 3:16 to each child or group.
2. As the teacher or a helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and back down to their thighs, and sits down.
3. Repeat three times, moving faster each time.
4. Challenge children to recite John 3:16 in another language, such as the Spanish version below.

*"Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo, que dio a su Hijo unigénito,
para que todo el que cree en él no se pierda, sino que tenga vida eternal." Juan 3:16*

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "For God So Loved the World," CD player, a chair for each child

Prepare: Set chairs back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed and all the children remain in the game. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs and sing.
2. The teacher stops the music at different times during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.
4. Play several times.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) What did Jacob give his son Joseph? (A colorful robe.) What did Joseph's jealous brothers do to him? (They threw him in an empty well and sold him into slavery.) What good things happened for Egypt and for Joseph's family as a result of Joseph being sold and taken to Egypt? (His family and all of Egypt had enough to eat during the famine.)

Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) What did Moses hear and see while he was tending his sheep? (God's voice coming from a burning bush.) What did God tell Moses to do? (Tell Pharaoh and the Israelites God would bring the Israelites out of Egypt.) What did God say His name was? ("I Am.") How many plagues did God send to make Pharaoh let God's people go? (Ten.) What did Moses tell the people just before God parted the Red Sea? ("God will fight for you. You only need to be still.") What did God send from heaven to feed the Israelites in the wilderness? (Manna and quail.) What was the covenant God sent to the Israelites? (The Ten Commandments.) What is your favorite story from their Israelites times in the wilderness? (Children respond.)

Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.) Who replaced Moses as the leader of the Israelites? (Joshua.) How did Rahab help the two spies Joshua sent to Jericho? (She hid them and helped them escape.)

How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350 B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

Unit 10: John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)