

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Having faith means trusting God's plans and going to Him for help.

**BIBLE STORY:**

Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22, Noah's Ark

**SUMMARY:**

God asked Noah to build an ark. He told Noah that he was going to flood the whole world, and he wanted to save Noah's family. Noah had never seen a flood like this, but he obeyed God because he trusted God's plan. Kids will learn that having faith means trusting that God has a plan.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Show us your plans so we may follow you!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

# INCREDIBLE FAITH



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## SKIT

### HERO AUDITIONS: ARK MAN

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A clipboard

A super hero costume

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

#### CHARACTERS:

Martin - A casting director

Arkman - A hero

*Martin enters.*

MARTIN: Okay, ladies and gentlemen, please be quiet. Everyone, I need your attention please. As you all know, we are staffing up a new super hero team to help save the world. We already have the Justice League, the Avengers, and of course, the Incredibles, but with super-villains on the rise, the world needs a fourth super hero team. Everyone's going to have a chance to audition. What we want you to do when we call your number is come on stage, give us your name, tell us your power, and tell us how you've used that power. Okay, number one, you're up.

*Arkman enters.*

ARKMAN: That's me. I'm number one. Well, I'm not number one. I mean, I don't mean to brag on myself, because that's not my style, but I'm—

MARTIN: Name, please?

ARKMAN: Arkman.

MARTIN: Arkman? That's an odd name for a super hero.

ARKMAN: So is Plastic Man.

MARTIN: So Arkman, how many times have you saved the world?

# SKIT

ARKMAN: Well, I guess I did save it one time. Part of it, anyway.

MARTIN: What about the other part?

ARKMAN: You mean the evil part? Long gone.

MARTIN: Nice!

ARKMAN: But that wasn't my doing. That was all God.

MARTIN: Is he a superhero?

ARKMAN: No, God is better than a superhero.

MARTIN: Well who is he?

ARKMAN: God? Why he's God! He's my Creator. My Savior.

MARTIN: So God gave you super powers?

ARKMAN: Super powers? Goodness no. God gave me the plan.

MARTIN: The plan?

ARKMAN: And blueprints!

MARTIN: Blueprints for what?

ARKMAN: An ark, of course. A big giant boat large enough to save me and my family from a great flood that purged the Earth of evil.

MARTIN: So what you're telling me is you have no powers of your own, and you did nothing to fight evil?

ARKMAN: Well, yes.

MARTIN: Then what did you do?

ARKMAN: I trusted God's plan. I had the faith to follow God when no one else would. That's why God saved my family.

MARTIN: You know, call me crazy, but that sounds like a good quality for a hero. If you don't trust your leader enough to follow his plan, what kind of hero are you?

# SKIT

ARKMAN: Say, I think that was a compliment.

MARTIN: I think it was.

ARKMAN: So am I on the team?

MARTIN: I don't know, Arkman. You're number one, and we've got a lot of numbers to go through. But anyone who wants to be on this team must have your kind of faith.

ARKMAN: Thanks, man. Good luck finding your heroes.

MARTIN: I'd say we're off to a good start!

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A chalkboard and chalk

Have you ever played on a sports team? Have you ever played for a coach who liked to draw up plays? Coaches will take a piece of chalk, and draw out a play. They use X's to show one team, and O's to show the other. They tell everyone which X they are, and then they use arrows to tell them where to go. This X goes here. This X runs here. If the first X gets open, throw that way. If the first X is covered, through to the second. If they're both covered, tuck the ball and run straight up the middle!

Coaching has become high tech these days, and a lot of coaches are using tablets to draw plays. But many coaches still use an old fashioned chalkboard or marker board. Regardless of how they do it, what's the coach really doing? They're making a plan of attack. If you have faith in your coach, you'll do as they say - and you might just score a few points.

God has a plan for each of our lives too. It may not be as grand as building an ark to save our family from a flood, but it's a plan especially designed just for you. Having faith means we are willing to trust God's plan. No matter what anyone else does, we will obey because we know God's plans are good.

Has God shown you the plan for your life? How about this week? Whatever plan he has, follow Him. Trust him, and he will do great things!

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### **FOLLOW THE ARROWS!**

#### **ITEMS NEEDED:**

Colored tape  
Spoons  
Ping-pong balls

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Prior to your event, use the tape to put arrows on the floor in your room, marking out a winding racecourse.

Choose two players for this game. Give each player a spoon with a ping-pong ball on it. The two players must race from the starting line to the finish, keeping the ball on the spoon as they go. First player to the finish wins.

#### **VARIATION:**

To make the race more exciting and dramatic, instead of mapping out a racecourse, have the two players follow after an RC car driven by one of the adult leaders.

#### **WHAT'S THE POINT?**

Faith means following God's plan, wherever it leads.

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Having faith means trusting God's plans and going to Him for help.

### **BIBLE STORY:**

Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22, Noah's Ark

### **INTRO:**

I don't know if you have noticed this, but we are living in a golden age of super hero movies. Over the last couple of decades, super hero movies have gone from being low-budget jokes with goofy costumes and bad special effects to summer blockbusters. We've seen Batman, Superman, Spider-Man, Iron Man, Captain America, Wonder Woman, Thor, and Ant-Man. We've seen super hero teams like X-Men, the Avengers, Guardians of the Galaxy, the Justice League, and even a family of super heroes you might know as the Incredibles.

There are many things we love and admire about these heroes. We love the cool costumes. We love the gadgets. Admit it, we even love the villains sometimes. But I think what we love most is when we see ourselves in these super heroes. Most super heroes aren't perfect people. Far from it. They can be broken, flawed, confused, immature, and even a little bit crazy. But when they work together and put their mind to it, they can accomplish great things.

As ordinary "citizens" we don't have access to super powers, but we do have access to a power source greater than any super hero. We have God, our creator and our Savior. We have a God who made the whole world, who made us, and who can do miracles. We may not be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound or fight off hordes of alien invaders, but if we trust in Jesus, we can grow an incredible faith that will allow us to live a life of adventure.

Faith is believing in what we cannot see. It means trusting God to do the things we cannot, and trusting him to do great things in us and for us. Today's hero is Ark Man.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

Ark Man, if you can't guess, is Noah, a man who was told to build a giant boat. Noah was asked to make a huge leap of faith, building a boat to house all the animals of the world so he could save them and his family from a flood. Noah trusted God, and he was not afraid to follow God's plan.

## **READ GENESIS 7:6-18, 8:15-22**

### **MAIN POINT:**

God told Noah to build a boat, a giant boat called an ark large enough to house at least two of every kind of animal. He asked Noah to trust him so that God could save him and his family from the great flood God said was going to come on the earth. The problem was, no one had ever seen or heard of a flood like this before.

But Noah had great faith. He trusted God's plan, as crazy as it sounded, and God used him and his family to start over. Noah shows us that having great faith means trusting that God has a plan even when we can't see it.

### **DRIVE IT HOME:**

I want you to put yourselves in Noah's shoes for a moment. You're in a time when no one except you and your family believes in God. One day, God comes to you. He tells you that you and your sons are to build a giant boat because it's going to rain and flood.

No one has ever seen a flood anywhere close to what God is talking about. It sounds absolutely crazy. So does this idea about building a boat to hold all these animals. You know everyone will think you are crazy. Yet you still choose to obey God. You trust God completely and believe that he has a plan you can't see, and so you start building the ark.

Then things really get bad. It takes a long time to finish this ark and everyone starts to notice the big ship in your front yard. There's no way to hide it. Your neighbors ask what's with the giant boat. You tell them that God is going to flood the Earth. They look at the sunny sky and laugh at you! They don't believe in God, and they don't believe a word you tell them. Yet you still have faith enough to keep on building, and keep believing that God has a plan even when no one else believes.

It isn't always easy to have faith in God. Sometimes his plans can seem strange. Sometimes we can get picked on and made fun of for doing things God's way instead of the way everyone else does. Faith means we trust that God's way is the best way. If we stick with his plan, God will not only do great things for us, he will do great things through us.

God has a plan for every one of us. It may be big. It may be small. Whatever it is, God created you to fulfill that plan.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

Ask God to show you the plans he has for you, and ask for the faith to obey him, whatever the plan may be. That's the first step to building an incredible faith!

## **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Show us your plans so we may follow you!*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

If you needed help, what one super hero would you want to make a plan to help you?

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Give the kids a ball, and give them five minutes to create a new game to play with that ball. See if they can work together to make a plan for playing that game.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22

What did God tell Noah to build?

Who went on the ark with Noah?

What happened when Noah and his family were on the ark?

Why did Noah follow God's plan?

Is there something you need help with this week, something you want to ask for God's help?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the faith to obey you and trust your plans.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# INCREDIBLE FAITH

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

If you needed help, what one super hero would you want to make a plan to help you?

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Give the kids a ball, and give them five minutes to create a new game to play with that ball. See if they can work together to make a plan for playing that game.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22**

Why did God tell Noah to build an ark?

Who went on the ark with Noah?

Why did Noah follow God's plan?

Do you think it was easy to stick with the plan?

Is there something you need help with this week, something you want to ask for God's help?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the faith to obey you and trust your plans.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# INCREDIBLE FAITH



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## Incredible Faith 1

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: ARK MAN



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about today on the drive home: God asked Noah to build an ark. He told Noah that he was going to flood the whole world, and he wanted to save Noah's family. Noah had never seen a flood like this, but he obeyed God because he trusted God's plan. Kids will learn that having faith means trusting that God has a plan. Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22, Noah's Ark



#### HANGING OUT:

Make today's lesson real:

What plans do you and the family have this coming week? Anything strange or unusual? Who makes those plans? Ask your kids why it's important to trust in God's plans.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

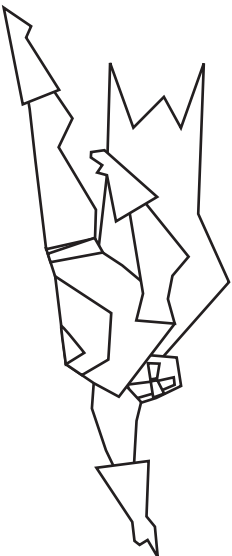
- What crazy plan did God ask Noah to follow?
- How hard do you think it was for Noah to follow the plan?
- Why do we need to follow God's plan for our lives?



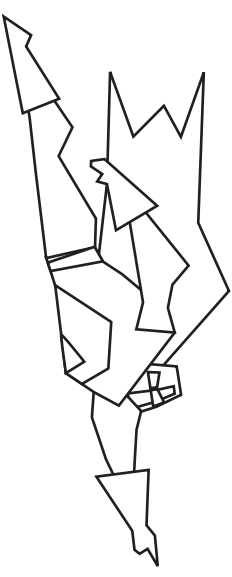
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

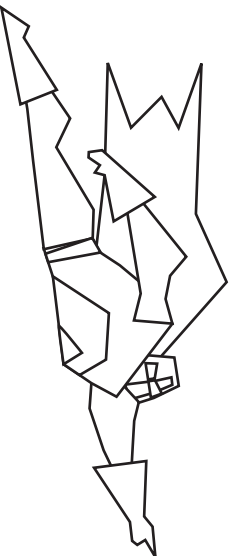
Are you seeking God's direction? Are you following God's plan? Ask God to give you the faith to trust his will so that you can set a faithful example for your kids.



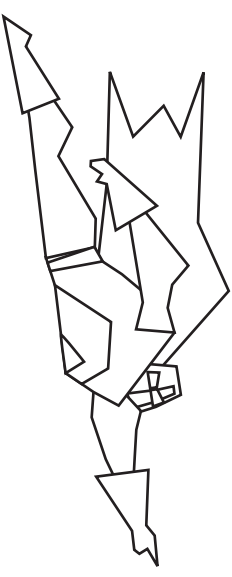
"Lord who rules over all, blessed is the person who trusts in you."  
- Psalm 84:12 (NIRV)



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## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids design a mask for Arkman to wear. Cut the masks out of paper, color them, and then finish them with string tied to the ends so the kids can wear them.