DEBORAH FOLLOWED GOD'S PLAN

LIFE POINT

God has a plan for His people.



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Lead the preschoolers to march to group time. Remark that today they will learn about how God helped some people defeat a king's army.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

DEBORAH FOLLOWED GOD'S PLAN—BASED ON JUDGES 4:1-16,23-24

• Lead the boys and girls to pretend to climb a mountain. Tell them to listen to hear what happened when 10,000 men went up the mountain. Open the Bible to Judges 4.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

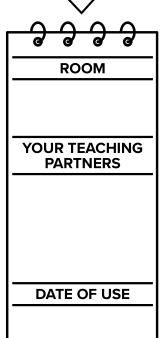
- The Israelite people did not obey God, so God let the Canaanites (KAY nuhn ights) rule over the Israelites for 20 years. The Israelite people prayed to God for help.
- Deborah was a judge who sat under a palm tree and helped people solve their problems.
- God told Deborah that Barak (BAY rak) should fight against the king's army. Deborah told Barak, "God said you are to take 10,000 men and defeat the king's army."
- Barak did not want to go unless Deborah went with him. She agreed to go with Barak.
- Deborah went up a mountain with Barak and an army of 10,000 men. The king's army came. Deborah told Barak to go down the mountain. God helped the Israelites win the battle.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- What was Deborah's job?
- What did God want Barak to do?
- Who went up the mountain?
- Who helped the Israelites defeat the king's army?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

• Remind the boys and girls that God has a plan for His people.





God tells me to do what He says.

UNIT VERSE

We have good news! God keeps His promises. Acts 13:32

WEEKLY VERSE

Love God and always do what He says. Deuteronomy 30:20

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?":

We should love God. We should love God.

Do what's right. Do what's right.

We should do what God says.

We should do what God says.

Do what's right. Do what's right.

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open the Bible at Deuteronomy 30:20. Say, "Love God and always do what He says. Deuteronomy 30:20." Lead the preschoolers to say the verse with you. Guide them to march in place as they say the verse.

PRAY

Remark that God has a plan for you and me. We can ask God to help us follow His plan. Invite a few kids to pray. Close in prayer. Ask God to help you do what is right.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: God has a plan for His people.

- 1. Build a mountain. Guide the kids to use the blocks to build a mountain. Encourage them to use the people figures to pretend to climb the mountain. Lead the preschoolers to make another mountain by covering chairs with a blanket. Suggest they explore other ways of building mountains such as with paper. Tell that Deborah and Barak took 10,000 men up a mountain. God has a plan for His people. He helped them defeat the king's army.
- 2. Paint trees. Cut a 2-inch wide strip from brown paper for each child. Instruct the boys and girls to glue the strips to their papers to make a tree trunk. Paint the kids' hands with washable green paint. Guide them to press their hands on the paper to make the leaves of the trees. While their papers dry, tell that Deborah was a judge. She sat under a tree and listened to people. She wanted the people to know that God has a plan for His people.

- 3. Cook a meal. Guide the preschoolers to pretend to cook a meal. Lead them to make up a recipe to follow. Write the recipe down. Encourage them to use the toy dishes and toy food to follow the recipe they developed. Suggest they pretend to eat the meal they cooked. Tell that they were following a plan to cook the meal. Remind them that God has a plan for His people to follow. Deborah followed God's plan to defeat the king's army with Barak.
- 4. Create a path. Form two groups of kids. Give one group several pieces of red paper. Give the other group several pieces of blue paper. Lead both groups to place their papers on the ground to make a path. Encourage the preschoolers to follow the paths they made. Guide them to switch and follow the path of the other group. Challenge the boys and girls to combine their papers and make one long path. Lead the children to follow the new path. Mention that God has a plan for His people that He wants us to follow. He told Deborah His plan. She followed God's plan.

CLEAN UP

Describe an item in the room that needs to be cleaned up. Urge the kids to guess what you are describing. Lead them to clean up that item.

Continue describing things until the room is clean.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Instruct the preschoolers to line up in a single file line behind you. Tell them to follow your movements. Move your hands and feet in different ways as you move around the room. Do movements such as marching, skipping, waving your arms, lifting your arms over your head, hopping, clapping, and tapping your head. State that God wants us to follow Him. God has a plan for His people.

DISMISS

Help the kids gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind the parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.

BONUS TEACHING HOUR