

Memory Verse:

Ezekiel 20:19

Extra Memory Verse:

1 Chronicles 16:8

TeamKID Motto:

Learning about God
Using the Bible
Living for Jesus

Club Bible Verse:

Proverbs 3:5-6

Adaptations:

For Beginning Readers and
Preteens (Meeting 4) see
CD-ROM Item 11.

Provide:

- “Cup Beat Game” (CD-ROM Item 12)
- Plastic cup for each child

To Do:

- Follow the instructions on CD-ROM Item 12.

Note: If your group is large, instead of using a cup for each child, guide the children to follow your lead with various motions such as clapping, tapping your left shoulder, right knee, and so forth.

Provide:

- TeamKID Motto Banner* or poster
- TeamKID Club Bible Verse posters (from Meeting 1)
- TeamKID: Step Out—The Courage to Do What’s Right CD*
- CD player

To Do:

- Cue the CD to the “TeamKID Club Song” (1).

Courage to Follow God’s Leadership

Purpose:

Children can learn that God wants them to follow His leadership in all parts of their lives. Children can begin to understand that following God sometimes takes the courage to be different. They can learn ways they can follow Him.

Levels of Biblical Learning: Self

Grades 1–2: God wants me to live every day in ways that please Him.

Grades 3–4: I can learn about and recognize God’s authority.

Grades 5–6: I can acknowledge and follow God’s authority in my life.

Bible Material:

Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12:1-9; 21:1-3)

**WARM-UP**

Get-involved Activity
(5–10 minutes)

Welcome the children as they arrive. Encourage the children to sit in a circle on the floor with their legs crossed. Give each child a plastic cup. Ask them to place the cups, topside down, in front of their left knees.

Explain that you will demonstrate a pattern of beats using the cup. Say: “After you listen to my pattern, I want you to repeat it.” Refer to the “Cup Beat Game.” Encourage the group until all the children have the tempo in unison. Play in unison as long as the children are enjoying the rhythm. As time allows, invite the TeamKIDS to create new patterns to be followed.

Say: “You followed my leadership and were able to learn a new game. God wants you to follow His leadership in all areas of your life. You will learn how to do that in today’s meeting.”

**WORKOUT**

Group Study
(20–25 minutes)

1. Begin the meeting. After the children and coaches come to WORKOUT, select a member and a visitor to hold the *TeamKID Motto Banner*. Invite everyone to join together in saying the TeamKID Motto. Thank the volunteers and select two more volunteers to hold the poster board with the Club Bible Verse written on it. Lead the children

Provide:

- Activity Book page 15
- Pencils

Provide:

- Activity Book page 16
- Pencils for the younger group

Provide:

- TeamKID: Step Out CD*
- CD player

To Do:

- Cue the CD to “I Will” (5).

Provide:

- Bibles

go to the different signs and retell the Bible story. If necessary, allow them to use the “Bible Story Strips” that were left at each sign.

5. Learn ways to follow God. Ask: “Do you think it was easy for Abraham to follow God?” Continue: “You can answer that by asking yourself a question. Would it be easy to leave the family you grew up with and leave your homeland?” Allow children who may have made a recent move to tell about the experience if they desire.

Say: “People in the Bible were just like you and me. You can believe it took courage for Abraham to leave everything he knew and go somewhere he had never been. Abraham put his faith in God. God led him. Abraham followed God’s leadership. God blessed Abraham greatly because of his faith. Abraham showed faith by following God’s leadership. Just like Abraham, you can have faith in God and follow His leadership.”

Ask: “How do you follow God? What are ways to follow God?” Allow the children to respond.

Form younger and older groups. Place a coach with each group. Give each child an activity page and a pencil. Guide the children to complete “Ways to Follow” to discover more ways to follow God’s leadership.”

6. Apply the Bible Story to real life. Discuss each of the different ways on the activity page to follow God’s leadership. Explain that it takes courage to follow God. Say: “When following God means being different from your friends or having the discipline to read your Bible and pray each day, it takes courage.” Assure the kids that they can trust God’s leadership, follow Him, and do what’s right.

Say: “Although Abraham followed God’s leadership thousands of years ago, you can follow God’s leadership in your life today.”

Encourage the children to turn over the activity page. Guide both groups in completing “What Do You Do?”

When they finish, allow the older children an opportunity to tell the stories they created.

7. Pray. Say: “Most of you know how to create a story with the right answer. But be honest with yourself. Some of those situations have difficult choices. It is not always easy to follow God. It takes courage. Like Abraham, you will find out when you follow God’s leadership and do what’s right, God will bless you. First, you have to act in faith, step out, and follow God.” Ask the children to listen to the song. Close the time in prayer. Ask God for courage to follow Him and His ways.

8. Introduce a memory verse. Explain that the Bible has two parts called testaments—the old and the new. Show them the portion of the Bible that is the Old Testament and the portion that is the New Testament. Explain that today’s memory verse is from the Old Testament book of Ezekiel. Guide the children to find Ezekiel. Explain how to find chapter 20, verse 19. Help them locate the Bible verse.

Read the verse together. Explain that the word *statutes*, or *decrees*, means *rules*. God is referring to His rules. Ask the children where they can find God's rules? (*in the Bible*)

Say the verse together and replace the word *statutes*, or *decrees*, with the word *rules*. This will help the children grasp the meaning of the verse.

Explain that they can follow God's rules when they do what the Bible says. That is one way to follow God's leadership.



REACH OUT

Missions Emphasis Time
(10–15 minutes)

Long ago, the Allison family decided they wanted to listen to God and follow Him. Following God meant that dad, Mark Allison, enlisted as a chaplain in the Navy. He is a pastor to sailors in the Navy. His job takes him away from home often. He misses a lot of his family's birthdays, Thanksgivings, and Christmases. When he is away, he misses his family and his family misses him.

Sometimes when he is away from his family, his ship has to sail in enemy waters. Mark puts his faith in God and God gives him courage. The family could be fearful when their dad is in danger, but instead, they look to God for courage. God provides love and encouragement through their church family. A big part of the Allison's family life is attending church activities.

On the ship, Mark cares for the sailors. He does this by telling them about Jesus. He teaches them from the Bible. If sailors experience death or other tragedies back at home, Mark is there to comfort and encourage them.

The Allison family can tell you how God has blessed them. God has provided them friends all over the world. He has provided their family with lots of brothers and sisters. Noah, one of the children, says God has provided lots of "stuff." God has always provided for all of their needs.

The Allison family homeschools their children. They choose not to watch TV and they do not have the latest video games. The Allison family will admit that following God's leadership is not always easy. But God is faithful. He gives them the courage they need. He blesses them for following Him.

Show the sample suitcase. Say: "Mark Allison has to pack his bags and leave his family a lot. He has a large family that needs your prayers."

Distribute the file folders and handles. Encourage the children to tape or glue the handle to the front side of the file. Allow them time to write *Allison Family* on the handle or on the front of the folder.

Say: "There are two parents and seven children in the Allison family." Write the names and ages of the children for all to see:

Provide:

- File folders, one for each child plus extras
- Scissors
- Tape/glue
- Markers/color pencils
- Travel stickers
- Dry erase board
- Dry erase markers

To Do:

- Cut from an extra file folder "C" shapes to be used as handles. Cut two for each child.
- Make a sample "suitcase."

- Mark-dad
- Susan-mom
- Elizabeth (6/83)
- Sarah (2/91)
- Rebekah (11/93)
- Leah (2/96)
- Noah (11/97)
- Benjamin (8/00)
- Elisha (8/04)

Ask: “What are some ways to pray for the Allison family?”

- *God to comfort them when they are away from one another*
- *God to protect Mark Allison when he is away from his family*
- *God to help Mark Allison as he cares for the sailors*
- *that the people to whom Mark ministers will receive Jesus as their Savior.*
- *God to help Susan when Mark is away.*

Invite the children to write inside their “suitcase” some of the ways to pray for the Allison family.

Encourage the children to be creative in decorating their suitcases. They could draw a family of nine or navy boats. Tell them to use the travel stickers on the outside of the folder. Challenge them to put the suitcase in a place to remind them to pray. Encourage the children to pick a different family member to pray for each time they pray for the Allison family.



STRETCHING

Bible-verse Memory Time
(10–15 minutes)

Say: “Abraham showed great courage and faith in God as he traveled in a foreign land. You will experience difficulties. There may be times you need courage and faith as you travel through life. Today’s Bible verse encourages you to follow God.” Explain that the children will travel around the room to the signs used in the Bible story and gather one puzzle piece at each place. Guide them to put together their pieces to see the Bible verse. Ask them to say the verse aloud as soon as they have their pieces together. Then, say the verse together.

Provide:

- Paper
- Marker
- Scissors

To Do:

- Write the memory verse on a sheet of paper. Make a copy for each child.
- Cut each piece of paper into 4 pieces, carefully separating the different pieces into four piles.
- Place one pile of pieces at each sign you used for the Bible story.



THE TOURNAMENT

Games and Activities
(15–20 minutes)

Blow the whistle to begin THE TOURNAMENT time. Choose from the following games and activities.

Pass it on

Encourage the children to make a large circle around the room. The leader will pass a motion around the circle to the right. It should be something the children will notice, such as winking or crinkling your nose. After seeing the motion, the child to the right will do the same motion. Then the child beside him will do it. This continues until it goes around the circle. Allow it to go around the circle again. Then start another motion the opposite direction of the first motion. You could use a different body part such as shaking your foot. While the two motions go around the circle, the real challenge comes to the child who receives two motions at the same time.

Say: “To do the right thing in this game, you had to follow my leadership. God wants you to follow His lead.”

Ask: “How do you follow God?” (*live the TeamKID motto, read the Bible, memorize verses, pray, go to church, obey the Bible*)

After several rounds, tell them following God sometimes means being different from others. Encourage them to have the courage to follow God’s leadership no matter what their situation.

Suitcase Relay

Form two teams. The first player on each team runs from the *Start* line to the suitcase. At the suitcase, he puts on all the clothes in the suitcase, closes the suitcase, and runs back to the *Start* line with the suitcase. There he takes off the clothes and repacks the suitcase. The next child in line relays the suitcase back to the *Finish* line and repeats putting on the clothes. This continues until all the players have dressed and undressed.

Say: “Abraham had a lot of courage leaving his family and homeland to follow God’s leadership. You will also need courage to follow God’s leadership. You may have to move like Abraham. It takes courage to go to new places and make new friends. Or maybe you are in a situation and you know following God will not be easy. It takes courage to follow God and do what’s right.”

Say: “God wants you to follow His leadership. You can step out in faith and follow Him like Abraham.”

I’m Going on a Trip

Form a circle. Start the game by saying, “I’m going on a trip and I’m taking...” The child beside you will say, “I’m going on a trip and I’m taking (whatever you said)” and will add an item to it. Each person in succession must do the same by naming all the items before saying the item he plans to take on a trip. This goes around the circle until a

Provide:

- Whistle from *TeamKID Children’s Game Pak*

Provide:

- Painter’s tape
- Suitcase for each team
- Oversized clothing such as baggy pants, shirts, shoes, hats, gloves

To Do:

- Mark a *Start* line and *Finish* line with the painter’s tape.
- Place equal items of clothing in each suitcase.
- Put each suitcase on the *Finish* line.

player misses. Begin again with the next player in line.

Say: “Abraham went on quite a trip. He had no idea where God was leading him. You may be like Abraham. You may have no idea where God is leading you. All you have to do is keep following him in the different ways you learned today.”

Review with the kids the different ways to follow God. (*live the TeamKID motto, read the Bible, memorize verses, pray, go to church, obey the Bible*)



COOL DOWN

Refreshments and Conclusion
(5–10 minutes)

Provide:

- Individual packs of pretzels or packs of crackers
- Miniature water bottle

Say: “Abraham traveled. Mark Allison travels a lot. When you travel on a plane, you might receive this type of snack.” Distribute the snacks and drinks.

Encourage discussion of times they can follow God during their day. Reassure the children that like Abraham, they can put their faith in God, and follow God during their day.

Pray for the children to step out and have courage to follow God.

Meeting 4: Answers to Activity Books

Grades 4–6

“Ways to Follow God”

Pray, read the Bible, go to church, memorize verses, obey the Bible