

“Hey, God!” - LESSON 3

“Have You Forgotten Me?”

Main Focus:

God never forgets you and knows exactly what you're going through!



Power Verse:

“...For God has said, ‘I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.’”

- Hebrews 13:5



Whatchagaddaknow:

“God Will Never Forget Me!”

LEADER'S INFO

Loneliness is a difficult thing to deal with. Many children sometimes feel like they are all alone in life - no friends, no family, nobody. It is very difficult to handle life's lonely times.

It is even worse when you feel that even God has abandoned and forgotten you. At times, due to our own actions, we get off the path that God has for us. During this time, it can seem that God is silent. It may even seem like He isn't even there.

In this lesson, the children will learn through the story of Moses and the burning bush. They will learn that God is always there. He never forgets or abandons them. In fact, He will reveal Himself to them right there in the “wilderness” if they will allow Him.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Did You Forget?”



Whatchagaddaknow Video

Wiggy Pop teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Curi Osity”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Do You Remember?”



Bible Story

“Moses & The Burning Bush”



Power Verse Video

“...For God has said, ‘I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.’”

- Hebrews 13:5



Call To Action

“Have You Forgotten Me?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

God never forgets you and knows exactly what you're going through!



Power Verse:

“...For God has said, ‘I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.’”

- Hebrews 13:5



Whatchagaddaknow:

“God Will Never Forget Me!”

Lesson 3 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 3 - The Spark” Intro Video

Whatchagaddaknow Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow Teaching” Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow Trigger” Video

Character Skit

- “Curi Osity” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Do You Remember?” Graphic
- 8-10 Random Items
- A Table

Bible Story

- “Moses & The Burning Bush” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 3 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Have You Forgotten Me?” Graphics
- A Cell Phone
- A Crisp Dollar Bill

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 3 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Construction Paper
- Crayons, Markers, Or Pencils
- Scissors
- Tape
- Other Various Craft Supplies
- Memory Match Cards Print Piece
- Hebrews 13:5 Print Piece

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Offering Time

Game Time!

“Do You Remember?”

Bible Story

“Moses & The Burning Bush”

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Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Welcome back to our awesome series called “Hey God!” We’ve been asking some BIG questions that kids ask God all the time.

Let me ask you something—have you ever felt left out or forgotten?

- * Maybe you didn’t get invited to a birthday party...
- * Or maybe your mom or dad got stuck at work and couldn’t pick you up on time...
- * Or maybe you prayed and prayed about something—and it seemed like God wasn’t answering.

When something like that happens, it hurts, doesn’t it? *(allow response)* Well, we are going to learn how to deal with those types of situations in our lesson, today. To find out more, let’s check out this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 3”)

Leader: If you’ve ever felt like God has forgotten you, you’re not alone. Moses felt the same way. He had once been a prince in Egypt... but now? He is out in the desert, watching sheep, day after day after day. No palace. No special mission. Just sand... and silence.

But here’s the truth—God never forgets us. And today, you’re going to see how God showed up in the middle of nowhere to remind Moses of that very thing.

But, first we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Curi Osity” *(She is an amateur detective who is always on the hunt for her next case! She always carries a magnifying glass and notepad with her to uncover clues and put together the answers she so badly seeks to find.)*

Curi: *(Enters with her magnifying glass up, wandering around)* Do you ever feel lost? I mean, like, really lost.

Leader: Hi, Curi Osity. Why do you ask a question like that? Do you think you are lost? Have you lost something? Do you need us to help you look? What have you lost?

Curi: I don't know, but I will find out. I mean, no, I have not lost an item per se. Or maybe I have. I guess what I'm trying to say is I don't know where I am!

Leader: Well, that's easy. You are right here! See? *(Hold her hand in front of her face)* Here you are! Right here with us. Does everyone see Curi? *(Allow kids to respond)*

Curi: No, no, no! I know I'm here, and I know you're here. I just don't know where I am supposed to be.

Leader: Did you get your schedule mixed up? We are glad you are here and all, but if you are supposed to be somewhere else, then...

Curi: You are not listening to me! I'm talking about life! Sometimes, I feel useless. Oh my! Did I just say that?

Leader: Ohhhhhh! I see what you mean now. Wow! That's a tough one.

Curi: Tell me about it. I just feel stuck, like I am spinning my wheels, which can be fun in a car, but not in life. Are we supposed to have a purpose? Do we just go through life never really knowing what we are supposed to do?

Leader: Those are some serious questions, Curi, and I'm glad you're asking them. Lots of people feel this way – adults and kids included.

Curi: Kids can feel this way? Whoa! That's worth investigating!

Leader: Sure, they can. It's easy to feel this way because of the world we live in. People tell us who we should be, what we should do, and it can be very confusing! But there is something very important that we need to do.

Curi: *(Puts her magnifying glass up to her ear)* I'm listening...

Leader: *(Staring at her)* What are you doing?

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Curi: I'm investigating with my ear, ok? Just talk!

Leader: We have to make sure that we listen to God! He has our whole lives planned out, and it's a perfect plan! Even when we feel like we don't have a purpose anymore, God still has something special for each one of us!

Curi: But how do we know what that is?

Leader: You have to spend time with God to hear from Him! Praying, reading the Bible, and even serving others are great ways to spend time with God and find out the plan He has for you.

Curi: But what if I somehow messed up that plan without even knowing it? I'm not always perfect, you know. I have sinned before... so is God's plan ruined?

Leader: Never! He will never forget about you, leave you behind, or change his mind about you! God loves you, and He still wants to use you to do big things!

Curi: Wow! That's so cool!

Leader: Right?! God does incredible things with His people, even those who have made big mistakes.

Curi: WHEW! That's a relief! Anywho, I need to go. I'm off to ask God about my purpose! My name is Curi Osity. If I don't know the answer, I WILL find out! See ya soon!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Do You Remember?”

Items Needed For Game:

8-10 random items, a table

.....

Preparation:

Choose an equal number of boys and girls to play this game. Have around 5 items set up in the play area on and around the table for the “base” setup.

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How To Play:

Choose a team to go first. Have that team study the setup of a table for 15 seconds, paying close attention to where each item is placed. Once their time is up, have the entire team turn around with their backs to the table. While they are turned around, move, swap, remove, or adjust a few items on and around the table. When the changes are complete, have the team turn back around and attempt to return everything the way it was. They will earn one point for each item they place back in its original position. After scoring their round, make sure the table is reset to its original setup before allowing the next team to play. Continue this process until all teams have had a turn. You may play up to three rounds, increasing the difficulty each time by adjusting more items or even adding new ones to the base setup. At the end of the game, the team with the most points wins!



Bible Story

“Moses & The Burning Bush”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 3; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Exodus 3:1-7; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in Exodus chapter 3. You might remember when we left Moses in our last Bible Story, he had made a terrible mistake. He had gotten impatient with God’s plan and decided to take things into his own hands. He killed an Egyptian, got in trouble with Pharaoh, and ran for his life into the desert.



Many years passed. Moses grew older. He married a woman from the tribe of Midian. He started a family and began to work as a shepherd, taking care of his father-in-law’s flocks. One day, he was out in the fields taking care of his flocks of sheep. He was minding his own business, probably thinking this was just going to be another one of those boring days in the field. Well, he was wrong. Moses looked in the distance (*show pic*) only to see what looked like a bush that was on fire. Moses wasn’t sure why, but it seemed like the bush was on fire, but not ever burning up. He decided to have a closer look.



(*show pic*) When Moses got close, a voice came out of the bush saying, “Moses! Moses! Take off your sandals, you are standing on holy ground.” Who do you think this was speaking to Moses? That’s right! It was God. (*show pic*) So, Moses took his sandals off and bowed down with his face toward the ground. He knew that he was in the presence of God. But, how? How could God be in the middle of the wilderness? Surely God had forgotten all about him since he was so far away from his home, especially since he had sinned and messed up so badly.



But, God had not forgotten Moses. Not at all. He knew exactly where Moses was the whole time. God was waiting until His timing was right. (*show pic*) God spoke from the burning bush. He said to Moses, “I have seen the suffering of my people in Egypt. I am sending you to lead them to freedom.” Remember, the nation of Israel had been held captive as slaves in Egypt for over 400 years. God was calling Moses to go and lead the people into freedom. Isn’t that amazing? God had not forgotten Moses. He still had a plan for Moses’ life.

Although sometimes it may seem as if we are all alone and God has forgotten all about us. The truth is, we are always on God’s mind. His plan for us isn’t destroyed simply because we mess up. In your lesson today, you are going to learn that God never forgets or abandons us.



Call To Action

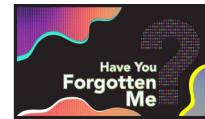
“Have You Forgotten Me?”

Materials Needed:

The “Call To Action” graphics; a cell phone; a nice, crisp dollar bill

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Have You Forgotten Me?”



The Message: *(title slide)*

(Walk on stage holding a phone, looking at it and checking it repeatedly. Pace a little, sigh, look at the screen again.) Sorry, everyone! My friend was supposed to call me like five minutes ago. I don’t know why they haven’t called. I wonder if they forgot about me? Have you ever been waiting for someone to call or text you back? Maybe you asked a friend to come over and you kept checking your front door every two minutes... but nothing. Or maybe you texted your mom at work and thought, “Why hasn’t she answered yet? Did she forget about me?” Anything like that ever happen to you? *(allow kids to respond.)*

That’s a terrible feeling, isn’t it? You start to wonder... “Did they forget me?” “Do they even care?” *(pause to look at the phone one last time, then put it away)* Sometimes, it can feel that way with God. You pray. You wait. And wait. And it feels like... nothing. You start to wonder: “Hey God... have You forgotten me?”

Well guess what? That’s exactly how Moses probably felt after being out in the wilderness for YEARS—far away from where he thought he was supposed to be. Through Moses’ experience, we learn some really important things about moments when we think, “God, have you forgotten me?”

The first lesson we learn is...



God Knows Right Where I Am *(slide)*

Although it can sometimes feel like it, God doesn’t forget you. Even when you are the one who messed up and sinned, God never leaves you or abandons you. He knows right where you are. He knew where Moses was. Even though Moses was out in the middle of the wilderness, God showed up right where he was. He spoke directly to Moses. He even called Moses by name.

It’s so easy for you to think God has forgotten You. You may have sinned and wandered far away from God. But, God knows right where you are. And...

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Call To Action *(Continued)*

God Can Meet Me Anywhere



It doesn't matter how far away you've wandered from God or His plan for your life. God can meet you right where you are - anywhere! When we think God has forgotten all about us, it can start to feel just like Moses in the wilderness. He was along way off from where he started - in the palace of Pharaoh. But, when God met him there in the wilderness, everything changed.

God said, "Take off your shoes, Moses. The place you are standing is holy ground." That means that when God showed up, the place became holy and special. Moses began to worship God because he realized that God was holy and deserved his worship. When God shows up in your life, that's exactly what you should do as well - worship Him. Wherever God is - that is a holy place.

After Moses worshipped, God revealed to Moses that He had not forgotten about his people in Egypt. He had a plan to set them free. Guess who God planned to use to set the people free? *(allow response)* That's right! Moses!! That means that even when I fail, even when I mess up, even when it seems like all is lost...

God Still Has A Plan For My Life *(slide)*



God didn't change His mind about using Moses to set God's people free. And, He doesn't change His mind about you and me either. Our actions may delay God's plan for our lives, but it doesn't CANCEL God's plan for our lives.

(hold up a nice crisp dollar bill) How much is this worth? \$1, right? *(crumple it up in a ball)* How much is it worth now? *(allow response)* Still \$1, that's right! *(now step on it, throw it around, make it all ratted out and messy)* OK, now how much is it worth? *(allow response)* STILL \$1! The value never changed!

That's like you and me in God's eyes. Even if you've messed up and sinned - your value hasn't changed to God. He still has a plan for you! If you confess your sin to Him, He will forgive you and get you back on the right path. Moses thought he had ruined everything. But God said: "I still want to use YOU to free My people."

And God says the same thing to you today: "I STILL have a plan for your life." No mistake is too big for God's grace. Even though it may feel like God has forgotten you, God still has a plan for your life. Don't give up! Don't quit! God hasn't forgotten you, and He STILL has a plan for your life.

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray for the children who feel that God has forgotten them. Pray that they will feel God's sweet presence in their lives today. End the time with worship, recognizing that God's presence is here - even in a wilderness time of our lives.



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 3 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “God Will Never Forget Me!”

2. What did Moses see while he was watching his flocks?

Answer: A Burning Bush

3. Who spoke from out of the bush?

Answer: God

4. Why did God tell Moses to take off his shoes?

Answer: He Was On Holy Ground

5. Did the bush burn up completely?

Answer: No

6. According to our lesson today, “God Knows Right _____ I Am.”

Answer: Where

7. According to our lesson today, “God Can _____ Me Anywhere.”

Answer: Meet

8. According to our lesson today, “God STILL Has A _____ For Me.”

Answer: Plan

9. Did God forget about His suffering people in Egypt?

Answer: No

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Hebrews 13:5