

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

We need to move when God calls us to act.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn when God says, “Move!” we should be quick to obey.

KEY PASSAGE:

Genesis 12:1-5, The Call of Abram

MEMORY VERSE:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

SUMMARY:

When Abram was an old man, God said “Move!” and Abram obeyed. God promised that Abram would become the father of a great nation, and many years later that promise was fulfilled. Kids will play Simon Says as a reminder that when God calls us, we should obey.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to be obedient just as Abram was.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

MEMORY VERSE

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways remember him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.”
- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV)

LARGE GROUP:

Have the kids read the verse together. First, read it normally while sitting. Next, have them crouch down on the ground and read it in a whisper. Then have them stand and read it really, really loud!

SMALL GROUP:

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.

SKIT

MOVING WITH MR. SIMMONS: SIMON SAYS!!

ITEMS NEEDED:

An easy chair
A headband
A remote control

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

CHARACTERS:

Mr. Simmons - A fitness guru
Ernest - A lazy, out of shape man

Ernest is sitting in an easy chair, sleeping. Mr. Simmons enters with a headband and a remote control.

SIMMONS: Wake up, Ernest! Today is the first day of the rest of your life!

ERNEST: *(startled)* Huh? Wha?

SIMMONS: No more sleeping in front of the TV! It's time to move!

ERNEST: Move? Did I finally buy that condo in Florida?

SIMMONS: You're not moving your stuff! You're moving your body!

ERNEST: Says who?

SIMMONS: Says me! I'm Mr. Simmons, and I'm here to tell you about my new exercise invention: The Simon Says Headband!

ERNEST: The what?

SIMMONS: Now it's so simple to get your relatives up and moving. You apply the head band like so.

SKIT

Simmons puts the headband on Ernest.

ERNEST: Hey, what are you doing to me?

SIMMONS: And use the remote. *(speaks into the remote)* Simon says stand up!

Ernest stands.

ERNEST: Ohhh my legs! Why am I standing?

SIMMONS: Simon says, run in place.

Simmons and Ernest run in place.

ERNEST: What's going on? Why am I running in place?

SIMMONS: Isn't this amazing folks? It's just like when God spoke to Abram. God said, MOVE! And Abram got up and moved.

ERNEST: I don't want to move!

SIMMONS: Come on, Ernest, when God says, "move," we need to obey, just like you're obeying my commands through the Simon Says Headband. Simon says jumping jacks!

Ernest starts doing jumping jacks.

ERNEST: No! Not jumping jacks!

SIMMONS: Simon says touch your toes.

Ernest stops jumping and tries to touch his toes.

ERNEST: I'm having a nightmare!

SIMMONS: Simon says shadow box!

Ernest starts shuffling his feet and throwing punches in the air.

ERNEST: Stop it, Simon, stop it!

SIMMONS: It's just a shame there's no headband God can use to make us move when He wants us to move. That's why it's so important to listen for God to tell us to move. Why? Because we know God keeps His promises!

SKIT

ERNEST: Promise me you'll make this stop.

SIMMONS: Simon says stop.

Ernest stops and nearly collapses, huffing and puffing. Simmons takes off the headband.

SIMMONS: Oh, great work out, Ernest! Doesn't it feel good to get up and move?

ERNEST: No, not at all!

SIMMONS: You get some good rest, my friend. And listen for God to tell you to move.

ERNEST: Okay.

SIMMONS: And I'll see you for another work out next week! Bye!

Simmons exits.

ERNEST: Next week? No! No, please don't come back!

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A game of Twister

Set up the game mat and choose several kids to play Twister. Start spinning the spinner and calling out commands to the kids. See how quickly the kids can respond and how good they are at following your lead.

Twister is a game just like Simon Says – only instead of a person calling out directions to move, we're following the spinner. When the spinner says right foot red, we put our right foot on the red dots. When we hear left hand yellow, we respond. We don't argue. We don't ignore. We just obey.

God has plans for all of us, but those plans won't come to be unless we are willing to move. When God says move, we shouldn't ignore Him, argue with Him, or give Him excuses. We need to move. God has great plans for us just like He did for Abram, and when we are obedient to God, we will see God move in amazing ways.

If we want God to move in our lives, we need to move when He says, "Move!"

LARGE GROUP GAME

SIMON SAYS

ITEMS NEEDED:

None

INSTRUCTIONS:

Have everyone stand up today and play Simon Says. Use your adult leaders as spotters, and when they see kids mess up, call them out and have them sit down. See if you can get all the way down to just one winner.

VARIATION:

An alternate game would be to make this a team game - younger kid vs. older, or kids vs. adults. Choose an equal number of people for both teams and have them all play Simon Says. The loser is the first team to have all their people mess up and drop out.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

When God says move, we need to MOVE!

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

We need to move when God calls us to act.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn when God says, “Move!” we should be quick to obey.

KEY PASSAGE:

Genesis 12:1-5, The Call of Abram

INTRO:

Today we’re starting an exciting series. It’s called MOVE! I’m sure you all hear that word quite a lot these days. Sometimes it’s a good thing. Sometimes... ehh, we’d rather stay where we are. We love it when it’s recess time at school. We get to move all over the playground and have fun. We don’t love it so much when the teacher says we must move desks away from our best friend. Some of us love going outside on a sunny day to move around the yard and the neighborhood. Others of us would rather not move because we’re too busy playing video games. We love moving down the road on vacation, going someplace exciting like an amusement park where we can REALLY get moving. We don’t love hearing from mom and dad that it’s time to move permanently, away from our school and friends and church to some place completely new.

Sometimes moving is a choice. Sometimes it’s not. Sometimes it’s fun and exciting. Sometimes it can be scary. One thing is for sure: moving is never boring. Whether we’re exploring new places, trying new ventures, or just exercising our feet, moving gets our heart pumping.

As followers of Christ, God wants to get all of us moving. That’s one of the reasons we call ourselves FOLLOWERS of Christ, not sitters of Christ. God doesn’t want us to sit in our seats on Sunday, hear a few Bible verses, and then forget about them. He wants to get us moving. He has big plans for each of us, and those plans begin when we listen for His lead and start to move. God may use prayer to speak to us, or the Bible, or other people. The important thing isn’t how He speaks, but what we do when He speaks. When God says “Move,” we need to move!

Today’s Bible story is about a man named Abram whom God asked to move. Abram lived in a nice city and was very wealthy. He had lots of friends, and he was happy.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

But God had big plans for Abram that could not begin until Abram packed up everything and moved.

READ GENESIS 12:1-5

MAIN POINT:

Do you notice how quickly Abram responds to God? Abram was a man with a lot of faith. He loved God more than he loved his save home or his friends or any of his possessions. Abram trusted God had a plan, and when God said move, Abram moved!

God promised to make Abram into a mighty nation, and He did. It would be many years before Abram had a son, Isaac, and many more years before Isaac's children and grandchildren formed that mighty nation, but because Abram was obedient to God, God fulfilled His promise. When God says move, there's no time to argue, or make excuses, or even say, "Just a second!" It's time to pack up and move.

DRIVE IT HOME:

I want all of you to stand up for a moment. We're going to move around a bit and play a quick round of Simon Says.

Spend about a minute giving the kids commands. Go easy on them, and don't eliminate anyone from this game if they mess up.

It's not every day you get to stop in the middle of a Bible lesson and play a game, is it? Was that fun? Of course it was. We all love playing games like Simon Says, and we all love to move when we play.

Here's my challenge to you guys during the next several weeks. I want you to become kids who obey God as quickly and as excitedly as you do playing Simon Says. If God says jump, jump. If He says run, run. If He says pray, pray. If He says make a new friend, make a new friend. If He says invite someone to church, invite them.

God's commands are harder to hear, but if we pray daily and read the Bible and do our best to live like Jesus, we will hear God when He tells us to move. It might be something new. It might be something scary, like making a new friend. But it will never be boring. It will always be exciting.

God has plans for us. He made a promise to use us to do great things for His kingdom. But it all starts with us. When Simon says to jump, we jump. When God says move, we need to move just as quickly. Let's ask God to help us to hear His voice and to make us ready to move when He says move!

LARGE GROUP LESSON

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to be obedient just as Abram was.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What is one thing that motivates you to get moving?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 3:5-6

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of Speed Simon Says with just your group before settling in to talk. Shout out the commands as fast as possible and see who can keep up.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 12:1-5

Who was Abram?

What did God tell Abram to do?

Did Abram know where he was going?

Why did Abram just move when God asked him to?

What should we do when God tells us to move?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to hear your voice when you ask us to move.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What is one thing that motivates you to get moving?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 3:5-6

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of Speed Simon Says with just your group before settling in to talk. Shout out the command as fast as possible and see who can keep up.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 12:1-5

What did God tell Abram to do?

Why did Abram just move when God asked him to?

Why is it sometimes hard to respond when God says move?

How can God use us when we are willing to move?

What can we do to become better listeners so we will be able to respond to God's call?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to hear your voice when you ask us to move.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

TRUE OR FALSE

Have the kids stand up for True or sit for False.

Abram was a man who loved God.

TRUE

God told Abram exactly where He wanted Abram to go.

FALSE

Abram said "NO" when God said move.

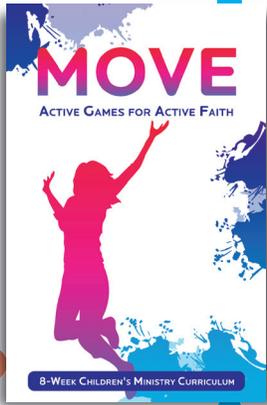
FALSE

Abram moved because he trusted God.

TRUE

We can trust God and obey Him when He says, "Move!"

TRUE



MAKE IT STICK

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

Move Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: SIMON SAYS



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

When Abram was an old man, God said "Move!" and Abram obeyed. God promised that Abram would become the father of a great nation, and many years later that promise was fulfilled. Simon Says reminds us that when God calls us, we should obey. Genesis 12:1-5, The Call of Abram



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

When you come to a red light while driving this week, have the kids pay attention with you. Encourage them to say, "Move!" when the green light comes on, and talk about the importance of moving when God calls us to move.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What did God ask Abram to do?
- Why did Abram obey God so easily?
- Why is it important to move when God calls us to do so?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)



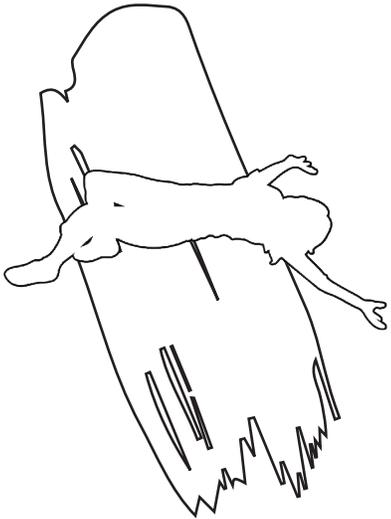
PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

This series will be all about responding to God's call to move, to act, to do His will. Be in prayer for our kids to learn to listen for God's leading, and ask God to help you to hear and obey His call as well.

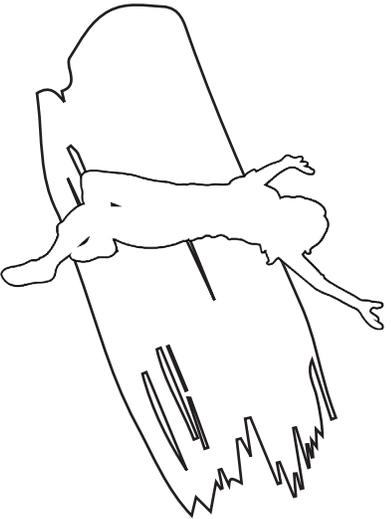
CRAFT ACTIVITY

Use construction paper and have the kids make a traffic light. Use black for the frame with red, yellow, and green circles glued on for the lights. Write "Move" over the green light.



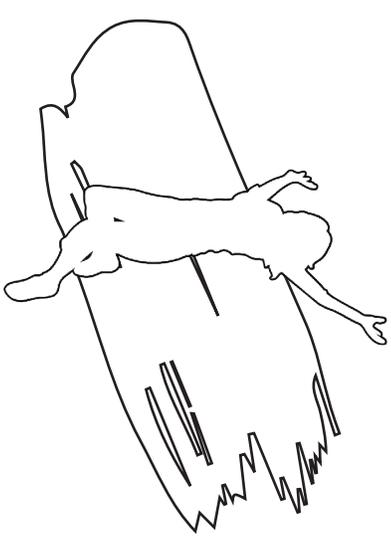
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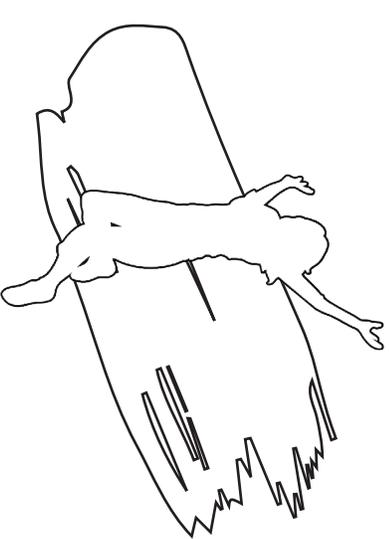
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