LESSON 4Juniors

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Because of Jesus, I Am a Child of God

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 3; 1 John 3 **WORD OF WONDER:** Exodus 15:11c

Prayer of Invitation

God, thank You for Your words in the Bible. Jesus, thank You for showing us who God is. Holy Spirit, help us understand more about You today. Thank You for making the way for us to be children of God! In Jesus' name, Amen.

God's Big Story

Bible Time Rhyme

I open my Bible and what do I see? (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

God's big story, waiting for me! (Point to yourself.)

Let's start by reading part of God's big story from the book of Galatians in the Bible.

Read the God's Big Story Script provided or read Galatians 3:5–7, 10–14, 26 from the Bible.

GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about Jesus and something very important that He did. Encourage the kids to say, "Jesus." Let's find out from the Bible what Jesus did!

Before you begin, gather several toy people and set them nearby. Gather kids together. Show the kids the toy people. Today we're going to talk about a family. Look at all of these people. Do you think they all belong to the same family?

God made people, and God loves all people. Give one of the toy figures to a toddler.

Do you think God loves this person? Yes, God loves all people!

But sin messed everything up. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that is not what God wants. Sin made people far away from God. Take one of the toy people and move it far away from the rest.

But God had a plan to bring us close to Him again with Jesus.

A long time before Jesus died on the cross, God made a promise to a man named Abraham.

God promised to make Abraham's family very, very big and to bless the whole world through them! Hand out a few more toy people to toddlers.

Abraham believed God and trusted Him. God kept His promise to Abraham and his family.

That family is God's family. And many, many years after Abraham lived, Jesus was born into that family. Now we can be part of God's family because of Jesus.

When Jesus died on the cross, He beat death and stopped the power of sin. Jesus made the way for all people to be a part of God's family.

When we trust in Jesus to forgive our sins, the promise God made to Abraham is for us too. Go to the toy person that you previously relocated and move it back with the others.

We can have faith in God. Faith means trusting God and obeying Him. The Bible says, "Those who have faith are children of Abraham" (Galatians 3:7).

We become part of Abraham's family when we trust in God and have faith. Jesus forgives us and saves us from sin.

"He did it so that we might receive the promise of the Holy Spirit" (Galatians 3:14).

The Holy Spirit is God's presence. The Holy Spirit lives in us when we believe in Jesus.

The Bible says, "See what amazing love the Father has given us! Because of it, we are called children of God. And that's what we really are!" (1 John 3:1).

God made us and knows us. God sent Jesus so we could be His children. We can be led by His Spirit. Let's all sit together with these toy people. Gather kids and all the toy people together.

We are all part of God's family! Now all followers of Jesus know that because of Him, they are children of God.

Worship

Watch God's Big Story

Connecting the Wonder Truth

Our Wonder Truth today is BECAUSE OF JESUS, I AM A CHILD OF GOD. Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.

God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. Jesus, a relative of Abraham, blessed everyone everywhere by making the way—when He died and rose again—for all people to be part of God's family.

Word of Wonder

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- YOUR GLORY FILLS ME—Hold hands up above your head, then move them down to your sides.
- WITH WONDER.—Burst hands to the sides above your head.
- YOU DO—Point up.
- . AMAZING THINGS.—Jump up and burst hands out to the sides as wide as you can.
- EXODUS 15:11C—Hold your hands together in front, palms together, as if opening a book.

Gather kids. Today we learned that because of Jesus, we can be children of God! Wow! Let's practice our Word of Wonder as a way of telling God how amazing He is! Recite the verse and do the motions with the kids.

Prayer Journal Question:

. What amazing thing did God do in our story today? (He sent Jesus to die for our sins.)