

Junior Teacher Guide – September 2019



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# Stand Up

## Get Excited!

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Stand Up/Sit Down.”***

Tell students to **stay seated if they agree** with a statement you make and to **stand up if they disagree**. You can come up with your own statements or use the statements below.

- Bullying is okay. (*ideally students will stand up*)
- We should be kind to others. (*ideally students will sit down*)
- You should get punished for the wrong actions of others. (*ideally students will sit down*)

Share that today’s lesson is about someone who stood up on behalf of another person.

## Key Verse Exercise

***Read the verse to remember aloud.***

***“Will not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” (Genesis 18:25)***

Tell students to unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

iWll | nto | teh Jgdue | fo lla | teh eatrh | od | hwat | si | jtus?

**Will not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?**

## Read and Learn!

***Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Has Our Back aloud.***

### **Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Has Our Back**

Zion – The visitors that Abraham entertained turned toward Sodom as they left Abrahah. Sodom along with Gomorrah were at the southern base of the Dead Sea in a fertile area that was said to be Eden (13:10). Lot, Abraham’s nephew, chose the land on which to live when he and Abraham separated. Even though this was excellent land for grazing his flocks, Sodom had a reputation for its wickedness. Sodom meant “place of lime” and Gomorrah meant “submission.”

Zaya – Sodom was judged by God for a variety of sins including failure to care for the needy and poor even though they had incredible wealth (Ezekiel 16:49-50) and for sexual immorality (Jude 7).

Zion – Abraham tried to intercede on Sodom’s behalf. Abraham propositioned God: “Lord, do you plan to destroy the good persons along with the evil persons? What if there are 50 good people in that city? Surely you will not destroy the good people along with the evil people. ..”Won’t you do what is right?” (18:23-25)

Zaya – God assured Abraham: “If I find 50 good people in the city of Sodom, I will save the city of Sodom because of them.” (18:26)

Zion – Then Abraham admitted his boldness in confronting God. Abraham haggled with God, going from fifty righteous men to ten righteous men. God promised he would not destroy Sodom if ten righteous men could be found in Sodom.

Zaya – But this was not to be. So the angels, messengers from God, went to Lot to warn him about the impending destruction of Sodom. The messengers commanded and his family to leave Sodom immediately. In fact, the two messengers led them outside of the city. Lot and his family went to Zoar. As soon as they entered Zoar, the Lord rained down fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah. Everything was destroyed. Even to this day, archaeologists have not been able to find the place where Sodom and Gomorrah once stood. God literally wiped Sodom and Gomorrah off the face of the earth.

Zion – Because of the noise and the heat of the fire and brimstone, Lot’s wife looked back and as a result of being curious, she was turned into a pillar of salt. God remembered Abraham and saved one righteous man, Lot.

### **Rise Up!**

***Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.***

Research what life was like in Sodom and Gomorrah. (Allow students to use their smart devices for the search.)

***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students the Zion and Zaya want to share how God has their back when they stand up for the right thing. Help them create a video about the way Abraham stood up for Lot to save his family.

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a “God’s Got My Back” megaphone.***

Materials: One half of a plain paper plate that has a smooth edge (one per student), copies of the God’s Got My Back label in Appendix A (one label per student), markers or crayons, tape, glue, scissors

Instructions: Before class cut the paper plates in half. During class, give each student a paper plate half and a “God’s Got My Back” label. Allow students to color the label and decorate the paper plate. Roll the paper plate into a cone shape so that one end is wide, and the other end has an opening that is large enough for use as a mouthpiece (see image). Secure the edge with tape. Glue the label so that it covers the tape.



***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, there are many people with wicked and wrong behavior in this world and you are not pleased with their actions. Forgive me when my behavior was wrong. Help me to be bold and not afraid to stand up and speak out when others are doing wrong or are in need. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

# Request Granted

## Get Excited!

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Sing “I Will Pray.”***

Allow students to sing along with the YouTube video, “I Will Pray” by Yancey (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZmpWgzlZtY>). The lyrics are below.

I can pray  
Anywhere, any time of day  
I can always talk to you  
And you will hear me; you’ll hear me

I don’t have to worry  
I don’t have to fear  
I can always trust  
You are always near  
Oh, I will pray; Lord, I will pray

No matter what I’m facing  
No matter what I’ve done  
Staring at a mountain  
Or giant that comes  
Oh, I will pray; Lord I will pray to you

## Key Verse Exercise

***Read the verse to remember aloud.***

***Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said I have asked him of the Lord. (1 Samuel 1:20).***

Tell students to unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

## Lesson 2 – September 8, 2019 | 1 Samuel 1:20

### KEY VERSE EXERCISE.

Unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

aHnnha | concvedei | adn broe | a sno. | eSh nmade | mhi Samleu,  
**Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel,**

rfo seh said | I hvae | edask mhi | fo teh rLod.

for she said I have asked him of the Lord.

### **Read and Learn!**

***Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Is with Us When We Pray aloud.***

#### **Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Is with Us When We Pray**

Zion – The Scripture says, “You have not because you ask not” (James 4:2). So it was That Hannah’s request was granted.

Zaya – Elkanah had two wives – Hannah and Peninah. Hannah had no children. Peninah had some sons and daughters, so she taunted Hannah because she was barren. Each year Elkanah would take his family to the temple at Shiloh to worship and offer sacrifices. Elkanah gave Peninah and her children a portion to make an offering, but he gave Hannah a double portion.

Zion – Hannah was deeply distressed. Peninah provoked her so much that she cried bitterly and would no eat. Elkanah realized how much Hannah’s heart grieved. He tried to comfort her, but nothing seemed to help. Elkanah tried to assure Hannah that she was better than ten sons.

Zaya – Hannah went to the tabernacle to pray and make a promise to God. Eli, the priest who was sitting by the doorpost of the tabernacle, saw and heard what anguish Hannah was expressing. This was her prayer and promise: “Lord of heaven’s armies, see how bad I feel. Remember me! Don’t forget me. If you give me a son, I will give him back to you all his life. And no one will ever use a razor to cut his hair” (v. 11).

Zion – Even though Hannah was praying, her lips were moving but there was no sound because she was speaking from her heart. Eli thought that Hannah was drunk: “Throw away your wine” (14).

Zaya – Hannah, then told Eli the priest, how sorrowful her heart was. Now understanding Hannah’s anguish and request, Eli blessed Hannah with these words: Go in peace. May the God of Israel give you what you asked of him” (v. 17).

Zion – As so it was, when Hannah returned home, the Lord answered her prayer and blessed her with a son whom she named Samuel.

### **Rise Up!**

***Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.***

Research and study prayers in the Bible. (Allow students to use their smart devices for the search.)

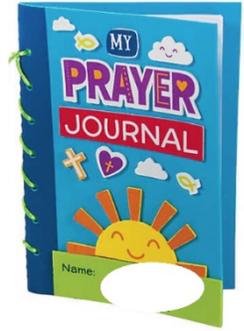
#### ***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students Zion and Zaya know God does not always answer prayers in the way we think God should. Help them write a special note to friends who are disappointed because God did not give them what they asked.

#### ***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a prayer journal.***

Materials: 5 ½ x 8 ½ craft foam sheets (two per student), blank sheets of 8 ½ x 11 paper (10 per student), self-adhesive craft foam pieces and letters, 12-inch satin cord (one per student), hole punch, scissors

Instructions: Before class cut the blank sheets of 8 ½ x 11 sheets of paper in half horizontally. During class, give each student two craft foam sheets and 20 blank sheets of paper. Place the blank sheets of paper between the craft foam sheets. Punch seven holes evenly spaced along the left side (see image). Weave the satin cord in and out of the holes. Secure each end of the cord with a knot and cut off the excess. Allow students to decorate the journal with craft foam pieces and letters. If time permits, encourage students to write their first prayer in the journal.



**Close the lesson with prayer.**

Lord, thank you for being faithful and always hearing our prayers. Help us to continue to pray and have faith in you even when our prayers are not always answered in the way we think they should be. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Lesson 3 – September 15, 2019 | Exodus 16:15**

**KEY VERSE EXERCISE.**

Unscramble the verse to remember.

Mosse | siad | ot thme, | tl si teh | brdea | thta teh | rLod  
Moses said to them, It is the bread that the Lord

sha ginve |oyu ot tae.  
has given you to eat.

**Read and Learn!**

**Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Provides aloud.**

**Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Provides**

Zion – Sometimes no matter how much is done for some people, they are never satisfied.

Zaya – The Hebrews complained when they labored under the harsh slavery of the Egyptians. They cried out to God to free them from their hard life in Egypt.

Zion – God heard the cries of His people and sent Moses to free them from bondage.

Zaya – Now they were free and moving toward the land the Lord had promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Zion – They were in the Wilderness of Sin, a rocky and sandy desert, a dry barren wasteland.

Zaya – Now they lodged a new complaint – the scarcity of food. They cried out with these words: “Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt when we sat by pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full” (v.3).

Zion – Isn’t it amazing what the Hebrews “remembered” about their life in Egypt?

Zaya – Yes, their meals did not consist of meat and bread. Rather, they ate what ordinary people had to eat. The basic diet was bread, onions, garlic, dates with occasional meat and fish. Because of the poor quality of the water, they drank a lot of beer. This is reminiscent of the African slaves in America. They were basically given the leftovers from the animals and the vegetables. (Research “soul food.”)

Zion – So the Hebrews cried out against Moses. They blamed Moses for bringing them into the wilderness. They quickly forgot what life was like in bondage in Egypt. They forgot their goal – the Promised Land.

Zaya – When Moses advised God of His people’s attitude and grumbling, God told Moses not to despair. The Hebrews were not really addressing Moses, they were really addressing God.

Zion – But God always has a solution to His people’s problems/challenges. One of God’s names was Jehovah-jireh – the Lord provides.

Zaya – So it was no different for the Hebrews in the wilderness. God provided food the Hebrews did not have to work for. God cut them some slack because the Bible says, “If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat” (2 Thessalonians 3:10).

Zion – God told Moses that he would “cause food to fall like rain from the sky.” Then God gave instructions about how to gather the food he would send.

Zaya – To test the people’s obedience God told them to gather what they needed for that day. On the sixth day they were to gather twice as much so they would have food for the sabbath.

Zion – Remember – no one was to work on the Sabbath. The fourth commandment is – Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.” The people were to work six days, but on the seventh day they were to worship God and rest (Exodus 20:10).

Zaya – Even though the people had not yet received the ten Commandments, God was preparing them for what was to come.

Zion – Because God had heard His people grumbling against Him, He would show them His greatness in giving them their “daily bread” and meat.

Zaya – Moses reminded the people that they were grumbling against God, the same God who had rescued them from Egypt after 430 years in bondage.

### **Rise Up!**

***Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.***

What was wrong with the Israelites? They ran out of food, so they started to complain.

What did God provide for them to eat? Quail and manna

Are there times when you show your dissatisfaction by complaining? (Answers will vary)

***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students a food desert is a place where there is no store close by for people in the community to buy healthy food. Zion and Zaya want to share nutritious snack baskets with children who live in food deserts. Help them by making a list of items to put in the snack baskets.

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a snack box.***

Materials: Small boxes (one per student; you can order Just for You snack containers from Oriental Trading), assortment of inspirational stickers, healthy individually wrapped snack (like apple slices or snack crackers)

Instructions: Give each student a snack container. Allow students to decorate the container with inspirational stickers. Fill the container with a healthy snack. Plan a time to give away the snack boxes to a community that has a food desert.

***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, thank you for always providing for us. You are faithful. Forgive us when we have complained and shown our ungratefulness. May your Holy Spirit help us to be patient as you answer our prayers and provides for our needs. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lesson 4 – September 22, 2019 | Numbers 13: 1-2, 17-28; 14: 1-2, 5-10

## Help Is on the Way

**Get Excited!**

***Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “Share from the Chair.”***

Arrange chairs in a circle. Ask students to take a seat and then ask the questions below. Use a beach ball to randomly select a speaker. Limit the activity to five minutes.

Q1: Share a time when they were afraid.

Q2: Did you get over your fear?

(if answer is yes, ask how; if answer is no, allow other students to share ways God can help with that fear)

**Key Verse Exercise**

***Read the verse to remember aloud.***

***Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. (Numbers 14:1)***

Tell students to unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

Thne | lla teh | congcreatino | raidse | a lodu ycr, | nda teh

**Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the**

peopel | wetp | ttha nighth.  
people wept that night.

### Read and Learn!

*Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Hears Our Cry aloud.*

#### **Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Hears Our Cry**

Zion – As the freed Israelites approached Canaan, the land God had promised them, God told Moses to send spies to explore the land.

Zaya – Moses was instructed to select one leader from each of the twelve tribes. He also gave them a checklist of information to obtain:

- 1) How does the land look?
- 2) Are the people who live there strong or weak?
- 3) What is the population?
- 4) Is the land good or bad?
- 5) What are the towns like?
- 6) Is the soil fertile or poor?
- 7) Are there any trees?

Zion – And they were told to bring back some fruit.

Zaya – The twelve men spent 40 days exploring the land. When they returned they made the following report:

- 1) Much food grows there.
- 2) The people are strong.
- 3) The cities are walled and strong.
- 4) The Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites and Canaanites live there,
- 5) The people are giants/tall.

Zion – The men compared themselves to the people – “we felt like grasshoppers.”

Zaya – Ten of the men feared claiming the land that God had promised their ancestors. But two leaders, Caleb and Joshua, thought differently. They were ancient world superheroes like Zion and Zaya. They knew that they had God on their side. Caleb said, “We should go up and take the land for ourselves. We can do it.”

Zion – The people complained against Moses and Aaron again. They used these words:

We should have died in Egypt ...or the desert.” It wasn’t starvation this time. It was the fear of being killed with swords and take their wives and children captive. They never proposed getting a new leader and returning to Egypt.

Zaya – Moses and Aaron bowed down before the Lord. Joshua and Caleb tore their clothes. But then they spoke with boldness: The land we went to explore is very good. If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land. He will give us the land filled with “milk and honey.” Don’t turn against the Lord! Don’t be afraid of the people in that land! We will chew them up! They have no protection, but we have the Lord!” (vs.8-9)

Zion – But the people did not accept Caleb’s proposition. Instead, they talked about stoning Caleb and Joshua.

## Rise Up!

**Answers to questions in *What Do You Think are underlined.***

What did God ask Moses to do? Send spies to scout out the land in Canaan

How did the people respond when the spies came back with their reports? They were afraid and said they would have rather died in Egypt than to go against the people in Canaan.

Who would you believe, Joshua and Caleb or the other spies? (Answers will vary)

***Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.***

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to know who was telling the truth – Joshua and Caleb or the other 10 spies. Help them decide by reading Numbers 14: 6-9 to figure out what really happened. Then act as if you are a reporter interviewing Israelites. Ask students who was telling the truth and why they feel that way.

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make Canaan Spy binoculars.***

Materials: toilet paper tubes (two per student), camouflage felt sheets (one per student), ½ inch self-adhesive craft foam strips (one per student), rubber bands, 40-inch pieces of yarn (one per student), tacky glue, scissors, pen or small hole punch

Instructions: Before class, cut the sheets of felt in half, the self-adhesive craft foam sheets into strips and the yarn into 40-inch strings. During class, give each student two toilet paper rolls, one camouflage felt sheet, two craft foam strips and one piece of yarn. Lightly cover a toilet paper tube with glue. Then roll the tube inside the felt. Cut off the excess felt. Repeat the same steps for the other tube. Peel the back of the craft foam strip and wrap it around one end of the tube. Repeat the same steps to wrap the other end of the tube (see image). Ut glue along the seam of one of the tubes. Then press the other tube against it, making sure the seams face each other. Wrap a rubber band around both tubes to hold them in place. Use a pen or small hole punch to make a hole in the side of the tube, about 1/2" below craft foam strip. Insert the end of the yarn into the hole from the outside of the tube. Bring it through the tube and tie a double knot. Repeat on the other side with the other end of the yarn. Trim off excess string. Allow the glue to dry completely before removing the rubber bands.



***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, thank you for allowing us to talk to you about our fears. Help us to trust, obey and have faith in what you say. Teach us to respond with gratitude and thanksgiving even in hard and difficult situations. In Jesus' name, Amen

# A New Beginning

## Get Excited!

*Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Watch the video “Douglas Talks: Obedience.”*

Watch “Douglas Talks: Obedience” on YouTube ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H\\_4ne\\_XTe3I&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_4ne_XTe3I&t=2s)).

## Key Verse Exercise

*Read the verse to remember aloud.*

*“Forgive the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of your steadfast love.” (Numbers 14:19)*

Tell students to unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

## Lesson 5 – September 29, 2019 | Numbers 14:19

### KEY VERSE EXERCISE.

Unscramble the words in the verse to remember.

roFgive | teh iniquity | fo thsi | peopel | accordngi | ot teh

Forgive the iniquity of this people according to the

ssgreatne | fo ryou | steafasdt | vloee.

greatness of your steadfast love.

## Read and Learn!

*Read Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Always Forgives aloud.*

### Zion and Zaya Talk about How God Always Forgives

Zion – God chose the Israelites as His special people God loved them so much that He made sure that their every need was met.

Zaya – When a famine ravaged the land, God made it possible for them to purchase food from Egypt where Joseph their brother was the secretary of agriculture.

Zion – Through Joseph’s shrewd administration and position with the Pharaoh, his family moved to the fertile land of Goshen.

Zaya – And when the Israelites cried out for freedom from bondage/slavery in Egypt, God sent Moses to rescue His people.

Zion – Now Moses was leading the Israelites to the land God had promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In fact, they were right on the edge of the Promised Land,

Zaya – In our lesson last week, Moses had sent one leader from each tribe to spy out the land.

Zion – But when the 12 leaders returned with a report, 10 of them brought back a “scary report.” They did not trust God. They had no faith in God who had brought them “thus far along the way.” They were afraid of taking the land even though they and God made a majority.

Zaya – The other 2 leaders, Caleb and Joshua, believed that God “would do just what he said.”

Zion – The 10 grumbled against Moses but they were actually grumbling against God. They wanted to choose a new leader and return to Egypt.

Zaya – Poor Moses! He was really upset by the behavior and attitude of the people. They talked about stoning Caleb and Joshua. Then the Lord appeared to Moses and asked: “How long will these people ignore me? How long will it be before they believe me?”

Zion – Then God defended Himself – “I have done miracles among them. I will give them a terrible sickness. But I will make you [Moses] into a great nation. It will be stronger than they are” (14:11-12).

Zaya – But Moses pleaded with the Lord. He reminded the Lord that if He killed His people the nations who had heard about God’s power would say He did not have the power to bring them to the land He had promised them. He killed them in the desert.

Zion – Moses begged the Lord to show His strength, great love and mercy, Moses encouraged God to punish His people – to forgive them and give them another chance.

Zaya – As punishment God decreed that those who had disobeyed, tested and angered Him would not see the Promised Land.

Zion – Just as the Israelites, we too, can do something God doesn’t want us to do. God will discipline us, but God will also give us an opportunity to make new start because God loves us.

**Rise Up!**

**Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.**

Write the Scripture lesson in poetry form (such as haiku, cinquain, couplet, rap).

**Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.**

Tell students Zion and Zaya want to compare the roles of Joshua, Caleb, Moses and Aaron. Help them by making a list of the things each one was instructed to do. Then determine if they did a good job at following directions.

Joshua	Caleb	Moses	Aaron
One of the spies sent to look at Canaan	One of the spies sent to look at Canaan	Led the Israelites out of Egypt and prayed for God to spare them	Priest that helped his brother Moses
Trusted God to move the Israelites into Canaan	Trusted God to move the Israelites into Canaan	when they started complaining	Was not allowed to enter the Promised Land, Canaan with Joshua and Caleb
Was able to enter the Promised Land, Canaan with other Israelites under the age of 20	Was able to enter the Promised Land, Canaan with other Israelites under the age of 20	Was not allowed to enter the Promised Land, Canaan with Joshua and Caleb	

***Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a forgiveness card.***

Materials: Large blank index cards (two per student), copies of the forgiveness card cover template in Appendix B (one per student), glue, markers or crayons, scissors

Instructions: Give each student two blank index cards and a forgiveness card cover template. Allow students to color the templates. Fold each index card in half. Cut out the covers and glue one to the front of each card. Encourage students to write a message or draw a picture on the inside of the card. Then give the appropriate card to a family member. Remind them that we must forgive others the same way God forgives us, and we must ask for forgiveness when we have done wrong.

***Close the lesson with prayer.***

Lord, thank you for forgiving us. Help us to remember to forgive others and to trust and obey you more so that we won't be disobedient. In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOD'S GOT  
MY BACK

GOD'S GOT  
MY BACK

GOD'S GOT  
MY BACK

I  
forgive  
you

please  
forgive  
me

I  
forgive  
you

please  
forgive  
me