



HEROES OF THE FAITH

Large Group

LESSON 1: LARGE GROUP

My Life at Home

MAIN IDEA

Children can develop a relationship with God, who will be their perfect Father. Even if their own homes have challenges or difficulties, they can find comfort and peace in the love of their heavenly Father.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- 1 John 3:1-3

MEMORY VERSE

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Hebrews 12:1, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the student this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any changes and additions needed for the Large Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Posterboard with the memory verse written on it (Hebrews 12:1)
- Printout 1, 1 per child
- Pens or pencils, 1 per child
- Sheet of blank posterboard
- Marker
- (Optional) Picture of your parents

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)

INTRODUCTION

Welcome the students to Crossroads and tell them you are glad they came this week. Consider doing the “Who is Jesus” call and response.

(Optional) As a group, say the memory verse for this week.

Pray with the students.

Say, **Welcome to the first week of our new series called Heroes of the Faith! Over the next several weeks, we’re going to dive into the stories of some incredible heroes found in the Bible. Each of these heroes has an origin story—just like your favorite characters in movies and comic books. Their stories tell us where they came from, what challenges they faced, and how they learned to trust God in amazing ways.**

These heroes weren’t perfect, and they didn’t have superpowers. What made them special was their faith in God and their willingness to follow Him, even when it was difficult. We’ll learn how their lives were transformed when they trusted God, and we’ll see that you can be like them too!

Just like these heroes of the Bible, you have your own story. You have the chance to trust God and live with courage and faith, right where you are. Who knows? Your story could inspire others just like these heroes inspire us!

Distribute one copy of Printout 1 (“Find Someone Who”) and a pen or pencil to each student. Give the students five minutes to complete this activity page per the instructions on the page.

Encourage leaders to participate.

When they are finished, have the students re-group in the regular Large Group meeting spot.

Say, **We all have things in common with others and things that are unique to us. We are similar and different, but God loves us all. When we put our faith in Jesus as our Savior and ask him to forgive us from our sins (all the wrong things we have done, said, and thought), then we are adopted into God’s family. We have a perfect Father, and we get new brothers and sisters.**

Talk about your own parents, and show a picture of them.

Say, **The Bible says to honor our parents, so we should always speak respectfully about them.**

Then share some of the ways in which they were good parents to you. Also, share any disappointments you had as a child with the way your parents treated you (if these are appropriate to share). This should help the children realize that even parents sin and mess up.

On a piece of poster board, draw two columns. The first column should be labeled “Joys”. The second should be labeled “Disappointments”.



“Who is Jesus”
Call and Response

Say, **I have told you a little about my parents and the joys and disappointments I experienced growing up in my family. Now, we are going to make a list of all the things that are joys in your relationships with your parents (i.e., playing games together, crafts or cooking projects, watching movies or shows together).**

List these items on the poster board, and talk about each one.

Next, ask, **What are some of your disappointments?**

List these and talk about them (i.e., not listening or obeying, lying, breaking family rules, fighting with siblings, making poor decisions).

God is a perfect Father, and he always cares for us perfectly. But in order to be in God's family, we need to come to him through Jesus. Our sin separates us from God, and we need to have our sin problem dealt with.

Jesus died as a substitute to take care of our sin problem so that we could be God's children.

Consider doing the Gospel Hand together with motions.



WRAP IT UP

Say, **Even if we have struggles and disappointments in our earthly families, God wants us to remember that he cares for his children.**

Wrap up with prayer and dismiss to Small Group.