

# Things I Don't Understand

## PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Faith

**Scripture:** Hebrews 11:1

**Memory Verse:** Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

## The Children's Sermon

Today, I want to talk to you about something very special: Faith in God's Control. It's like knowing that even when we don't understand how things work, we can trust that God is taking care of everything. Let's think about some things we use every day but might not fully understand.

**CALCULATORS:** When we use a calculator, we press buttons to solve math problems. It's amazing how it gives us the right answer every time, even though we might not understand how it works. Just like a calculator, we might not understand how God has all the answers to the problems in our life, but we can have faith in God's control, knowing He always does.

**FLASHLIGHTS:** Have you ever used a flashlight in the dark? It's pretty simple, right? You click it on, and suddenly, the light shines, making everything visible. Even if we don't get how the light comes on, we see that it works. In the same way, during our darkest times, God is like that flashlight. We might not understand how, but with faith in God's control, He lights up our path and guides us through.

REMOTE CONTROLS: It's fun to sit on the couch and use a remote control to change the TV channels, right? We don't have to get up; we just press buttons, and the TV does what we want. It's kind of a mystery how it works from across the room. This is like how God can be in heaven but still control everything on earth. We don't have to understand it completely, but we can have faith in God's control over our lives.

Now, let's add some more examples to help us understand faith in God's control even better.

SEEDS: Think about when you plant a seed in the ground. We water it and wait. After some time, a tiny plant starts to grow. We can't see what's happening under the soil, but we know if we take care of it, something beautiful will grow. That's faith in God's control. We might not see what God is doing in our lives right away, but if we trust Him and follow His ways, beautiful things will happen.

CLOUDS AND RAIN: Have you ever looked up at the sky and seen the clouds? Sometimes, they're fluffy and white, and other times, they're dark. Then, out of nowhere, it starts to rain. We might not understand how the clouds know when to release the rain, but they do, and it helps plants grow and gives us water to drink. This shows us that God controls nature in ways we can't always understand, but we can have faith in God's control to provide what we need.

BIRDS FLYING: Have you watched birds fly? They can soar high in the sky or swoop down low, all without falling. We might not understand how they do it so effortlessly, but it's part of how they were created. Just like birds trust their wings, we can have faith in God's control, knowing He created us and gives us everything we need to navigate our lives.

Now, let's remember something very important. Having faith in God's control doesn't mean we'll always understand everything or that life will always be easy. But it does mean that we believe God is with us, helping us, loving us, and guiding us every step of the way.

So, whenever you use a calculator, turn on a flashlight, or use a remote control, remember how these things work without us fully understanding them. Let them remind you of the even greater truth: that we can have faith in God's control over everything in our lives.

Let's pray together: "Dear God, thank you for always being in control, even when we don't understand how things work. Help us to trust You more and have faith in Your control every day. Amen."

Remember, kids, faith in God's control is like a big, warm hug that keeps us safe and loved, even when things around us don't make sense. And just like we learn to use calculators, flashlights, and remote controls, we can learn to trust God more and more each day.

## Bible Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1**

You Will Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons

-Stickers with stars and other shapes

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large, easy-to-hold shapes (like hearts or stars).
- Write the memory verse on each shape with a marker.

Do This:

1. Give each child a pre-written memory verse shape and a set of markers or crayons.
2. Encourage the children to decorate their shapes with markers, crayons, and stickers. As they work, talk to them about what faith means—believing in what we can't see, like how we know the wind is there because we can feel it, even if we can't see it.
3. Once they're done decorating, gather the children in a circle. Ask them to hold up their shapes and repeat the memory verse together. This helps reinforce the verse in a fun and creative way.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A clear jar or container
- Cotton balls
- Blue construction paper
- Small toy figures (to represent people from Bible stories or any characters)
- Glue stick

Get Ready:

- Cut the blue construction paper to fit inside the jar, to look like the sky.
- Place the blue paper inside the jar.

Do this:

1. Explain that faith is believing in what we can't see, just like we believe in the air we breathe but can't see it. Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
2. Start by showing the empty jar (with the blue paper inside) and explain that it represents the world. The cotton balls will be our "clouds of faith."
3. Ask the children to pick a toy figure and tell them each figure represents a person from the Bible who had great faith. As they choose their figure, glue a cotton ball to the bottom of it. Explain that the cotton ball represents their faith.
4. Have the children place their figures inside the jar on top of the blue paper. Talk about how, even though we can't see the air (or faith) in the jar, we know it's there, and it's what keeps the figures standing.
5. Close the activity with a simple prayer, asking God to help our faith grow strong like the characters from the Bible.

## Snack Activity: Faithful Fruit Boats

You'll Need:

- Whole bananas
- Toothpicks
- Assorted small fruits (like grapes, blueberries, or small strawberries)

Get Ready: Wash all the fruits and set them out on a clean table. Cut the bananas in half (lengthwise) for the children if necessary.

Do this:

1. Explain that just like we can't see the wind but we see the leaves move, faith is believing in what we can't see. Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
2. Let the children peel their bananas and place them on a plate. These bananas represent boats, floating on faith.
3. Help the children insert toothpicks into the banana boats and then add the small fruits onto the toothpicks as 'sails'. Talk about how our faith can carry us through, even when we can't see the end of our journey, just like these boats can carry their sails.

## Game Activity: Faith Walk

You'll Need:

- Colorful tape or chalk
- Pictures of Bible stories (printed or drawn)
- Blindfold (optional)

Get Ready: Use the tape or chalk to create a simple path on the floor or ground. Place the pictures along the path at various points.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that faith is believing in what we can't see, just like Hebrews 11:1 tells us. Tell them they're going on a Faith Walk to learn about trusting God.
2. If using a blindfold, gently cover the eyes of one child at a time and guide them along the path, stopping at each picture to briefly tell the Bible story it represents. If not using a blindfold, let the children walk the path themselves but encourage them to close their eyes briefly at each stop (with help) to 'see' the story with their heart.

3. After each child has finished the Faith Walk, gather the group and discuss how even though we can't see God, we can see His work in our lives and in the stories of faith from the Bible.

## Craft Activity: Faith Glasses

You'll Need:

- Construction paper
- Scissors (for teacher use only)
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Clear plastic (like from a recycled packaging)

Get Ready: Pre-cut the construction paper into glasses shapes, including a space for the 'lenses' that will be covered with clear plastic. Cut the clear plastic into shapes that fit the lens spaces of the glasses.

Do this:

1. Give each child a pair of pre-cut paper glasses and two pieces of clear plastic for the lenses.
2. Encourage the children to decorate their glasses frames with markers or crayons, emphasizing that these are their 'Faith Glasses' to help them see the world as God does.
3. Help the children glue the clear plastic pieces onto the lens spaces to complete their Faith Glasses. As they work, talk to them about Hebrews 11:1, explaining that faith is believing in what we can't see, just like we know God is with us even when we can't see Him.

# Prayer Activity: Faithful Footsteps

You'll Need:

- A simple illustration of a path or footprints (drawn or printed)
- Crayons or markers
- A Bible or a printout of Hebrews 11:1

Get Ready: Read Hebrews 11:1 and prepare a simple explanation of faith that preschoolers can understand, such as 'Faith is believing in what we can't see because we know God is always with us.'

Do this:

1. Show the children the illustration of the path or footprints and explain that faith is like walking on a path even when we can't see the end because we know God is with us.
2. Read Hebrews 11:1 together and talk about what things they believe in that they can't see (like God's love, angels, heaven).
3. Let the children use crayons or markers to decorate the path or add their own footprints. As they draw, encourage them to talk about what they're thankful for and how they can follow God's path even when it's hard to see.