

WEEK 3 | OLDER ELEMENTARY

Need to Know: God Never Leaves Me

Bible Story: Pharaoh and the Plagues

Bible Reference: Exodus 4-13



CIRCLE UP

- DO**
- Welcome kids to church and tell them who you are.
 - **Sanitize** kids' hands. Pass around the **bandana**, having kids share their name and one friend they would take with them if they traveled way out west.

SAY *Taking a friend with you out on the trail would make traveling more fun. Having others with us helps us make good things in our lives better and the hard things we face easier. We have friends and family that love us, but they can't be with us all the time. But we don't ever have to feel alone, because God is always with us.*

Today we are going to talk about how God never leaves us. So let me hear you say this after me:

God Never (shake head "no")

Leaves Me (point to self)

READ THE BIBLE

- DO** Give each child a **Bible Story Drawing Page** and a **drawing utensil**. Read the **Bible Story Cards**, having kids draw on their Page as you read.

- SAY**
- *Why did the Israelites cry out to God when they were living in Egypt? (Because they were working as slaves)*
 - *When Pharaoh refused to let God's people leave Egypt, how did God show His power? (By sending crazy things to happen like the river turning to blood, sending frogs, causing animals to get sick, etc.)*
 - *How did God show His people that He was with them when they left Egypt? (By sending a cloud to lead them during the daytime and a pillar of fire at night)*
 - *God showed His people that He was with them while they lived in Egypt and when Pharaoh allowed them to leave. No matter what, God never left them! We can trust that his is always with us, too.*

LET'S PRACTICE

OPTION 1: WILD WESTERN TRAIL

DO

1. **Sanitize** kids' hands. Divide into two teams. Each child will receive a **game board** and **game piece**.
2. Alternating teams, allow kids to take turns rolling the **foam dice**. Everyone on the team will move game pieces based on the number rolled:
 - One - Move back one space
 - Two - Move forward two spaces
 - Three - Move forward three spaces
 - Four - Move back four spaces
 - Five - Move forward five spaces
 - Six - Move forward six spaces
3. Play to see which team can get their cowboy across the wild western trail first. If kids need to move backward, but there aren't that many spaces, the team will return to "Start."
4. Read the **Question Sheet** to the group, and then have kids repeat:
God Never (shake head "no")
Leaves Me (point to self)

OPTION 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Even though God promises to never leave us, why do we still experience hard things?*
2. *What can you do if you have trouble believing that God is still with you?*
3. *How can remembering this truth about God help you live out the purpose that God has for you?*
4. Have kids repeat:
God Never (shake head "no")
Leaves Me (point to self)

LET'S PRAY

SAY

Hey God! Thank You for showing us that You have a plan for each of our lives. Help us to remember that You will never leave us. We love You! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MEMORIZE IT

SAY & DO

There's a verse in the Bible that helps us know that God is working things out for our good. Let's practice it together. Say this after me:

"We know that (both hands point to head)

God is always at work (pound fists)

for the good (thumbs to chest)

of everyone who loves Him. (cross arms over chest)

They are the ones (both hands point out)

God has chosen for His purpose." (hands out, palm up)

Romans 8:28 (make book with hands)

Place a **paper plate** in the center of the group, and use the **snake** to play "Snake Toss." Allow kids to take turns tossing the snake onto the paper plate. If the snake lands on the plate, the group will say the next word in the verse. Play until the group says the whole verse.