

WILL YOU TRUST GOD?

Theme: TRUST

Demonstration: Trust Fall - One person falls on purpose, trusting the other with catch him/her.

ASK: "Raise your hand if you **TRUST** me." (Pause)

SAY: "Keep your hand raised if you **TRUST** that I would keep you from getting hurt."

(Select a student whose hand is raised to join you at the front of the room and have them stand in front of you with their back turned.)

SAY: "(Student name) said that he/she trusts me, so on the count of 3, I am going to ask him/her to fall backwards and trust that I will catch him/her so he/she doesn't fall. Ready, 1 - 2 -3!"
(Student will (hopefully!) fall backwards so that you catch him/her - an act of **TRUST**.)

Scripture: Scripture: Genesis 6:5-9 (NRSV)

SAY: Today's Bible story is a very familiar one that teaches us about **TRUST**. From the book of Genesis, the story is about Noah:

"The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the Lord said, "I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the sight of the Lord... Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God."

One day God looked down on the world that he had created and he saw how mean and evil the people had become. It broke his heart to see the way people were acting. "I'm sorry I made them, he said, "I'll get rid of them all."

But God saw that Noah was different. God saw that Noah was a good man who believed in Him, so he decided that he would spare Noah and his family. God told Noah about his plan to send a great flood to destroy everything on the earth. He told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. God told Noah exactly how to build it. (Read Genesis 6:15-16) Then he told Noah after he had built the ark to fill it with animals -- two of every kind. Noah **trusted** and obeyed God's commandments. He built the boat and then he put two of every kind of animal into it. Then Noah and his family entered the ark and God shut the door.

Soon the rain began to fall. The raindrops made little puddles, then bigger puddles. The big puddles became streams and rivers, then mighty seas. Soon the whole earth was covered with water. The ark tossed up and down on the waves, but Noah, his family and all the animals were safe and dry inside the ark.

It rained for forty days and nights until finally, the rain stopped. It took many days for the flood waters to go down. When it finally did, Noah, his family, and all of the animals left the ark. Noah thanked God for keeping them safe.

God had a plan for Noah's life. Because he was faithful and obeyed God, Noah and his entire family **trusted** God and were saved. God has a plan for your life too. God has told us about his plan for us in the Bible. Listen to what he said, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." If we obey and **trust** God's Word, his plan for our life will be successful too. So my question to each of you is this . . .

Will you TRUST God? Will you TRUST that God will never let you fall, just like (Student Name from Trust Fall demonstration) trusted me to not let him/her fall?

*Heavenly Father, sometimes it seems that the job is too big for us, or things are out of control. . Help us to remember that when we put **trust** in you, anything is possible. Amen.*

