INCREDIBLE FAITH

BOTTOM LINE:

Having faith means trusting God's plans.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will ask God for direction in some area where they need help.

KEY PASSAGE:

Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22, Noah's Ark

MEMORY VERSE:

"Lord who rules overall, blessed is the person who trusts in you." Psalm 84:12 (NIrV)

SUMMARY:

God asked Noah to build an ark. He told Noah that he was going to flood the whole world, and he wanted to save Noah's family. Noah had never seen a flood like this, but he obeyed God because he trusted God's plan. Kids will learn that having faith means trusting that God has a plan

INTRO: I do not know if you have noticed this, but we are living in a golden age of superhero movies. Over the last couple of decades, superhero movies have gone from being low-budget jokes with goofy costumes and bad special effects to summer blockbusters. We have seen Batman, Superman, Spider-Man, Iron Man, Captain America, Wonder Woman, Thor, and Ant-Man. We have seen superhero teams like X-Men, the Avengers, Guardians of the Galaxy, the Justice League, and even a family of superheroes you might know as the Incredibles.

There are many things we love and admire about these heroes. We love the cool costumes. We love the gadgets. Admit it, we even love the villains sometimes. But I think what we love most is when we see ourselves in these superheroes. Most superheroes are not perfect people. Far from it. They can be broken, flawed,

confused, immature, and even a little bit crazy. But when they work together and put their mind to it, they can accomplish great things.

As ordinary "citizens" we do not have access to superpowers, but we do have access to a power source greater than any superhero. We have God, our creator, and our Savior. We have a God who made the whole world, who made us, and who can do miracles. We may not be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound or fight off hordes of alien invaders, but if we trust in Jesus, we can grow an incredible faith that will allow us to live a life of adventure.

Faith is believing in what we cannot see. It means trusting God to do the things we cannot and trusting him to do great things in us and for us. We are going to grow our faith over the next 12 weeks by looking at some of the heroes of the Bible. Today's hero is Ark Man.

Ark Man, if you cannot guess, is Noah, a man who was told to build a giant boat. Noah was asked to make a huge leap of faith, building a boat to house all the animals of the world so he could save them and his family from a flood. Noah trusted God, and he was not afraid to follow God's plan.

READ GENESIS 7:6-18, 8:15-22

MAIN POINT:

God told Noah to build a boat, a giant boat called an ark large enough to house at least two of every kind of animal. He asked Noah to trust him so that God could save him and his family from the great flood God said was going to come on the earth.

The problem was, no one had ever seen or heard of a flood like this before. But Noah had great faith. He trusted God's plan, as crazy as it sounded, and God used him and his family to start over. Noah shows us that having great faith means trusting that God has a plan even when we cannot see it.

DRIVE IT HOME:

I want you to put yourselves in Noah's shoes for a moment. You are in a time when no one except you and your family believes in God. One day, God comes to you. He tells you that you and your sons are to build a giant boat because it is going to rain and flood.

No one has ever seen a flood anywhere close to what God is talking about. It sounds crazy. So does this idea about building a boat to hold all these animals. You know everyone will think you are crazy. Yet you still choose to obey God. You trust God completely and believe that he has a plan you cannot see, and so you start building the ark.

Then things really get bad. I take a long time to finish this ark and everyone starts to notice the big ship in your front yard. There is no way to hide it. Your neighbors ask what is with the giant boat. You tell them that God is going to flood the Earth. They look at the sunny sky and laugh at you! They do not believe in God, and they do not believe a word you tell them. Yet you still have faith enough to keep on building and keep believing that God has a plan even when no one else believes.

It is not always easy to have faith in God. Sometimes his plans can seem strange. Sometimes we can get picked on and made fun of for doing things God's way instead of the way everyone else does. Faith means we trust that God's way is the best way. If we stick with his plan, God will not only do great things for us, he will do great things through us.

God has a plan for every one of us. It may be big. It may be small. Whatever it is, God created you to fulfill that plan.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 7:6-18, 8:15-22

What did God tell Noah to build?

Who went on the ark with Noah?

What happened when Noah and his family were on the ark?

Why did Noah follow God's plan?

Is there something you need help with this week, something you want to ask for God's help?

We added a YouTube video of the story of Noah and the ark:

Noah and the Ark