

kídz CONNECTION - it's all about the GROWTH!,
(Grace, Relationships, Obedience, Walk of
Faithfulness, Talking with God, Heart for God and
Others)

Grace – Elementary

Third quarter – Grace Changes Me!

Week five – Sunday School

Scripture – Job 1,2,38-40

Lesson – When I choose Grace, I'll choose to love and
respect God, no matter what, like Job did!

Verse – Proverbs 2:3-6

Opening - 20 minutes

- Music - 15 minutes
- Activity - 5 minutes
 - Supplies –
 - White paper – two pieces per child in Heaven Small Group
 - scissors
 - Small paper plates – one per child in the Job's Herds and the Animal Small Groups
 - Straws – one per child in the Job's Herds and the Animal Small Groups
 - Tape
 - Crayons/markers
 - Band-aids, gauze, elastic bandages, etc – for use by the Job's Afflictions Small Group
 - Paper towels or strips of fabric – for Sabeans and Chaldeans Small Group
 - Toilet paper tubes – one per child in the Weather Small Group
 - Dried beans or beads – 2T per child in the Weather Small Group
 - Paper – two 6X6 pieces per child in the Weather Small Group
 - White paper – two sheets per child in the Weather/Stars Small Group
- Arrange your small groups into five groups. Assign groups the following parts of the Bible lesson to help present in today's lesson –
 - Job's Herds and Animal Small Groups – these groups will use small paper plates and straws to make animal face masks. Job's Herds will make oxen, donkeys, sheep and camels. The Animals Small Group will make lions, mountain goats, wild donkeys, ostriches, horses, hawks, eagles, dinosaurs and/or crocodiles. Job's Herds Small Group will walk across the stage area and allow the Sabeans and Chaldeans to "heard" them off the stage area before returning to their seats. The Animal Small Group will walk across the stage and stand to one side of the Cast.
 - Heaven Small Group – this group will cut clouds out of paper and hold them up as they walk on the stage area, stand to one side until the "Heaven" scene is completed and then return to their seats.
 - Sabeans and Chaldeans Small Group – this group will make head coverings and when it is time for them to help with the

- lesson, they will “sneak” onto the stage area, “herd” Job’s Herd Small Group off the stage area and return to their seats
- Job’s Afflictions Small Group – this group will cover themselves with bandages. When the Narrator tells about Job being afflicted, this group will hobble, limp, etc across the stage and then return to their seats
 - Weather/Stars Small Group – this group will make “rain makers” with the toilet paper tubes . . . tape paper on one end, fill with beans or beads and tape paper on the other end . . . and weather posters and/or stars on the paper. When the Narrator tells about God making weather and counting stars, this group will walk across the stage, stand to one side and then return to their seats.

This week’s lesson is presented as a drama and each group will have a portion of the lesson they will help present. When it is time for their group to do their part, they will walk on stage, behind the cast, do the action they practiced and then return to their seats. Practice with the groups so they know what to do.

Lesson - 10 minutes

- Cast –
 - Job – any boy who can read
 - Narrator – any child who can read
 - Satan – any boy who can read
 - Job’s herds – Small Groups
 - Job’s afflictions – Small Groups
 - Sabeans & Chaldeans – Small Groups
 - Weather – Small Groups
 - Animals – Small Groups

Narrator – (Have stand to one side of the stage area throughout drama) **Once upon a time there was a real man who lived in the land of Uz. This man’s name was Job and he told the truth, made right choices, loved and respected God and stayed away from evil. This real man had seven sons and three daughters. He was a rich man and owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 pairs of oxen and 500 donkeys. Job was the most important and most famous man in the land. Now, this may have the sound of a “fairy tale” because who lives in Uz and is rich because he owns a lot of animals? But, this is not a “fairy tale”. This is a real, true story about a real person and how choosing to know and walk with God and accept His Grace, changed his life.**

(Send in Job to middle of stage area)

Job – Yes, I was a real person and I knew and walked with God, but when bad things started happening to me, I didn't always choose to trust. Sometimes I complained. Actually, a lot of the time I complained – after all, I am a real person - but in the end, I chose to trust God.

Narrator – Job worked hard, loved his family and took time every day to talk with God. In fact, God said, “There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil.” Wow! Can you imagine how amazing it would be for God to say something like that about you! Well, clearly, Job pleased God by the choices he made and the decision to live his life as God wanted him to do.

(Send in Heaven Small Group)

(Send in Satan)

Satan – Wait just a minute! “No one on earth like Job?!!!” Of course there is no one on earth like Job. He is the richest man on earth – just look at all those animals he owns. He has ten children. He owns houses and always gets everything he could possibly want. Why wouldn't he be a “good little do-be?!!!” If God would take away the “things” good little Job has, then he would throw a tantrum and want nothing to do with God.

Narrator – Satan kept going on and on about how the only reason Job chose to serve God was so Job could get things from God, but then God did an amazing thing. God knew Job chose to follow Him because Job loved God, not because he wanted “things”, so God told Satan he could do anything he wanted to the things Job had, but he could not actually hurt Job.

Satan – This is unexpected, but oh the fun I'll have with that little “angel” Job! Let's see . . . what should I do first? Oh, I know! Job is a rich man with all those animals . . . I'll send Sabeans and Chaldeans to raid Job's farm and steal his oxen, donkeys and camels!

(Send in Job's Herd Small Group and then Sabeans and Chaldeans Small Group – allow Job's Herd Small Group to be herded off the stage area then have small groups return to their seats – leave the sheep on the stage area)

Satan – That was fun! Oh, look. They missed the sheep. Well, I can't just let Job keep his little lambs now, can I?!!! Maybe those storm clouds floating overhead could come in handy! Lightening, zap those little lambs! We're having roasted lamb chops for supper tonight!!!

(Have Job's Herds Sheep Small Group fall to the stage and then return to their seats)

Satan – That Job will be so upset all his animals are gone! He is no longer the richest man in the land! Oh, wait. He still has his ten children. What could I do to them? I know! They are all at a party the oldest brother is having at his house. I'll huff, and I'll puff and I'll blow the house down!!! There! No more animals and no more children. Job will hate God. Job will no longer choose to follow God!

Narrator – Satan was sure Job would choose to no longer follow God because Satan thought the only reason Job chose to follow God was so he could get “things”. God believed Job would choose to follow Him, no matter what. Who was right? What would Job do when he received the messages about what happened to his animals and his children?

Job – My children! My herds! “Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.”

Narrator – When the messengers told Job what happened to his herds and children Job cried. He tore his robe and shaved his head, but he did not sin by blaming God or say he thought God did anything wrong, mean or unfair to him by allowing these bad things to happen! Job chose to trust God and keep following Him, even when bad things happened to him. Well, the next time Satan talked to God, God asked Satan if he had noticed how Job had responded. God said, “There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil”. God told Satan that even though all those horrible things had happened to Job, he still chose to follow God.

Satan – That is only because he personally has not had to suffer. If he is still alive and healthy, maybe he will work hard and be rich once again. If Job were to have bad things actually happen to him, he would want nothing to do with You ever again. He would not choose to follow You then.

Narrator – God knew Job would still choose to love and follow Him, even if bad things happened to Job, so God told Satan he could do whatever he wanted to Job, but he could not kill Job.

Satan – I thought it was fun to take everything away from Job, but making Job sick will be so much more fun! Let's see, what shall I do to him?

I know! I'll have painful sores cover him from the bottom of his feet to the tippy-top of his head! This will do it!

(Send in Job's Afflictions Small Group, have them hobble, limp, etc across the stage area and then return to their seats. Have Heaven Small Group return to their seats as well)

Narrator – Job tried to find some relief from the pain the sores brought to him and while he did this, his wife told him he should not keep choosing to follow God. She told him to just blame God for the bad things that were happening to him and then give up, but Job told her she was being foolish.

Job – Wife, “Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?” Why should we think we will only have good things happen to us? We happily accepted the good things God blessed us with and never asked Him “Why?” for those things, so why should we get upset and choose to stop following God when bad things happen to us? Life brings good and bad and I will choose to accept either and keep following God.

Narrator – Job chose to keep following God! Even with all the bad things that happened and were happening to Job, he didn't blame God, say God was being unfair to him or sin in anyway!

Job – Blame God??? No, No, No! I could not do that! I knew God loved me and so choosing His Grace and to follow Him was all I could do.

Narrator – Job sure sounds like an amazing man! God said there was no one like him in all the earth – it sure looks that way.

Job – Well, I chose to not blame God, but I was not a perfect man at all. In fact, as time went on and I was sicker and in more pain, I didn't always respond as I wish I had. Some of my friends came over to see me – Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar and Elihu. They sat with me for seven days, but didn't say anything. By then I was feeling so sick and sore that I started to complain and wished I had never even been born. My friends told me I must have sinned and that was why God allowed all these bad things to happen to me, but I knew that wasn't true. I didn't know why God was letting bad things happen to me, but I knew I had been faithful in following God.

Narrator – Job's friends began to criticize Job and tell him he must have sinned for all these bad things to happen to him. They told him he needed to tell God he was sorry for his sins so the bad things would stop. Job didn't believe bad things were happening to him because he had sinned. So, for quite some time they would talk and argue

back and forth, but Job's friends couldn't convince Job they were right and Job couldn't convince his friends he was right.

Job – The more my friends tried to convince me I had sinned, the more frustrated I became. I was sick. I was in pain. All my children and herds had died or been stolen. My wife said I should blame God and give up following Him. My friends said I deserved these bad things because I had sinned. I was so frustrated with it all that I began to feel frustrated with God. I told my friends I had a right to know why God let these bad things happen to me. I told my friends if God would let me talk with Him, I would be able to prove I was innocent of doing anything wrong to deserve these bad things that were happening. Sometimes when we are frustrated we end up saying things we shouldn't say. Who was I to think God "owed" me an explanation for anything? God is God and I am just a puny man! However, at the time, I was sick, in pain, grieving and frustrated.

Narrator – After Job's friends finished trying to convince him he had sinned, God spoke to Job! Job thought God owed him some answers, but Job ended up answering God's questions instead. God asked Job some serious questions.

(Send in Weather/Star Small Groups and have them stand to the side making rain sounds and holding up their weather posters and stars)

Job – I'd say they were serious questions. God asked me where I was when He created the world. He asked me if I was there when He created the oceans, the clouds, day and night. Of course, the answer was, I was not there. God asked me if I have ever been able to tell morning to come, if I knew where light came from and where darkness lived. God asked me if I knew where lightening came from and could tell rain to fall. God asked me if I knew where He stored the snow and if I could count the number of clouds. Of course, once again, the answer was, I did not know these things and could not do these things. Only God knows and can do these things and I was not God!

(Have Weather/Star Small Groups return to their seats and send in Animals Small Group)

Narrator – Job was starting to realize God is God and He does not have to give answers to us. God went on asking Job questions.

Job – He sure did! God asked me if I hunted for food for mother lions, if I knew when mountain goats had their babies, if wild oxen served me and if I created ostriches to run faster than horses. God asked me if I gave horses their strength and if I commanded eagles to fly, and of

course, the answer was, no. I could do none of those things. I was not God.

Narrator – God asked Job questions to help Job stop and think. Job was feeling frustrated from his pain, grief, illness and because his friends were criticizing and condemning him and when people feel frustrated, they often fail to remember Who God really is. God wanted Job to remember Who God is and who he was. Job was starting to realize Who God Is, but God had more questions for him. God told Job He was the One and Only, Almighty God and asked if Job could argue with or correct Him.

Job – Wow! What a question! God is God and I'm just a man. God asked who was I to argue with Him! I told God, "I am unworthy – how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth. I spoke once, but I have no answer – twice, but I will say no more."

Narrator – Job realized he had said things he should not have said. Yes, he was sick, in pain, grieving and frustrated, but God was still God. God had still more questions for Job.

Job – That He did! God asked me if I dared to say He was not fair. God asked me if my arm was as powerful as His and if my voice thundered like God's voice. God asked me if I was strong enough to save myself and punish evil people. God asked me if I could make or catch a mighty dinosaur or if I could catch a crocodile, make it my servant and have it speak gently to me. I told God, "I know you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

(Have Animals Small Group return to their seats)

Narrator – Job understood God is God and does not have to give an answer to him for the "whys" of bad things. It was enough to know God is God. Job knew God loved him. Job knew God offered Grace and forgiveness to him.

Job – When I was sick, in pain, grieving and frustrated with my friends, I wanted to know the reason for my suffering, but now it was enough to know God is God and He has His reasons, even if I never know what the reasons are. If bad things happened to me again, I would choose to trust God and not complain. Now I knew the God who

made the world and all the amazing things in it was the same God who made me, loved me, gave me Grace and was my friend! He was with me, even in the bad times so I could choose to trust Him and love Him, no matter what!

Narrator – After God finished speaking to Job, He told Job’s friends that He was angry with them for trying to blame Job for the bad things that happened to him. God told them to ask Job to pray for them and He would forgive them. Then, God made Job well, gave him twice as many oxen, donkeys, sheep and camels as he had before and gave him seven more sons and three more daughters! “After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation.” And so he lived, happily ever after!

Thank children for participating and close in prayer – Well done! Thank you all for helping with our Bible lesson today! Job learned to really trust God, no matter what! When we choose God’s Grace, we can choose to trust and love God, no matter what, just like Job did! Thank You God for Your amazing Grace! Thank You for being God! Thank You for the good things You allow in our lives! Thank You also for the bad things You allow in our lives! Thank You we can choose to trust and love You in the good and bad things! Thank You for loving us, we love You, too! Amen!

Dismiss children to their small groups for Small Group Time.

Small group time - 25 minutes

- Catch up/greet visitors/pray
- work through application flyer
- choose activity to do for coming week
- work on memory verse

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Grace – Elementary

Third quarter – Grace Changes Me!

Week five - Optional Second Service

Scripture – Proverbs 30:4,5

Lesson – When I choose Grace, I'll choose to love and
respect God, no matter what!

Verse – Proverbs 2:3-6

Opening

- Music
- Verse – /Proverbs 2:3-6 /And if you call out for insight/ and cry aloud for understanding,/ and if you look for it as for silver/ and search for it as for hidden treasure,/ then you will understand the fear of the LORD /and find the knowledge of God./ For the LORD gives wisdom, /and from his mouth come /knowledge and understanding.

- Game – Verse Pop!
 - supplies –
 - colored balloons – 10 of one color per team
 - small slips of paper – 10 per team
 - boxes or baskets – one per team
 - preparation –
 - write verse and reference on slips of paper – as divided, one per team
 - put one slip of paper in each balloon
 - blow up balloons and tie off
 - put balloons in a basket or box
 - directions –
 - divide children into teams of 10 – or, if you have fewer than 20 children, two or three teams of equal number of children
 - Children will race, two at a time, from one end of the room to the other to retrieve a balloon and bring it back to their team. When all balloons have been retrieved, team can pop balloons and assemble the verse in correct word order.

Bible lesson

- Supplies –
 - Toilet paper tube – one per small group
 - Sand – approx. one cup per small group
 - Tissue paper 8"X8" – two pieces per small group
 - Rubber bands – one per small group
 - Unsharpened pencil – one per small group
 - Paper grocery bag

Greet children and gather them in sharing circles (sitting knee to knee with the others in their small group).

- Say – **This morning we got to see how choosing God’s Grace changed the way Job lived his life because he knew he could trust God, not worry and choose to keep on loving God through the good times and the bad times! We’re going to try an experiment to see if we can learn something about strength. Each of your Small Group Leaders has the supplies we will need to try our experiment. First of all we need one person in your group to wrap one piece of tissue paper around the bottom of your tube. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Now, carefully, hand it to another person in your group and they can fasten the rubber band around the tissue paper to keep it on the bottom of your tube. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Great! Now we need one person to take the pencil and see if they can push the pencil through the tube and make a hole in the tissue paper. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **I see you all ended up with a hole in your tissue paper! Now we need another person to remove the tissue paper from your tube. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Great! Now we need another person to wrap your last piece of tissue paper around the bottom of your tube. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say - **Now, carefully, hand it to another person in your group and they can fasten the rubber band around the tissue paper to keep it on the bottom of your tube. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Have another person carefully pour your sand into your tube to fill it about $\frac{3}{4}$ full. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Now have someone else take the pencil and see if they can push the pencil through the tube to once again poke a hole in the tissue paper. (Allow groups to try this)**
- Say – **This time we couldn’t push the pencil through the sand and poke a hole in the tissue paper. Have one more person take your tube of sand and put it in this paper bag. (Allow groups to do this)**
- Say – **Thank you, all of your for helping with our project. The tissue paper by itself was not strong enough to keep from having a hole poked in it, but the sand was strong enough to protect the tissue paper. On our own, when difficult, sad or frightening things happen to our lives, we can not handle them. But, when we know God loves us and have accepted His Grace, then we can also choose to trust and love Him – even when difficult, sad or frightening things happen to us! Proverbs**

has a lot to say about how amazing God is. I want to know what God's Word says! Let's see what we can learn from Proverbs 30:4,5. (Read passage aloud)

Say – Wow! What great verses! Let's take a closer look and see what these verses mean for our everyday lives! These verses tell us a lot about how strong and amazing God is! Only God is God and only He could create the world and us! Verse 4 asks Who has gone up to Heaven and come down and Who holds the wind in the palm of His hand? Only God could do such amazing things! The verse goes on to ask Who holds the waters in His coat and who sets the boundaries of the earth? Again, only God can do these things! Let's take a moment and praise God for the amazing things He can do! I'm going to give you just a moment for each small group to pick one praise song you will lead the rest of us in singing – it is okay if more than one group picks the same song. (Allow a moment for groups to pick their song and then one at a time, let each group lead the class in singing one verse of the song they picked – be sure the songs are praise songs)

Say – Thank you! What wonderful singing! It is always a great choice to choose to praise God when you think about how amazing He is! Verse 5 from our passage in Proverbs 30 tells us all of God's Words are perfect and He is a shield to all who trust Him because He will keep them safe! God is Amazing and Strong! He can keep us safe and does keep us safe. Sometimes we know when He has kept us safe and sometimes we never even know how He has worked on our behalf to keep us safe. Maybe we were running late for something and because of that, we avoided an accident. We do not always know the times God protected us or kept us safe from bad things happening to us. Sometimes we do know. (Share an example of how God kept you safe, kept you well or helped you or someone you know)

Say – Sometimes, like with Job, difficult, sad or frightening things do happen to us, but even when something does happen, God is still with us and we can choose to trust and love Him, just like He has chosen to love us! God is too Amazing and Strong to ever have anything happen to us that He doesn't know about. Sometimes He sends difficult things to our lives and sometimes He allows difficult things, but because they have to come through Him, we know He has a plan. Job never learned what God's plan was in allowing Satan to bring difficult things to his life, but the Bible tells us God allowed those things, not because Job sinned and deserved to be punished, but rather because God was proud of Job and knew he would keep choosing to love and trust Him no matter what. Yes, Job complained and wanted to know "why", but Job chose to love God no matter what!

Ask – **What difference does it make to your everyday life to know God is Strong enough to protect you? Talk about this in your group.** (Allow groups a few moments to do this)

Say – **I'd like to know what you talked about. Who will share what their group talked about with the rest of us?** (Allow a child from each group to briefly share what they talked about)

Ask – **How will knowing we will only experience the good and bad things God allows in our lives, help us each day as we choose to love and trust God? Talk about this in your group.** (Allow groups a few moments to do this)

Say – **I'd like to know what you talked about. Who will share how this affects your everyday life?** (Allow a child from each group to briefly share what they talked about)

Say – **Proverbs tells us what an Amazing God our God Is! When we know how powerful and loving God is, we can choose to trust and love Him, no matter what! Job made the choice to trust and love God no matter what and we can make the same choice! Small Group Leaders, go around your circle and pray the following from Proverbs 30 for each child in your group, by name, "Dear LORD, thank You for Your love for _____ Please help him/her to know they can choose to trust You to keep him/her safe and love You no matter what!"** (Allow groups a few moments to do this, and then when they have all finished, close in prayer.)

Extra time craft –

- supplies –
 - paper – six sheets per child
 - construction paper – one sheet per child
 - stapler
 - markers/crayons
- directions –
 - Construction paper and plain paper to each child.
 - Show children how to fold their paper in half to make a journal
 - Let children use markers to decorate their construction paper cover however they like
 - Encourage children to use stapler to staple the middle of their journal, on the fold to make a book

Say – **God allows good things in our lives every day. Sometime we don't stop to think about all the good He gives us, so in your journal, at the end of each day, write or draw a picture of at least one good thing God allowed in your life from that day. Take a moment to thank God for that good thing, then think about a difficult, sad or frightening thing you may have experienced in the same day. Write or draw a picture of that thing and take time to thank God for His love, thank Him for being your Shield and choose to love and trust Him, even when there are difficult, sad or frightening things in your life.**

If you have extra time – play your memory verse game again.