Preschool–Grade 6

The Ark of the Covenant

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: God wants to meet with me.
Bible passage: Exodus 25:10–22. Read it yourself before class.
Memory verse: "There I will meet with thee" *Exodus 25:22 (KJV)*. The old word **thee** means you.
You need: a Bible, building blocks, something yellow or gold (a scarf, paper or a crayon), crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Exodus 25. Build a small tower of four blocks in two colors to be your "pattern".

1. Opening game: Make It Like Mine (5 minutes)

Show the kids your little block tower. Say: "Can you make one just like mine?" Help each child copy it, the same colors in the same order. Then build a new pattern and copy it again. Say: "Today we will hear a true story. God showed Moses a pattern, and they made it just the way God said."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Exodus 25. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Moses went up on a mountain to be with God (Exodus 24:18). *(Climb with your hands.)*
God said, "Make a box called an ark" (25:10). *(Draw a box in the air.)*
Make it of wood (25:10). *(Knock on the floor.)*
Cover it with gold, inside and out (25:11). *(Wave the gold scarf or paper.)*
Put four gold rings on it (25:12). *(Hold up four fingers.)*
Put in two long poles to carry it (25:13–14). *(Hold out two arms and walk.)*
Put a gold lid on top (25:17, 25:21). *(Put your hand flat on your head.)*
Make gold wings up high over it (25:20). *(Stretch your arms up high.)*
Say it with me: "We do it God's way!"
God said, "There I will meet with thee" (25:22). *(Point up, then hug yourself.)*
Say it with me: "God wants to meet with me!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. What did God tell Moses to make? *(A box called an ark, Exodus 25:10)*
2. What was it covered with? *(Gold, 25:11)*
3. How many poles carried it? *(Two, 25:13–14)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "God said, 'There I will meet with thee.' Thee means you. God wants to meet with you!" Teach the motion: point up for God, then point to a friend for "thee". Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Exodus 25:22" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: The Gold Box (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a box with a lid on top and two long lines for the poles. Then they color it all yellow, for gold. While they color, ask: "What did God say to make? What was it covered with?" Kids who finish early can carry a block "ark" on two crayons with a friend.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for wanting to meet with me.
I love You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: let two children at a time carry a small box on two rulers, one in front and one behind, while the class sings or claps. Keep the story short and happy. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

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