Preschool–Grade 6

As for Me and My House

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

Main point: I choose to serve God, and my family can serve Him too.
Bible passage: Joshua 24. Read Joshua 24:14–28 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." *Joshua 24:15 (KJV)*. **My house** means me and my family.
You need: a Bible, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Joshua 24.

1. Opening game: Follow Joshua (5 minutes)

You are "Joshua." Kids line up behind you and do what you do as you walk around the room: march, tiptoe, flap your arms, clap, then sit down in a circle. Say: "You followed me very well! Today we will hear a true story about Joshua. He told God's people to choose to serve God."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Joshua 24. 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.

Joshua called all of God's people together (Joshua 24:1). *(Wave "come here.")*
He told them all the good things God did (24:2–13). *(Count on your fingers.)*
God brought them out of Egypt (24:17). *(March in place.)*
Joshua said, "Serve ye the LORD" (24:14). *(Point up.)*
"Choose you this day whom ye will serve" (24:15). *(Point to each child.)*
Joshua said, "As for me and my house" (24:15). *(Point to yourself, then make a roof with your arms.)*
"We will serve the LORD!" (24:15). **Say it with me: "We will serve the LORD!"**
The people said, "His voice will we obey" (24:24). *(Cup your hand by your ear.)*
Joshua set up a big stone under a tree (24:26). *(Make a big round stone with your arms.)*
The stone helped them remember their promise (24:27). **Say it with me: "I choose God!"**

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Who called God's people together? *(Joshua, Joshua 24:1)*
2. Who did Joshua and his house choose to serve? *(The LORD, 24:15)*
3. What did Joshua set up under a tree? *(A big stone, 24:26)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Joshua said, 'as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.' My house means me and my family." Teach the motions: point to yourself on "me," make a roof with your arms on "my house," and point up on "the LORD." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Joshua 24:15" 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: My House (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw their house and the people who live with them. While they color, ask: "How can you serve God at home? Can you help? Can you pray?" Let each child stand up and say, "We will serve the LORD!"

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for all You do for me.
I choose to serve You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving. Let every child make the roof with their arms on "my house." Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child's family doesn't go to church: say gently, "You can serve God, and you can pray for your family." Never say anything that shames a child's family.

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