Preschool–Grade 6

Rahab and the Spies

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

Main point: I can trust God.
Bible passage: Joshua 2. Read Joshua 2:1–24 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath" *Joshua 2:11 (KJV)*.
Beneath means below.
You need: a Bible, two small toys or blocks, a pile of paper strips, a piece of red yarn, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Joshua 2.

1. Opening game: Hide Them on the Roof (5 minutes)

Put the two toys on a table: "This is the roof." Let the kids take turns covering the toys with the paper strips until you can't see them. Then one child lifts the strips to find them: "There they are!" Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a woman who hid two men on her roof."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Joshua 2. 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 sent two men to look at the city of Jericho (Joshua 2:1). *(Hold up two fingers.)*
They came to the house of a woman named Rahab (2:1). *(Make a roof with your hands over your head.)*
The king said, "Bring forth the men" (2:3). *(Hands on your hips.)*
But Rahab hid them on her roof, under tall plants called flax (2:6). *(Cover your head with your arms.)*
Rahab said the LORD is God in heaven and on earth (2:11). *(Point up high, then point down low.)*
Say it with me: "The LORD is God!"
Her house was on the town wall (2:15). *(Make a tall wall with your arm.)*
She let the men down by a cord through her window (2:15). *(Pull a rope down, hand over hand.)*
The men told her to tie a red line in her window (2:18). *(Hold up the red yarn.)*
Rahab tied the red cord in the window (2:21). *(Tie a pretend knot.)*
God kept Rahab and all her family safe (Joshua 6:25). *(Hug yourself.)*
Say it with me: "I can trust God!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Where did Rahab hide the two men? *(On her roof, Joshua 2:6)*
2. What color was the cord in her window? *(Red, scarlet, 2:18, 2:21)*
3. Who kept Rahab and her family safe? *(God, Joshua 6:25)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Rahab said, 'the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.' Beneath means below." Teach the motion: point up high on "heaven above," then point down low on "earth beneath." Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Joshua 2:11" 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 Red Cord Window (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a house with a window. They color a red line hanging down from the window. While they color, ask: "Where did Rahab hide the men? What did she tie in the window?" Kids who finish early can play Hide Them on the Roof again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for keeping Rahab safe.
You are God up in heaven and down on earth.
I trust You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: let every child hold the red yarn and hide the toys. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

What this lesson leaves out: the preschool story doesn't tell what Rahab said to the king's men (Joshua 2:4–5) or why the Bible calls her house "an harlot's house" (2:1). If a child asks, say simply: "God wants us to always tell the truth. Rahab believed God, and God saved her."

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