



WEEK 4

C3KIDS ACTIVITY GUIDE



BIG IDEA

I can remember what God has done for us.

THE BIBLE

Crossing the Jordan River: Joshua 3:10-4:9;
(Psalm 136)

ACTIVITIES TO REINFORCE THE LESSON

Welcome to week four of our series Epic. This month we are taking four epic adventures as we follow the Israelites through the wilderness. We have taken the activities for this week's lesson and listed them here. You can find all the print outs, sing-along songs, and resources for this week at the C3KidsWheeling.com website.

ACTIVITY | Ark Relay

- Welcome back! Our next wilderness adventure involves carrying the Ark of the Covenant. Let's have a relay race carrying the Ark of the Covenant.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, [prepare an Ark of the Covenant](#) by taping a small box between two pool noodles and mark beginning and ending spots. Divide the class into two groups, with each group lined up at each of the marked points. Show the first two kids how to carry the poles on their shoulders across to the other side and hand it over to two kids in the other group to carry back. Continue until everyone has had a turn.*
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *If you have students with limited mobility due to physical disabilities, alternatively you could play a game of Hot Potato with a box (you can choose to decorate it like the Ark of the Covenant or use a plain box). Sit in a circle and pass the box around while you play a song - such as "God of Wonders" from the beginning of the lesson or another song your kids are familiar with. Periodically, stop the music. Whoever is holding the box when the music stops is out. Keep playing until only one player remains.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Have older kids work to construct their own Ark.*



ACTIVITY | Stack It Up

- Today's wilderness adventure also involves stacking stones. You'll hear more about those later. For now, let's play a game of stacking cups to remind us of the stones that will be stacked at the end of our EPIC adventure!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each team twelve plastic cups (for the twelve tribes.) Ask each kid to stack the cups pyramid style (they will not make a complete pyramid), then take the cups down and pass them to the next kid until every kid on the team has made a stack. See which team finishes first.*

THE BIG IDEA | I can remember what God has done for us.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Make four [paper boats](#) and write each of the following phrases on the boats: "I can," "remember," "what God has," "done for us." Place them in a basin filled with water. Ask kid volunteers to pick a boat out of the water. Work as a group to put the Big Idea together.*

ACTIVITY | Remembrance

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, collect pictures of significant events in history, ones that most of your kids would know. Have kids describe each event. You could also include pictures of past events in your group and have kids remind each other of those occasions.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *If possible, ask kids the week before to bring in pictures of then as a younger child and share what they remember about that photo.*
- **How are these pictures like the stones in today's story?**

REFLECTION | God's Love Endures Forever

- Remembering the things God has done for us and other people helps us remember God's love endures forever. Let's explore some ways and things we can remember.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a piece of paper and have them draw a big heart in pencil. Along the line, have the kids write "God's love endures forever" as many times as it fits around the heart.*

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Take some time this week, maybe at the dinner table and ask your kids these questions about this week's story. See how much they remember.*
- **Why did the Israelites build an altar after crossing the Jordan River?**
- **Why were there twelve stones?**
- **Can you remember other times in the Bible where God's people were told to remember what God had done?**
- **Read Joshua 4:6b-7. Imagine one of the kids in the Bible story had asked you, "What do these stones mean?" How would you explain it to them?**



- Do you or your family have things you do to remember events that have happened before?
- What are some things we do at church to remind us of things God has done?
- Why is it important to remember?

ACTIVITY | Story Stones

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a medium-sized smooth stone and permanent marker. Invite them to write a word or draw a picture or symbol to remind them of something God has done for them. Encourage them to carry the stone with them as a reminder.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** For kids with fine motor challenges, provide thicker markers that are easier to grip as drawing utensils.

MEMORY VERSE | Set in Stone

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ahead of time, write the memory verse on smooth stones, one word on each stone. Encourage the kids to put the stones in order to create the memory verse, and ask them to repeat it as they do.

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As a group, make a list of ten things God has done for you (either individually or as a group). You may find it helpful to write down this list. Ask for a few volunteers to read items off of this list at the designated point in the prayer below.
- Dear God, You have done so many things for us (Read the list you just created together). Thank You for always being with us in this EPIC story we get to be part of. Help us to always remember Your never-changing love.

RIVER KIDS ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY | Memory Match

- In our story today, we are going to hear about men who remembered what God had done for them. To practice our memory skills, we are going to play a memory game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, print the "Memory Match" graphics and attach them to a poster board. There should be two of each picture: stones, Ark of the Covenant, twelve men, Joshua, and the Jordan River. Lay the images upside down on the ground. Instruct the kids to flip over two cards at a time until they have matched all five pictures.



ACTIVITY | Stack It Up

- Today, we are going to be hearing a Bible story about men who created a stack of twelve stones. We are going to create our own stack today out of cups!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split the kids into teams. Give each team twelve cups to represent the twelve tribes of Israel. Have each kid stack all twelve cups up into a pyramid. Once they finish, pass the cups to the next kid on the team until each kid has had a chance to make a stack. The team who gets all of the kids to stack the cups first wins!*

THE BIG IDEA | I can remember what God has done for us.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, hide nine stones around the room. On each stone, place a different word from our Big Idea. Once the kids find all the stones, create a stack with the stones, then reveal the Big Idea.*
- Today, we are going to be talking about some different men who found stones and created a huge stack! I have hidden nine different stones around the room to help reveal our Big Idea for today! Let's see if we can find them all.
- Our Big Idea is: **I can remember what God has done for us.**

ACTIVITY | Ark Run

- Today, we learned about the Ark of the Covenant! This was incredibly important to the Israelites. They were commanded by God to carry it across the river, so today we are going to create our own Ark of the Covenant.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, create an Ark of the Covenant by attaching two pool noodles to the sides of a box. Spray paint the entire creation gold for an added effect. Spread out a blue bedsheet across the floor to create the Jordan River. Split the kids into two teams and tell them to stand on opposite sides of the river. Two kids from the first team will balance the Ark on their shoulders and run across the river. Once they reach the kids on the other side, they must pass off the Ark and those kids will run across the river to the other side. Ensure every kid has an opportunity to hold the Ark and run across the river.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Instead of doing a relay race, just allow toddlers to hold the "Ark" and walk around the room. Another option is to carry the Ark yourself, and have your toddlers split off into either side of you, and pretend to be the Jordan River. Give each group on each side a piece of blue fabric to hold and wave together.*

SNACK | Ark Snack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a graham cracker, yellow icing, and two pretzel sticks. Tell them to use the icing to stick together the graham cracker and pretzels to create an Ark of the Covenant. As the kids snack, ask:*
- **How many men did Joshua choose to pick up stones from the Jordan River?**
- **Why was the Ark of the Covenant so important?**
- **Why did they stack stones from the river?**



ACTIVITY | Memory Bracelets

- We learned how important it is to remember all that God has done for us today! As another reminder, we are going to create bracelets!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, create one bag for each kid that is filled with letter beads spelling out, "Remember." Give each kid a pipe cleaner and help them to put the letter beads onto the pipe cleaner to spell out, "Remember." After the beads are on the pipe cleaner, twist it around their wrist and secure it at the end.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *You can use 12 grey beads that look like stones on the bracelet instead of the letter beads*

ACTIVITY | Twelve Friends

- In our story today, we heard of twelve men who picked up stones to remember and tell others about what God had done for them. Today, we are going to create our own memory stones.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, print out copies of the printable for each kid. Find a slightly bumpy surface like the pavement, and have the kids rub crayon over each stone to give it a rock-like effect. Then help cut out each stone.*
- Give these stones to twelve friends or family members so they can remember what God has done for them, too! If they don't know, tell them about today's story.

MEMORY VERSE | Memory Stones

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before activity time, place each word of the memory verse onto a different stone. Help the kids arrange the stones in the correct order of the verse. Repeat the verse many times to help them remember.*

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a coloring page along with crayons, markers, or colored pencils. Remind them of today's story, memory verse, and Big Idea as they color!*

ACTIVITY | Follow the Leader (of Israel)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Choose one kid to be Joshua and tell the other kids to follow whatever Joshua does.*

ACTIVITY | Protect the Twelve Stones

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Place twelve gray pom-poms onto a sheet or parachute. Help each kid hold onto the edge of the sheet or parachute. Move the sheet/parachute up and down and watch the pom-poms bounce around. Help the kids keep the pom-poms on the sheet/parachute.*