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***WEEK 3***

***AT HOME LESSON GUIDE***

BIG IDEA

I can take risks for God.

THE BIBLE

Nicodemus: John 3:1-17

THE BIBLE

**Rahab Helps the Israelite Spies:**Joshua 2:1-15;
(Philippians 4:10-13)

**ACTIVITY: Play a game of hide and seek.**

THE BIG IDEA **| I can take risks for God.**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Prepare a bag of treats (such as small prizes, candy, etc.). Ask for a kid volunteer and ask them to choose "heads" or "tails." If they choose "tails," for example, tell them every time the coin lands on "tails," they will get a small prize. After they have gathered quite the fortune (like five to ten items), tell them on the next flip, if it lands on "tails," they will get double the amount they already have, but if it lands on "heads," they will lose it all. Then, give them the choice to just walk away with what they have, or flip the coin to get double.*
* What is it like to take a risk? It's sometimes hard to decide because you don't know what's going to happen next! But when God is in the picture, we don't have to worry. We learned to trust God last week, right? And when we trust God, a risk for God is worth it. That's today's Big Idea: **I can take risks for God.**

VIDEO **| Epic, Episode 3**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Play this week's*[*teaching video*](http://growcurriculum.org/ElementaryTeachingVideosV3)*.*

SCRIPTURE **| Joshua 2:1-15**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Find Joshua 2:1-15 in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. Read it aloud.*
* **What is a risk?**In today's Bible story, there is a lot of risk-taking happening!
* The two spies from Israel took a huge risk for God by sneaking into Jericho. Something terrible could have happened to them if they were caught by the king of Jericho. But they did it anyway, because they knew that their job of spying on the land was a very important one.
* Rahab also took a big risk for God by hiding the spies from the king of Jericho. She could have turned them in–that would have been the safer choice. She might have even gotten a reward for doing it. But somehow she knew that God was about to give Jericho over to the Israelites, and she wanted to do what was right in God's eyes.
* Taking risks is tricky. You should never do anything dangerous or something that breaks the law–God would not be pleased with that! But you will find that there are times when you need to take a risk in order to do something that would please God.
* Let's talk about it: **How do you know when it's okay to take a risk?**

ACTIVITY **| Story Rope**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Pass around a length of rope. Have kids work together to retell the story. Each kid tells one part of the story, and makes a knot in the rope. Then they pass it to the next kid, who says what happens next, then makes a knot.*

SCRIPTURE **| Philippians 4:10-13**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Find Philippians 4:10-13 in your Bible and read it aloud.*
* Paul took a lot of risks for God. In this letter, Paul is telling his friends that he trusts God in everything. Because he trusts God, he knows that God will help him with whatever he is facing.

ACTIVITY **| Remembrance Bracelets**

* Rahab let the spies out of the city by hanging a scarlet rope out of the window for them to climb down.
* **INSTRUCTIONS:***Give each kid three strands of red embroidery floss tied together at one end. Encourage them to either twist or braid the strands according to their ability. When finished, ask them to tie the bracelet they have just created around the wrist of one of the other kids, saying: “You can take risks for God.”*

MEMORY VERSE **| 1 Samuel 12:24 (NIV)**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce kids to this month’s memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we’ve provided.*
* **But be sure to fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart.**