

60-Day Wonder Devotional Book – Year 3

Book #14 – *God Keeps His Promises!*

Teacher scripts to lead *Wonder Time*[™] each week at *Good News Club*[®]

Note: The poster referred to in these scripts can be downloaded from the CEF[®] Web site. Also, be sure to use the visualized CEF Wonder Time[™] song, “God Wants to Spend Time with Just You”, available from CEF Press[®]. This song is also recorded on the Good News Songs 1, 4 and 5 CDs. The devotional numbers that the children are to read each week are in bold print; be sure to emphasize these during Wonder Time and repeat them at the end of club.

Week 1 – God Calls Abram

(This first introduction will take a few extra minutes.)

Today is the day we have been looking forward to! You will receive your new *Wonder Devotional Book* at the end of club. This book is yours to keep but remember to bring it back to *Good News Club* every week so we can check your work and give you a special reward.

This *Wonder Devotional Book* is called *God Keeps His Promises*. Isn't that great to know? But you don't have to take *my* word for it. For the next 60 days you'll be reading true stories from the Bible that *prove* God keeps His promises! And each time you learn about God's faithfulness to yet another Bible character, you'll be even more convinced that God will keep His promises to *you!*

This week you'll be learning about Abraham. God made an amazing promise to him—a promise that seemed impossible to keep! In fact, when Abraham's wife Sarah heard this promise, she laughed! **Find out all about it as you read your Bible and pages 1-6 of your devotional book.**

This week's verse is Hebrews 11:1 (*quote verse*). That means you can be sure God will keep His promises, even if you're like Sarah and can't imagine how He'll do it. As you read about Abraham and Sarah this week in your Bible and devotional book, watch for some special promises God has made to *you!* Think about how He might keep those promises. Maybe He already has! We'd like to hear about it next week.

Let's talk about our poster for a minute. The first word is STOP. You need to choose a certain *time* each day to STOP and have your quiet time. What time of the day works best for you? (*Allow response. You may wish to also share your own experience.*) Many people think morning is best because they've had a good night sleep and are ready to really listen to what God wants to tell them through His Word, the Bible. If you haven't started having a quiet time, ask God to help you know what time is best for you. Then STOP and spend some time with God every day at that time.

Let's sing our special *Wonder Time* song—“God Wants to Spend Time with Just You.”

Week 2 – God Tests Abraham

Did you know having a quiet time isn't just important to you—it's important to God! He wants to spend time with you! Let's sing about it! (*Sing "God Wants to Spend Time with Just You."*)

Let's talk about what you learned last week in your devotional book. What was the promise God made to Abraham? (*God promised Abraham a son.*) Did you find any promises God has made to you? (*Answers will vary.*) How might God keep those promises—or how has He kept them already? (*Allow response.*)

You'll find out this week whether or not God kept His promise to Abraham. And you'll read about a very hard thing God asked Abraham to do. Did Abraham trust God enough to obey?

Do you trust God enough to obey His commands even when you don't understand what He is doing? If you trust Him and love Him, you will obey Him. This week's verse says so (*quote 1 John 5:3*). As you read and do your devotional, think about some commands God wants you to obey and ask Him to help you do it.

(*Show poster.*) Raise your hand if you decided to STOP in the morning for your quiet time. In the evening? Some other time? (*Allow response for each option.*)

The next word on our poster is SIT. It's important to choose a special place for your quiet time where you can be alone. What place has worked for you? (*Allow response and share your own experience.*)

Whenever you decide to STOP and wherever you decide to SIT, the important thing is to DO IT! **This week read pages 7-12 in your *Wonder Devotional Book*.** As you do, remember God loves you and wants to spend time with *just you!*

Week 3 – A Wife for Isaac

Did God keep His promise to Abraham? What hard thing did God ask Abraham to do? Did Abraham trust God enough to obey? (*Allow response to each question.*)

What about you? Did you obey God last week? How? (*Allow response to each question.*)

The third word on our poster is READ. I know some of you are just learning to read and others have been reading a long time. Some of you probably love to read and others may not like reading so much. If you are one who is just learning to read or who doesn't like to read, you could have your mom or dad or older brother or sister read to you. That would help them spend time with God too! (*Adjust this paragraph depending on the ages and abilities of your group.*)

This week you'll be doing pages 13-18 in your *Wonder Devotional Book*. Abraham sent his servant on an errand you may find surprising—to find a wife for Abraham's son Isaac! In our country young people usually choose their own husband or wife. But in Bible times and even today in some countries the parents choose their children's husband or wife.

But even though some customs were different in Bible times, the Bible is as true today as it was when it was written! God's promises will be true forever. I'm so glad we can ask Him to show us what to do just like Abraham's servant did!

King David in the Bible knew this and prayed, (*quote Psalm 143:8*). This week whenever you don't know what to do, you can pray this verse too! It's written at the top of page 13. Let's talk about it next week!

Now let's sing our *Wonder Time* song—"God Wants to Spend Time with Just You."

Week 4 – Jacob and Esau

The verse on page 13 of your *Wonder Devotional Book* is Psalm 143:8, which says, (*quote verse*). Did you pray these words anytime this week? What happened? (*Allow response.*)

This week's devotionals are about people who lied and played tricks to get what they wanted! The verse on p. 19 tells you what God wants you to do instead. (*Quote Matthew 6:33.*) This week if you are tempted to lie or play a trick to get something you want, read this verse. You might even want to memorize it! **And do pages 19-25 to find out more about how to put God first in everything you do.**

(*Show poster.*) Remember to STOP, SIT, READ, THINK and PRAY every day this week. Let's talk for a minute about that word THINK. After you read your Bible and devotional book each day, THINK about what it means. If it's a promise from God, thank Him for it! If it's a command, ask God to help you obey it. Whatever it says, ask God to help you remember it! Then God the Holy Spirit can remind you of it when you need it.

Now let's sing our *Wonder Time* song to remind us that God wants to spend time with us—365 days of the year!

Week 5 – Jacob Runs Away

Raise your hand if you had a quiet time with God at least once last week. Twice? Every day? (*Allow response.*)

Could you believe Jacob tricked Esau into trading his birthright for a cup of stew? Esau was very foolish! But did that make it okay for Jacob to trick him? (*Allow response.*)

Were any of you tempted to lie or play a trick last week? Did you read Matthew 6:33 on page 19 to help you do what God wanted you to do? Did any of you memorize that verse? (*Allow response.*)

This week's verse tells what to do after you've done what our poster tells you. (*Show poster then quote James 1:22.*) After you STOP, SIT, READ, THINK and PRAY—OBEY! Don't just hear God's Word—do what it says. The Bible says if you do, God will bless you! That doesn't mean

He'll always give you whatever you *want*, but He'll give you what you *need*! And you'll have the deep-down joy that comes from obeying God.

This week read your Bible and do pages 26-32 and the activity page in your *Wonder Devotional Book*. When you come back to club I'm going to ask if you obeyed God's Word this week and how He blessed you!

Now let's sing our *Wonder Time* song! The last verse says, "Asking God to help you to always remember to live by the message you've heard." That's what James 1:22 is all about—doing what God's Word says! And don't ever forget how much God loves you and wants to spend time with you!

Week 6 – Joseph and His Brothers

Last week did you do what James 1:22 tells us to do? (*Quote verse.*) Did you obey God? How did He bless you? (*Allow responses.*)

If you read your Bible and *Wonder Devotional Book* last week, you found out that lying and tricking made Jacob and Rebekah very sad. Jacob had to leave his home and Rebekah never saw him again. Later Jacob found out what it felt like to be tricked when his father-in-law played a trick on him!

But did God still love Jacob and Rebekah? Yes! This week's verse says, (*quote 1 Corinthians 13:4*). God will never stop loving you and He didn't stop loving Jacob and Rebekah! God promised to give Jacob land, bless all nations because of him, be with him wherever he went and bring him back to the land. Then Jacob made a promise too—that the Lord God would be his God and he would worship and obey Him. Jacob had changed!

Have you changed? Have you trusted Christ as Savior, promising to worship and obey Him? Next week I'd like a few of you to share how you trusted Christ as Savior and how your life has changed since then. If you would like to share, please tell me after club today. Then this week (*show poster*) as you STOP, SIT, READ, THINK, and PRAY, ask God what He wants you to say. God can use what you say to encourage others and help them want to trust Christ as Savior too!

Our *Wonder Time* song tells us that God's Holy Spirit will show us the truth! Let's sing about it! (*Sing "God Wants to Spend Time with Just You."*)

This week read your Bible and pages 33-39 in your *Wonder Devotional Book*.

Week 7 – Joseph in Prison

(*Ask those who volunteered last week to share their testimonies to do so. You may wish to share your testimony at this time.*)

Next week read pages 40-46 in your *Wonder Devotional Book*. The verse on p. 40 says God is faithful to help you say no when you are tempted to sin. (*Quote 1 Corinthians 10:13.*) As you

read your Bible and devotional book, look for ways God was faithful to help Joseph not sin. Then THINK (*show poster*) about ways God is faithful to keep you from sin. Write them down to share next week!

Our *Wonder Time* song talks about writing down the truth of God's Word. Let's sing it!

Week 8 – Joseph Is Honored

How was God faithful to help Joseph not sin? How has He been faithful to help you? (*Allow responses.*)

Next week you'll find out more about Joseph and see that the verse on p. 47 was true for him. (*Quote Romans 8:28.*) God used everything that happened to Joseph for his good and for the good of thousands of people! You'll find out it's true for you too! (*Show poster.*) Next week as you READ and THINK, ask God to show you how God has used even the bad things in your life for your good—to make you more like Jesus.

This week read your Bible and pp. 47-53 of your *Wonder Devotional Book* this week. And as you do, remember that “getting to know God is a great adventure”—and one way to get to know Him is through your quiet time! Let's sing about it! (*Sing “God Wants to Spend Time with Just You.”*)

Week 9 – Joseph Forgives His Brothers

As you had your quiet time last week, did God show you how He has used even the bad things in your life for your good—to make you more like Jesus? (*Allow response. Share an experience from your own life if children seem hesitant to share.*)

Read your Bible and pages 54-60 and the activity page in your *Wonder Devotional Book* next week. You'll find out if Joseph obeyed the words of the verse on page 54 (*quote Ephesians 4:32*).

Is there someone you need to forgive? Ask God to help you obey Ephesians 4:32. Be kind and forgive that person.

Now look at our poster. The last word is PRAY. Each day you can pray for things you want and need and for the wants and needs of others. Let's do that right now. (*Take prayer requests then pray.*)

Remember God knows what's best for you and has promised to give you what you need. Most of all you need *Him*—to know Him and love and worship Him. Let's sing our *Wonder Time* song! (*Sing “God Wants to Spend Time with Just You.”*)

You've learned a lot of truth about God in your quiet time! Be sure to bring your devotional book back next week to be checked. Then you'll be ready to learn even more about God as you read *Wonder Devotional Book 15—The God We Worship*.