

# Growing in Grace & Gratitude – September 2020

## Adaptations for Online Learning

These adaptations assume you have purchased *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* for the age level specified below and are using these in conjunction with that age level's guide. These adaptations are written with the understanding that you have access to a weekly video chat with the age level you are working with.

*Sunday, September 6, 2020*

### Adaptations for Ages 3-5

- Modify the "Taking Care of Animals" activity from the "Welcoming and Guided Play" section. Ask each child to share what their favorite stuffed animal is, and they can even show it to the class if it is in the room with them. What kind of animal is it? If your stuff animal were alive, how would you take care of it? What would it need to eat or drink?
- Play the game "Noah Says."
- Play "Guess Who?"
- Read the story as instructed in the "Hearing the Story" section.

### Adaptations for Ages 5-10

- Use the wondering questions from the "Welcoming and Preparing" section.
- Use the "Preparing to Hear the Story" section.
- Remember to read the story or listen to the story audio.
- Do the guided imagination exercise from the "Reflecting on God's Grace" section.
- Have the children draw a big rock on a piece of paper. Then ask the children to write "Thank you, God" on the rock. Encourage the children to write or draw things they are thankful for around the rock on the edges of the paper. This picture can help them to remember the story of Noah and how Noah and his family were thankful that God kept them safe.

# Growing in Grace & Gratitude – September 2020

*Sunday, September 13, 2020*

## Adaptations for Ages 3-5

- Explain that we are all going to pretend to be animals on the boat. Ask each child to share what animal they would be and what sound that animal makes, or have them act out what that animal does.
- Do the “Rainbow Action Poem” and encourage the children to move their bodies with you as you share the motions.
- Read the Bible story.
- Play a game where you call out a color of the rainbow and any child wearing that color has to stand. Once the children wearing the specific color are standing, give them something silly to do, such as turning around, touching their nose, jumping up and down, and so on. Then have them sit down and call out a different color. Continue playing until everyone has had a turn or two.
- Ask each child to draw a picture of a rainbow and encourage them to give it away. They can give it to a person in their family or leave it on a doorstep or in a mailbox of a neighbor or grandparent. Encourage them to share the reminder of God’s promise with someone else.

## Adaptations for Ages 5-10

- Use the discussion from “Preparing to Hear the Story” section of the session.
- Consider reading the adapted story from [Grace Sightings](#) or using the [story audio](#) for this week’s story as it is a longer passage.
- Ask the children to write or draw their own version of this story and share it with the group.
- Ask children the following wondering questions:
  - What do think of when you see a rainbow?
  - How do rainbows make you feel?
  - Now that you have heard this story, what will you think about the next time you see a rainbow?
- Use “Praying God’s Grace” section; if you don’t have SCM 2 that is OK. Ask each child to get a coloring instrument in each of the colors mentioned in this section. Children can use markers, crayons, colored pencils, or whatever they have for this activity and a piece of paper.
- Ask each child to draw a picture of a rainbow and encourage them to give it away. They can give it to a person in their family or leave it on a doorstep or in a mailbox of a neighbor or grandparent. Encourage them to share the reminder of God’s promise with someone else.
- Use the prayer from “Loving and Serving God” section to close your time together.

# Growing in Grace & Gratitude – September 2020

*Sunday, September 20, 2020*

## Adaptations for Ages 3-5

- Tell the children they must do what you do. Do all kind of hand motions, such as clapping your hands, patting your head, rolling your fists in circles, and rubbing your belly. You can do any of these things at the same time if you want to challenge your group. Do each hand motion a couple of times before switching to the next one.
- Now play Simon Says, encouraging the children to make sure they follow the directions and do things only when you say “Simon says.” If you don’t say “Simon says” before you give the instruction, they should not do whatever you say to do. If the children get it wrong, just tell them you didn’t say “Simon says” and encourage them to try again with the next instruction.
- Follow the directions to read the story from the “Hearing the Story” section.
- Teach the “Abram and Sarai Song” from the “Exploring God’s Grace” section. Mute the children’s microphones but keep yours unmuted and encourage them to sing with you even if they are muted.
- Use the “Who Can You Trust?” activity.

## Adaptations for Ages 5-10

- Play the “Excuses Game” from the “Preparing to Hear the Story” section.
- Read the Bible story.
- Look at SCM 3a and ask the wondering questions.
- Use the “If God told me to ‘Go,’ I would take...” game from “Celebrating God’s Grace.”
- Read *Crocodile’s Crossing: A Search for Home* by Yoeri Slegers.

# Growing in Grace & Gratitude – September 2020

*Sunday, September 27, 2020*

## Adaptations for Ages 3-5

- Have a sharing time with the children. Ask the children to share about a time when they had to apologize for something. How did it feel after they apologized? Did both people feel better afterward?
- Read the “Growing Up” poem, but instead of asking the children to repeat the words, just have the children do the hand motions as you read the poem.
- Use the “Hearing the Story” section from the curriculum.
- Use option 2, “Practicing Asking for Forgiveness” from “Exploring God’s Grace” section.
- Close with the blessing for each child, “(Name), God loves you and will always love you. The grace of God be with you.”

## Adaptations for Ages 5-10

- Use the echo prayer from the “Praying” section to begin your time.
- Use the “Hearing the Story” and “Reflecting on God’s Grace” sections.
- Do the activity from “Claiming God’s Grace,” but instead of searching together for broken objects, give the children three minutes to look for a broken object around their home. Remind the children to avoid handling any broken objects that may be sharp. Share your screen and set this visual timer <https://bit.ly/SensoryTimer>. Tell the children they have until the color disappears to find something broken to share with everyone else.
- Encourage the children to cut a piece of paper so that it’s the size of small flash cards and ask them to write on each piece of paper “I see God’s face in you.” They can even write the words in different colors on the messages. Then have the children hide them in places around their home where different people in their family (or whoever they live with) can find them throughout the week. Use suggestions of where to hide the paper from “Celebrating God’s Grace” section. Optional: if you want them to hide the paper while you are meeting with them, set the visual timer again for three minutes or more if desired.
- Use the “Praying God’s Grace” guided meditation and make sure you play the music so that others can hear it. You may need to mute participants.
- Close with the echo prayer from “Loving and Serving God.”