

OCTOBER 2025

"LORD and KING, you have reached out your great and powerful arm. You have made the heavens and the earth. Nothing is too hard for you."

Jeremiah 32:17

I love my work. I love that I get to play with children and teach them about Jesus. And having spent many years in my chosen profession, there are a few things that I have come to absolutely adore about my work. I enjoy preparing and editing lessons so the kids can get the most from each week. I enjoy the time that I get to spend leading a class or a large group lesson with them and watching them as they piece together a little more of their faith. I love that I learn as much from them, as they do from me. For example, I had to have a quick lesson on football a few weeks back and the children taught me what "sacking the quarterback" means. So...we all learn together! But one of the things that I really love are the endless questions. Kids have questions! They question everything! The why's and the how's are a constant. And they demand answers!

I love that kids have so many questions, and sometimes their questions are complicated and require me to do a little research to find an appropriate answer. Inevitably, kids will ask; why do bad things happen? Or it morphs into, why does God allow bad things to happen. And other questions are a little easier, and I already have an answer ready to go. Such as, what's your favorite dinosaur? It's a stegosaurus, by the way. But, by far, my favorite question is: Can I tell you something? I get asked this question *dozens* of times during the week, and my immediate answer is always the same, "you can tell me anything."

I want the children to know me, and trust me and feel confident knowing that whatever they have to say to me will be heard. And that their questions will be thoughtfully and honestly answered, and their statements will be carefully considered and responded to in a meaningful way. I don't believe anything that a child says to me is too silly or not important enough to warrant a response. Even the silly stuff deserves a silly response. But it still encourages a dialogue, so that as time progresses and our relationship grows, the silly stuff will eventually become more serious. So when I answer a child with "you can tell me anything", they can believe me and know that they really can, tell me anything. Even if what they wanted to tell me at that moment is that they don't like the blankets on their bed because they're too hot, and sometimes they like cold blankets. And how they don't like their bed, because the bed is too small because all their toys are in their bed. And when I suggested perhaps moving the toys to the toybox, I was met with immediate resistance. Because, in that case, where would the toys sleep?!? I'm paraphrasing from an actual conversation I had last week, and to be 100% honest, I totally understood. Sometimes blankets can be too hot and sometimes I would like cold blankets too. And every so often, I also wonder if my stuffed animals (of which I have many) would prefer to sleep on my bed!

This month we have been learning about how *powerful* GOD is. We finished up September learning about Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and how GOD always keeps his promises. October started with the story of Joseph and how he was a bit of a braggart and knew he was his dad's favorite son, and all that boasting landed him in a little bit of trouble! But GOD is powerful and was working in Joseph's life, even when he was made a slave, even when he was wrongfully accused by Potiphar, even in prison. GOD was with Joseph and eventually allowed for reconciliation between Joseph and his family.

The second week of October had us running from the Egyptians as we learned the story of the Exodus and all those plagues and how GOD powerfully showed up to tear down Pharaoh and how Moses was used to demonstrate GOD's mighty power! Even when doubt began to creep in, GOD had a plan and GOD's plans are by far better than anything we could do! And maybe our kids aren't slaves in Egypt, but they are fighting battles too. Fear, anxiety...or math. Our kids have battles and they need to know that GOD is powerful and will show up for them too. Maybe not with gnats and frogs, and rivers turning to blood, but HE still has a plan, and just like the Israelites then, our kids need to trust Him.

Last Sunday we learned about GOD providing in the wilderness. Just when the Israelites could not take it any longer, and remembered how good they had it back in Egypt...you know when they were *slaves!* GOD heard their prayers and GOD provided. Manna from heaven. Manna literally means "what is it" because they had never seen anything like it before. Little flakes on the ground that they were instructed to gather, but to only gather enough for one day. If they gathered too much, by the next morning it would be stinky and covered with maggots (kids *love* hearing about how gross the manna got!). GOD was teaching them, and still teaching us the same thing, to depend on Him for our needs, and to grow our faith and our trust. We *all* need that lesson.

Next Sunday, we will wrap up our series on GOD's power with a lesson on the Israelites finally entering the promised land. You would think after all they had been through that now they would finally have faith, they would finally learn to trust GOD, that they would finally learn that they really could fully depend on GOD's power to protect, nurture and sustain them. If only it were that simple! Because here we are thousands of years later, and we *still* have doubts and fears and lack of faith and mistrust.

November will have us getting ready for Christmas! I told the kids that next week we would start worshiping with Christmas music, and I don't know who is more excited about that, me or them! But we will start our holiday series on "GOD can speak to us in unexpected ways". From calling out to Samuel while he slept to GOD whispering to Elijah, we are going to learn how to hear GOD and how to respond when HE speaks to us. Because HE does speak to us.

As always, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for allowing me the privilege and honor of being able to serve you and your children. I've been reflecting a lot lately, as I just celebrated my 1 year anniversary on staff at NBCC, and how much I have grown to absolutely adore each and every kiddo! I have such a unique relationship with each child and they are all very special to me. From teaching me about football, to someone finally understanding how I want cold blankets too! And everything in between! I am honored to be partnering with you and helping your children know and love Jesus a little more.

Thank you,

~Amy Lynch