

Old Testament Bible Heroes

Noah - Obedience

Ready (*Plant the seed*)

He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." –Luke 11:28

Set (*Get the conversation started*)

When we think of Old Testament heroes, Noah is definitely toward the top of the list and not just because he built a giant boat that carried two of every animal, but because he did this in obedience to God. The world was full of corruption and violence. God warned Noah that he was going to flood the earth to get rid of the wicked people. Noah had to build the giant ark, collect the animals and food for his family and move onto the ark. Surely, he was ridiculed by the people around him. Also, he was six-hundred years old! Building an ark would have been a difficult task but the Bible says that "Noah did everything just as God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22).

Your parents, teachers and coaches all give you directions and expect that you obey. Sometimes it is easy, like when your mom asks you to brush your teeth. Other times it can be difficult like when your coach asks you to run one more sprint when you are already exhausted or when you have to congratulate the team that just beat you. Whatever it is the Bible says, "Obey your leaders and submit to them" (Hebrews 13:17). Why should we obey? First, we should obey God because disobedience is sin. Secondly, Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 14:15). That's it! Obedience is love and respect. You obey your parents because you love them. You obey your teachers and coaches out of respect, especially when it is difficult. You come in when your coach calls you off the court, even though you still want to play. You follow the rules of the game and obey the referee. Obedience in athletics, especially when it is hard, shows integrity and let's other people see what a Christian athlete looks like. "Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in Heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

Grow (*Talk it over*)

- Tell me about a time that you chose not to obey. What were the consequences?
- Why is it important to obey?
- Tell me about a time you had to obey when it was difficult.

Pray

Father God, we thank you for the directions you give us in the Bible. We're sorry that we don't always obey. Please help us to submit when it is necessary and to always obey your command. In Jesus's name, Amen.

Overtime (*Optional object lesson as time permits*)

Materials: attached folding directions, blank paper, scissors

Use the attached folding directions to show what happens when we do & don't follow directions.

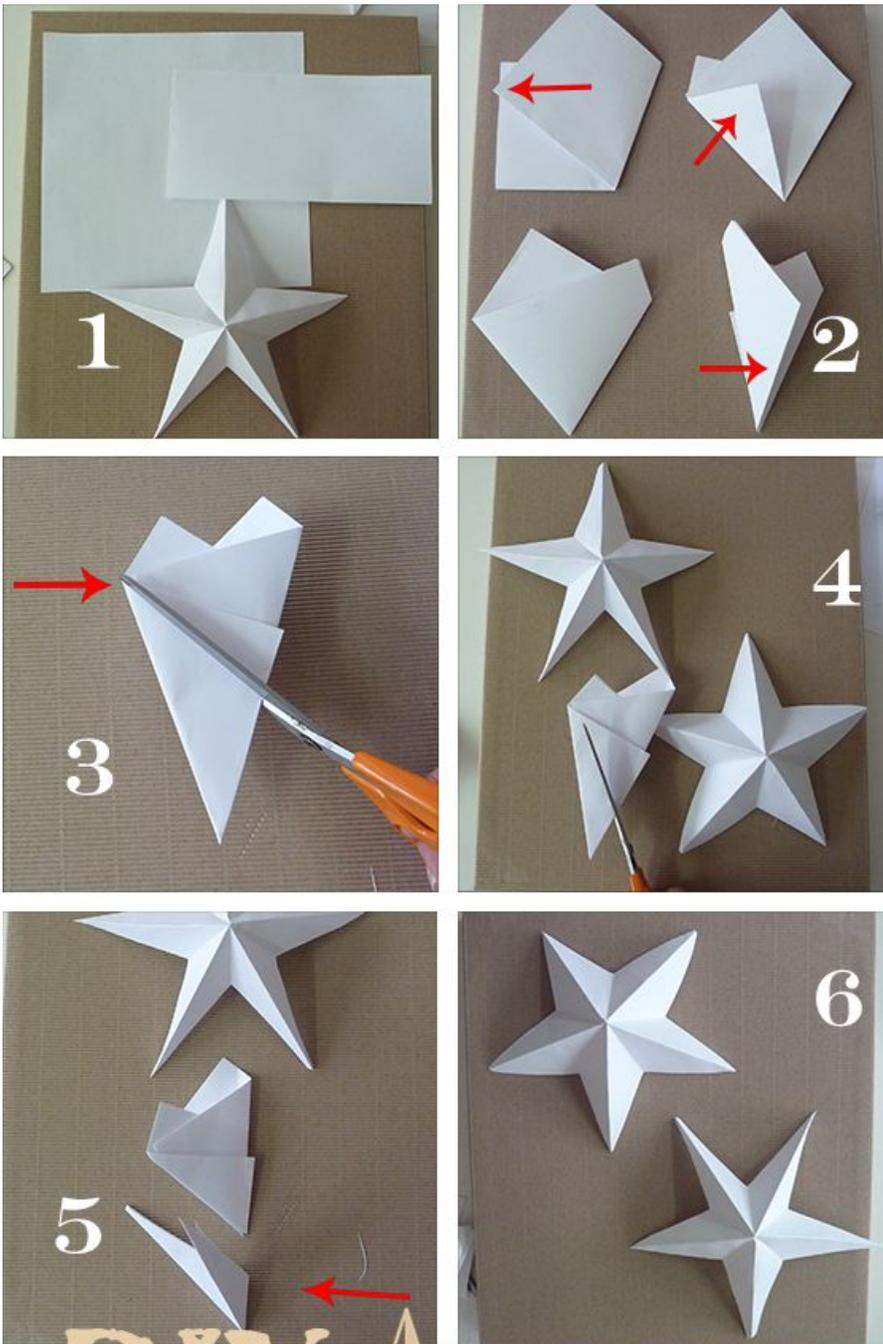
Say: *Let's see what happens when I follow these directions.*

Do: Fold the paper as directed and then make the cut. Instead of opening the small piece, open the large.

Say: *Hmmm. This doesn't look right. Maybe I should go back and read the directions again.*

Do: Read the last part again that tells you to open the small piece. Open it and show them the star.

Say: Ah, I see, I was supposed to open the smaller piece. It's a star! What a great trick. See how it didn't work out when I didn't follow the directions? Even though this was just a paper trick, it reminds us that we need to always make sure we are following God's rules.



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