HORSE & CHARIOT

Lesson Plan for Kids

(12 and under)



Luke and the Light of Faith

Eleven-year-old Luke had always believed in God. He grew up going to church, listening to Bible stories, and saying his prayers before bed. He believed Jesus was the Son of God and that God loved him. Back then, faith seemed simple. He had never wondered what it meant to trust God when life became difficult.

Luke loved spending time with his dad. They went fishing, played basketball, and talked about everything. His dad often reminded him that faith wasn't just believing in God, but trusting Him with your whole life. Luke didn't understand what that meant until one afternoon when everything changed.

His dad had been injured in a serious car accident. Although the doctors expected him to recover, he would need months of healing. Luke felt frightened and confused. He had always believed God protected his family. Why would God allow something so terrible to happen?

Slowly, doubt crept into Luke's heart. He prayed for his dad but wondered if God was listening. Without realizing it, Luke was facing his first real test of faith. Faith means believing in God and trusting His goodness, even when you don't understand His ways.

For Luke, doubt sounded like a whisper. It said, "If God loves you, why did this happen?" He began rushing through his prayers and stopped reading his Bible. He still believed in God, but struggled to trust Him.

One evening, Luke visited his dad in the hospital. "Dad," he asked, "why do you still pray?" His dad smiled and said, "Because faith doesn't mean nothing bad will happen. It means trusting that God is with us, even when bad things happen."

Those words stayed with Luke. His dad explained that Jesus Himself suffered, yet never stopped trusting His Heavenly Father. Faith wasn't about getting everything you wanted. It was believing that God's love remains true, even when life doesn't go according to plan.

One night, Luke remembered something his Sunday school teacher had said: "Faith is a gift from God, but you must open your heart to receive it." Luke understood that Jesus was knocking at the door of his heart. He didn't have to understand everything. He only had to believe and trust in Him.

Luke knelt and whispered, "Jesus, I believe in You, but sometimes I'm afraid. Please strengthen my faith and help me trust You." He asked the Holy Spirit to guide his heart and help him follow God's will.

The next morning, Luke put his faith into action. He prayed for his dad, helped his mom, and made a card for his dad's hospital room. When a friend asked how his family was doing, Luke answered, "It's hard, but I believe God is helping us through it."

As the weeks passed, Luke continued praying, reading Scripture, and helping his family. Sometimes doubt returned, but instead of turning away from God, he turned toward Him. He learned that faith wasn't the absence of questions. It was trusting God even when answers didn't come.

Living by faith didn't make Luke's troubles disappear, but it gave him strength. His dad slowly recovered, and Luke found a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. The more he trusted God, the more hope, love, and courage filled his heart.

Luke learned that ***faith is the foundation*** upon which every other virtue grows. It is God's gift of grace that opens the heart to Christ. When Luke chose to live according to God's Word, his faith became a light guiding his way. And with Christ leading him, he knew he would never walk alone.

Simple Reflection Questions (5 Minutes)

Ask the kids these three questions to get them thinking:

1. The "Feeling" Question: How did Luke feel when his dad was hurt? *(Answers: Scared, confused, worried, doubtful)*

2. The "Warning" Question: What were the warning signs Luke was struggling with faith? *(Answers: Questioning God, rushing prayers, avoiding his Bible)*

3. The "Grace" Question: Did trusting God make Luke's problems disappear, or give him strength to face them?

The "Hands" Exercise (4 Minutes)

This is a physical way to show what it means to trust God when life is uncertain.

Step 1 (The Uncertain Path): Have a volunteer close their eyes. Tell them: "Sometimes life feels scary because we can't see what's ahead. Luke didn't know what would happen to his dad."

Step 2 (The Walk of Faith): Have a trusted adult guide the volunteer a few steps along a clear path. Tell them: "This is faith. We may not see the whole path, but we can trust God to guide us. He is always with us."

The "Strengthen My Faith" Prayer (2 Minutes)

Have the kids place one hand over their heart and repeat after you:

Dear Jesus,
- Thank You for the gift of faith.
- When I feel afraid, help me trust You.
- Strengthen my faith when I doubt.
- Guide my steps and fill me with hope.
- Help me follow You every day.

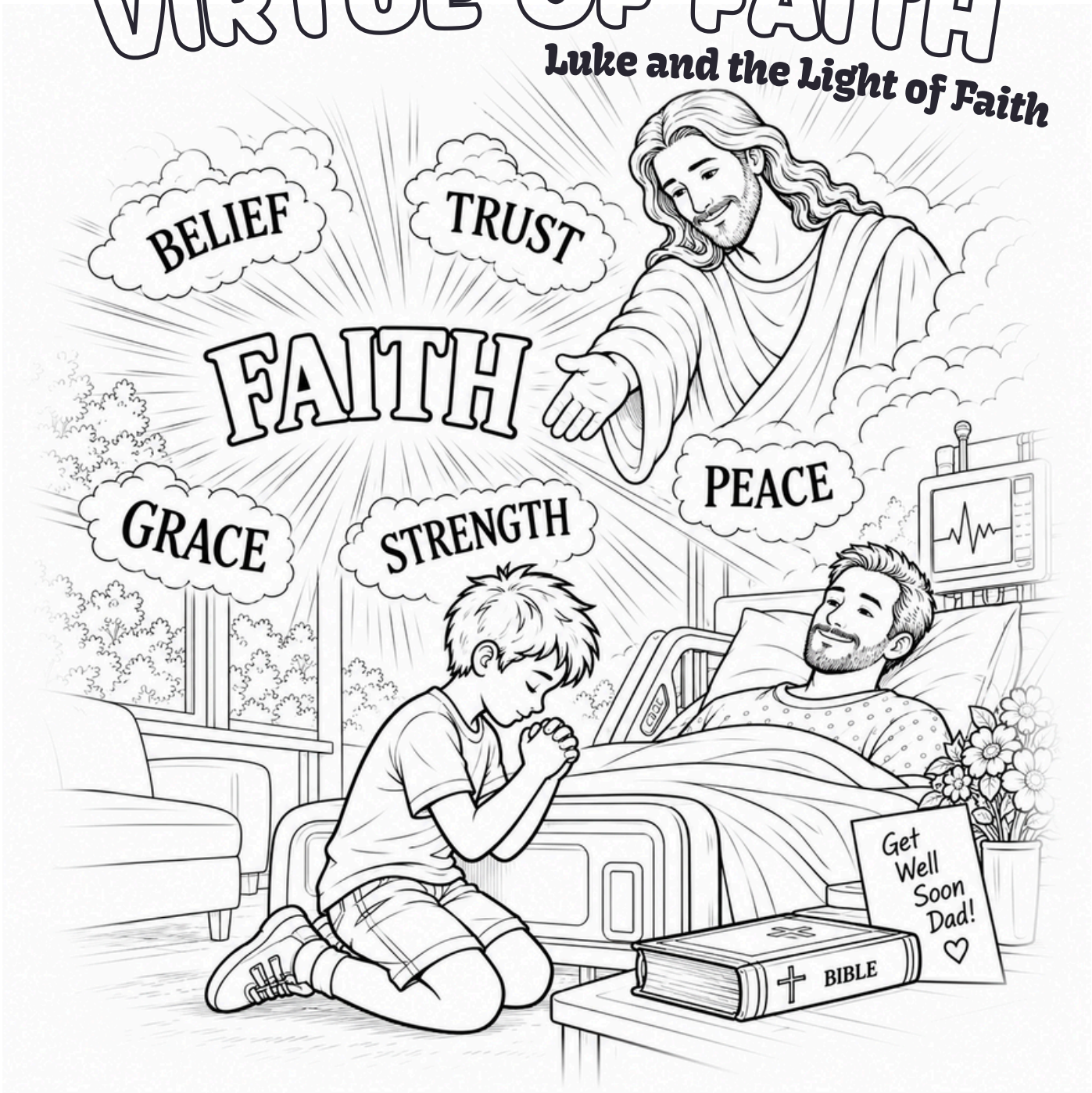
Amen.

Fun Extras:

- **Coloring Page:** Give the kids time to color and fill in the page on the back
- **Choose Faith:** Talk through the examples at the bottom of the coloring page. Try to relate them to real-life situations you've encountered recently. This is a great way to connect the lesson to everyday life and gently challenge growth.

CHOOSE THE VIRTUE OF FAITH

Luke and the Light of Faith



Circle what it looks like to choose the virtue of faith

Praying each day	*or*	Ignoring prayer
Thinking God has forgotten you	*or*	Trusting God through hard times
Asking Jesus to strengthen faith	*or*	Turning from God when confused
Trusting God's plan for your life	*or*	Trusting God only when happy
Hiding your faith from others	*or*	Sharing your faith with courage
Helping others out of love	*or*	Believing without living like it