

March 23, 2025

# REMEMBER & CELEBRATE

## Feast of Trumpets

### Remembering and Celebrating God's Faithfulness

**Schedule**

**CONNECT**

**REMEMBER**

**CELEBRATE**

**BLESS**

## Leader Prep

Each week you'll find a list of resources along with encouraging articles that help you prepare your heart to present the lesson.

## Further Resources

A Festival Investigation is available for this lesson.

### **Download the following resources to help you plan and lead TruStory lessons:**

Customizable copy of Lesson 5

TruStory Cycle A Scope and Sequence

TruStory How It Works document

At Home Weekly: Lesson 5 is provided for this lesson. The weekly for the next lesson—to be sent home for preteaching by parents—is found in BLESS.

For more information regarding the Old and New Testament significance of the biblical Feasts and Festivals, visit [truministry.com](http://truministry.com).

## Inspire

*Shares personal stories from fellow ministry leaders about how God has worked in their lives*

God is faithful. He teaches me this lesson just about every day. One day my wife's car breaks down, and the next week she gets a new one. Another time, our washing machine breaks, and that weekend someone gives us a new one. We're short on money one month, and that exact amount shows up in the mail. That kind of thing happens all the time. Our faith community surrounds us, and God uses them in miraculous ways.

But, one time, our trust in God's faithfulness was pushed to the limit. Our five-week-old son wasn't gaining weight. Though he would eat, the food wouldn't stay down. After several weeks my wife took him to the doctor. I expected to hear that this was normal and would pass. But instead I got a call to rush to the hospital because they were taking my child into emergency surgery. That was when the true test—whether or not I actually believed in God's faithfulness—hit home.

When I got to the hospital and held my son's tiny body in my arms, I couldn't imagine a surgeon cutting into him. I knew that God never promised freedom from sickness or disease, but this was my baby! I prayed and spread the word. Folks all over the country were praying within a matter of minutes. My son came through the surgery just fine. The experience stretched our faith, but God sustained us. I'm so thankful for how God grows our faith—and that He's faithful.

*Jeff Carter*

Director of HaDavar Ministries, Irvine, Calif.

## Equip

*Offers perspective and context to the lesson's Bible passage*

### **Feast of Trumpets: A Feast Celebrating God's Faithfulness**

This feast is the first of the fall feasts. The Jewish people call this feast Rosh Hashanah, which literally means "head of the year," as it's observed as the start of the civil year on the Jewish calendar (in contrast with the

religious year, which starts with Passover). This celebration focused on the faithfulness of God. It consisted of a time of rest, “an offering made by fire,” and the blowing of the trumpets. The Feast of Trumpets would occur at the new moon when only the slightest crescent would be visible. Watchfulness was a critical ingredient of the feast. This need for watchfulness and preparedness with the Feast of Trumpets is echoed throughout the New Testament in connection with the Lord’s second coming.

## Support

*Provides reflection and assessment through encouragement, prayer, and time in God’s Word*

What are your stories of God’s faithfulness? How has God used the faith community to rally around you in times of need? How has God orchestrated events so that the right help came just when you needed it? When did that much-needed listening ear, exact amount of money, or perfectly-timed event arrive at exactly the right time, in ways you knew could only come from God’s faithful hand? Think back on your life and remember these stories. Write them down. Tell them to a trusted family member or friend.


Whether we’re in times of trial or rejoicing, the stories of God’s faithfulness remind us of the way God has shown Himself to be real. He is our strength, the hope of our life, and the One who loves us. As you remember God’s faithfulness in your life, praise Him for His love. Praise Him for His mercies that are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22–23).

# CONNECT// 10 min.

*Children are invited to eat together with their parents and engage with the day’s biblical feast or festival.*

## Feast of Trumpets

### SUPPLIES

- Festival Banner (see Resources)
- Scissors
- Tape
- Food, drinks, plates, cups, utensils, and napkins 
- Name tags (1 per child)
- Markers

### PREPARE AHEAD

Encourage families to bring festival-themed goodies to the feast. Invite them to create the foods found on the Recipe cards passed out the previous week. Print, cut out, and assemble the Festival Banner.

### SET UP

Tape the banner in a prominent place. Place the food, drinks, and other supplies on the feasting table. Put the name tags and markers near the entrance to the room.

### RELATE

**The Feast of Trumpets is the first holiday that the Israelites celebrated in the fall. It was a time of rest for all of Israel, and God commanded them to sound the shofar (a horn) in order to commemorate the day. The Israelites would then begin to prepare for the Day of Atonement 10 days later, a time when they remembered God’s righteousness. Today the Feast of Trumpets is celebrated as the Jewish New Year, and it’s a great time to anticipate what God has in store and to remember His great faithfulness in the past.**

Invite everyone to put on a name tag and then work together to set up the feast. Give the children, leaders, and parents separate jobs. For example, allow the kids to set the table while leaders fill the cups with water and parents set out the food. Reassign the jobs for each Remember & Celebrate gathering so everyone gets to be involved in a different part of the feast preparation.

Together, engage in the activities found in the following section. These conversation starters and activities will help your kids and parents connect with old friends and get to know new friends. They will also help your faith community interact with the day’s festival. Optional: As your parents and kids eat and talk, invite them to decorate the Festival Banner before hanging it in the room.

## Connect Games

### Bingo Banter

#### SUPPLIES

- Bingo board (see Resources)
- Connect Questions cards (see Resources)
- Card stock
- Scissors
- Pens or pencils

#### PREPARE AHEAD

Print the Connect Questions cards onto card stock and cut them apart. Also, print one Bingo board per person.

#### RELATE

Hand out a Bingo board and a pen or pencil to each person. Invite everyone to go around collecting initials in each square from people who can say yes to a fact on the sheet. Children should only get one set of initials from a person. However, if you have a small group, children can get more than one set of initials from a person (you decide the limit). The first person to get a row of initials (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) gets to answer a Connect Question. The next person to get a row will answer the next Connect Question, and so on. Play until all of the children’s spaces are filled in or all of the Connect Questions have been asked.

- **What’s your favorite subject in school?**
- **What do you want to be when you grow up?**
- **What’s something good that happened to you this week?**
- **If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

## REMEMBER// 30 min.

*Children reflect on what they’ve learned about God in The Big God Story,*

*who He is, and what He's doing in their own lives.*

## Remember Verse

Spend time remembering the previous weeks' Remember Verse. Encourage the children to stand and say the verse together.

**Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Hebrews 4:16

## Remembering God in ...

### ... Our Family

#### SUPPLIES

- Bibles

#### RELATE

In Leviticus 23, God commanded His people to celebrate festivals throughout the year. During each festival, the Israelites stopped to remember what God had done for them and to celebrate His goodness to them. The Feast of Trumpets gave the people an opportunity to remember and celebrate the faithfulness of God as they began their fall celebrations. The New Testament tells us that Jesus will return to earth one day with the sound of a trumpet.

- **What does the word *faithful* mean?** Explain that the word *faithful* means “dependable, reliable, or worthy of trust.” If someone is faithful, it means that he is committed to truth and is trustworthy.
- **What comes to mind when I make the statement, “God is faithful”?** Leaders and parents, feel free to share examples from your own lives.

**God has proven Himself faithful throughout the Bible and throughout history—and in our lives and the lives of those around us. The festivals and feasts gave God’s people time to remember and celebrate the things He’d done. God set up these feasts to bring back memories of how He’d been faithful to His people in the past, so they could trust Him more in the present.**

- **Describe some events or passages from the Bible that show God’s faithfulness.** Leaders, feel free to give some brief examples to get the conversation started.
- **Describe a time God showed Himself faithful in your family or to someone you know.** Leaders and parents, feel free to share examples from your own lives.

### ... Our Faith Community

#### SUPPLIES

- Bibles
- Props: faux fur, small rock, piece of bread, exercise mat or blanket, adult robe

#### RELATE

Spend some time during this section helping your kids remember and celebrate some of what they’ve

experienced and learned about God. The questions below will help the kids remember what they learned about God and how it affected their daily lives.

### Lesson 1, God Is Faithful: Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3

Invite a volunteer to come up and put on the faux fur. **Who in The Big God Story wore clothes made of camel's hair?** Invite responses. **Yes, John the Baptist. Long before John the Baptist was born, God told the prophet Isaiah that someone would come and prepare the way for the Messiah. He prepared the way for Jesus and told people that they needed to repent. What does it mean to repent?** Invite answers. **When we repent, we turn around and go the other direction. John baptized many people in the Jordan River, and he helped many turn back to God. God was faithful to send John to prepare the way for Jesus.** Thank the volunteer and have him sit down.

- **Why was it important that John the Baptist prepare the way for Jesus?**

### Lesson 2, God Leads: Matthew 3:13–17; 4:1–11

Ask a volunteer to come up, and hand that child the rock. Then invite another volunteer to come up, and give her the piece of bread. **After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness for 40 days. Do you remember what happened to Him there?** Pause for responses. **Yes, Jesus was tempted by Satan. Jesus hadn't eaten in many days, and Satan told Him to turn a rock into bread if He was God's Son. But Jesus wouldn't fall for the devil's tricks. Satan tried twice more to tempt Jesus—he told Him to jump off of the temple. Then he told Jesus he would give Him all of the kingdoms in the world if Jesus would worship him. But Jesus wouldn't do it. He knew He could only worship God, and He used God's power to resist all of the devil's temptations.** Invite the volunteers to sit down. **Sometimes we face temptations too. But when we accept Jesus' gift of salvation, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us and lead us. When we're tempted, we can pray and ask the Holy Spirit for His help.**

- **How can God's Spirit lead you?**

### Lesson 3, God Forgives: Mark 2:1–12

Lay out the mat or blanket, and invite a volunteer to come lie down on it. **Who helped a paralyzed man get to Jesus?** Pause for answers. **Jesus was teaching about God's kingdom and healing many people. One day, when Jesus was teaching in a house, lots of people crowded in to listen to Him. Four friends of a paralyzed man wanted to help him get to Jesus, but they couldn't get through the crowd. So they cut a hole in the roof of the house and lowered him in! Jesus saw their faith, and He told the paralyzed man that his sins were forgiven. The religious leaders were confused and angry with Jesus. They knew that only God could forgive sins; they didn't know that Jesus is God. Jesus healed the man from his sins, and then He healed the man's body!** Have the volunteer jump up from the mat or blanket and then sit back down. **Jesus is God, so He had the authority to forgive sins. God forgives!**

- **How does it make you feel to know God forgives your sins?**

### Lesson 4, God Is Help: Matthew 8:1–4; 9:18–26; Mark 5:21–43

Ask a volunteer to come up and put on the robe, and then ask another volunteer to come up to touch the hem of the robe. **When in The Big God Story did someone get healed just by touching Jesus' cloak?** Invite responses. **Exactly—remember the man who had leprosy? And the woman who had been sick for 12 years? Jesus was on His way to heal a sick girl, and a woman pushed through a crowd and touched the hem of Jesus' cloak. When she touched His cloak, Jesus felt the power go out of Him, and the woman was immediately healed.** Invite the volunteers to sit back down. **Then Jesus continued on to a sick girl's home, but by the time He got to her house, she'd already died. But nothing is impossible for Jesus.**

**Jesus touched the dead girl and told her to get up—and she did! Jesus healed so many people who came to Him for help. God is help!**

- **What are some situations where we need God’s help?**

## ... My Life

### SUPPLIES

- Ponder Point pennants (see Resources)
- Blank Pennant cutout (see Resources)
- Scissors
- Markers or colored pencils
- Tape

### PREPARE AHEAD

Print a Blank Pennant cutout for each child and cut it out. Print the Ponder Point pennants and cut them out. Optional: Tape RESPOND pieces from past lessons around the room.

### RELATE

Show the children and parents each of the triangular Ponder Point pennants. Each Ponder Point highlights God and one of the things He was doing in that part of The Big God Story. Use these banners to help kids remember and celebrate. As you show the Ponder Point pennants, tape each one to the bottom of the Festival Banner and ask questions, such as: **What has God done in your life?**

Then, give the children a chance to respond to what they’ve learned about God and how it’s affected their lives. Encourage the kids to write stories or draw responses to God on a Blank Pennant. For example, kids might write, “God, thank You for Your gift of freedom,” or they might draw themselves and an event that reminds them of God’s freedom in their lives. After children have a chance to respond to God in this way, encourage them to tape the triangular banners like bunting to the bottom of the Festival Banner.

# CELEBRATE// 15 min.

*Through interactive games and activities, children will retell portions of The Big God Story together.*

## Remember Roundup

During Remember Roundup, kids will “round up” the people in The Big God Story whom they heard about during the past several weeks.

### 1st–6th: Mold-a-Guess

#### SUPPLIES

- The Big God Story People (see Resources)
- Scissors
- Play dough or modeling clay (at least 2 containers)
- Bowl

**PREPARE AHEAD**

Print and cut apart The Big God Story People. Put all of the papers in a bowl on a table.

**RELATE**

Split the group into two teams, and have two children from each team come up. (You may want to partner younger children with older ones so they can work together.) Allow the two children to pick names from the bowl. On your signal, the two children from each team will take some modeling dough and mold it into something to represent the characters from The Big God Story. The teams will then try to guess the characters that their team members are creating. Once a team guesses correctly, have two more children from each team come up and pick names from the bowl. Set each character name aside after it's been guessed.


After all of the characters have been guessed, put all of the character names back in the bowl, and invite everyone to gather in a circle and look at each of the character names. Encourage the children to share what they remember about that character or story.

## Festival Games

Invite your children to play these fun and engaging games as they celebrate what they've heard in The Big God Story recently.

### 1st and 2nd: Balanced Race

**SUPPLIES**

- Festival Games questions (see Resources)
- Golf balls or ping-pong balls (2)
- Spoons (2)
- Masking tape
- Optional: candy prizes 

**PREPARE AHEAD**

Print the Festival Games questions. Use masking tape to create a two-foot line on the floor. Five feet away, create another two-foot line on the floor parallel to the first line.

**RELATE**

Divide the group into two teams, and line up the teams next to each other behind the starting line of masking tape. Give the first two children in line spoons, and place one of the balls on each of the spoons. On your signal, the two children should race to the opposite line and then back to the starting line while balancing the balls on their spoons. Whichever child makes it back to the line first gets to answer one of the Festival Games questions. If he answers correctly, he gets a point for his team. If the ball drops off of the spoon, the child has to go back to the starting line and begin again. Play until every child has had a chance to race or answer a question. The team with the most points wins. Consider giving candy prizes to the winning team.

### 3rd–6th: Elephant Swing

**SUPPLIES**

- Festival Games questions (see Resources)
- Pairs of women's pantyhose or tights (2)
- Empty 2-L bottles (6–12)
- Tennis balls (2)



- Optional: candy prizes 

### PREPARE AHEAD

Print a copy of the Festival Games questions. Set up the empty bottles in two rows about five feet apart from one another. Each row should have the same number of bottles. Put a tennis ball in one of the legs of each pair of pantyhose.

### RELATE

Divide the children into two teams. Invite up one child from each team, and have the two children put the pantyhose on their heads. One leg of each pair should be weighed down by the tennis ball and should hang from the child's head, in front of his face, like an elephant's trunk. On your signal, the children will have to swing their heads in order to get the tennis ball to knock down the bottles in their rows. Whichever child is able to successfully knock down all of the bottles in her row first gets to answer one of the questions. If she gets it right, she gets a point for her team. Reset the bottles, and invite another child from each team up.

Play until each child has had a chance to knock down the bottles and answer a question. The team with the most points wins. Consider giving candy prizes to the winning team.

# BLESS// 5 min.

*Children receive a blessing from their leaders and sometimes one another. A blessing may be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.*

### SUPPLIES

- At Home Weekly: Lesson 6 (see Resources)
- Bible

### RELATE

During Remember & Celebrate lessons, encourage the parents to bless their children. Also encourage them to invite kids whose parents aren't present to join their groups. Invite the parents to pray the written blessing over their child and also to pray a special blessing over them in their own words.

Place a hand on the shoulder or hand of your child. Say the blessing taken from Psalm 4:3: (Child's name), **know that the Lord has set apart his faithful servant for Himself; the Lord hears when you call to Him.**

**May you remember that you belong to God, and He is always faithful to hear you when you call to Him.**

After the parents and leaders bless the children individually, invite everyone to gather together for the communal blessing. Encourage a parent to read the blessing from Psalm 36:5 over the group:

**Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.**

**May you trust in God whose faithfulness is bigger than we can ever imagine. He loves you, hears you, and rejoices in you. May you remember His faithfulness this week.**

Send home the At Home Weekly with your kids.