

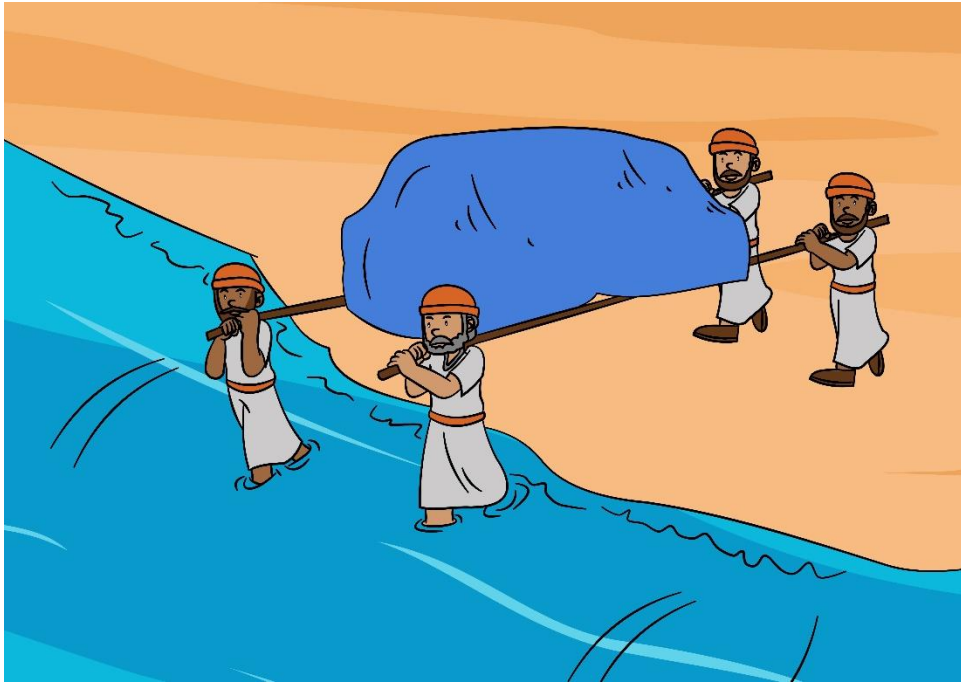
CROSSING THE JORDAN

Baby and Toddler Lesson



**TRUEWAY
TOTS**

Story



After 40 years in the wilderness, God had a special plan.

He helped His people, the Israelites, cross a big river called the Jordan.

The river was wide and deep.

God told the priests to step into the water first.

The priests carried the Ark, a special box that showed God was with them.

When the priests' feet touched the water, something amazing happened!

The water stopped, and the river dried up.

God made a path through the river. The people walked across on dry ground.

After everyone crossed safely, God told Joshua to pick 12 big stones from the riverbed.

Joshua and the men made a stack with the stones.

Joshua said, "These stones will help us remember what God did today."

The Israelites thanked God for helping them.

Just like God helped the Israelites, He helps us too.

Crossing the Jordan

God led the Israelites across the Jordan River into the Promised Land. This activity will help children understand the importance of following God's guidance and overcoming obstacles with faith.

Skills learned:



Imagination



Story



Hand-Eye
Coordination

Materials needed:

- Blue paper
- Small toy people or animals
- Cards
- Crayons
- Glue
- Scissors



Preparation:

Create a simple river scene using blue paper for the Jordan River.

Use toys or cut out small toy people or animals from card.

Prepare small pieces of cardstock for "stones" to represent the dry ground the Israelites walked on.

Steps:

For Babies and Toddlers:

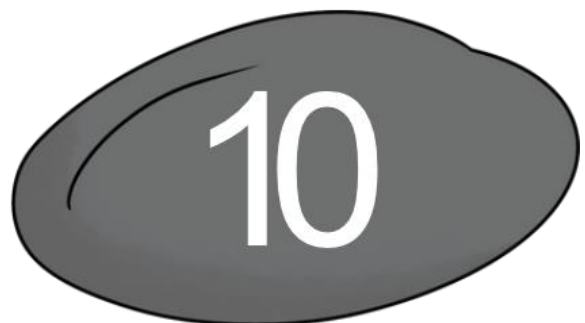
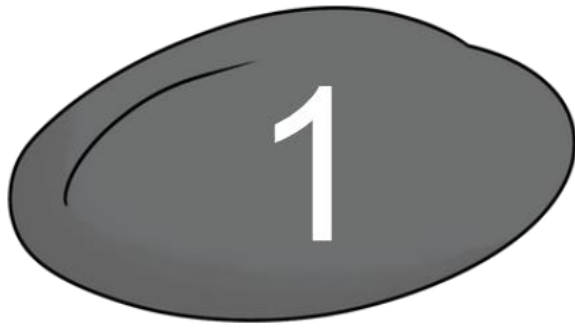
Show your child the blue paper representing the Jordan River.

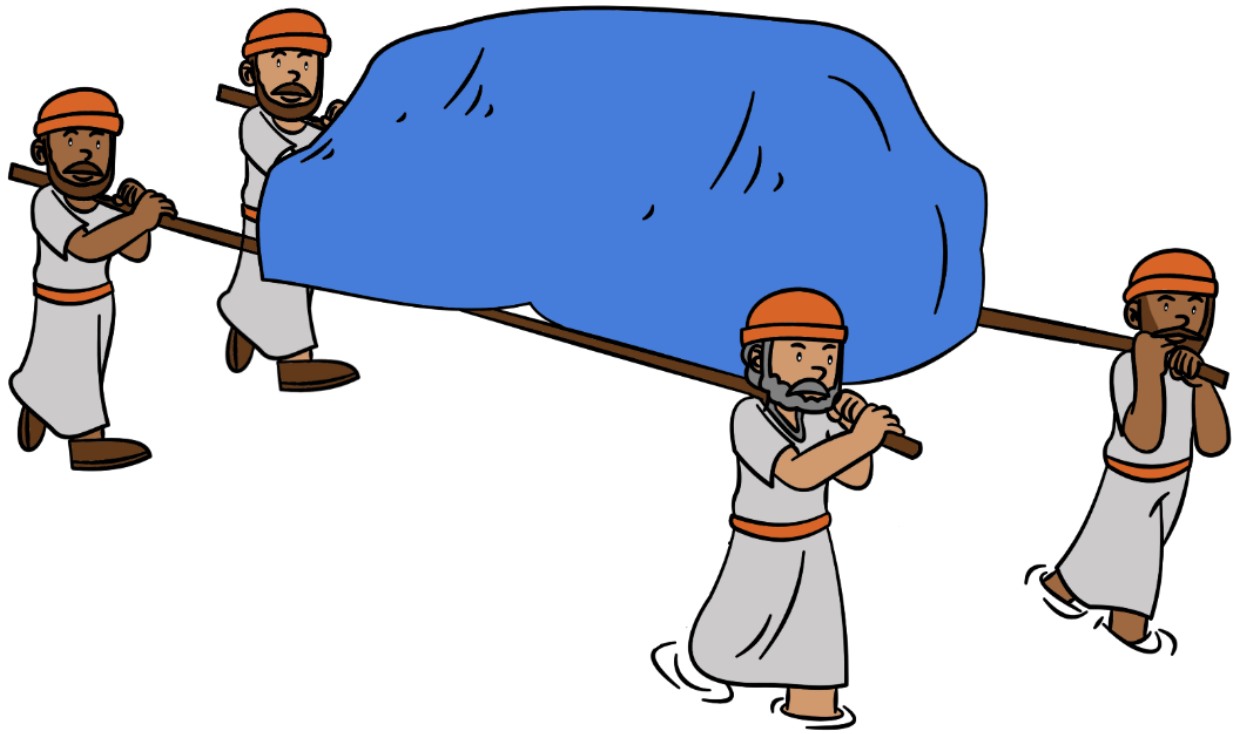
Explain that God helped the Israelites cross the river by making the water stop so they could walk on dry ground.

Help your child place the toy people or animals on one side of the river.

As you tell the story, move the toy people across the river. Have your child place stones to create a dry path for the toys to cross.

Talk about how God guides us and helps us overcome obstacles.





Building Faith Steps

God asked the Israelites to take a step of faith and cross the Jordan River. This activity will help children learn about taking steps and following God's guidance.

Skills learned:



Imagination



Gross Motor skills



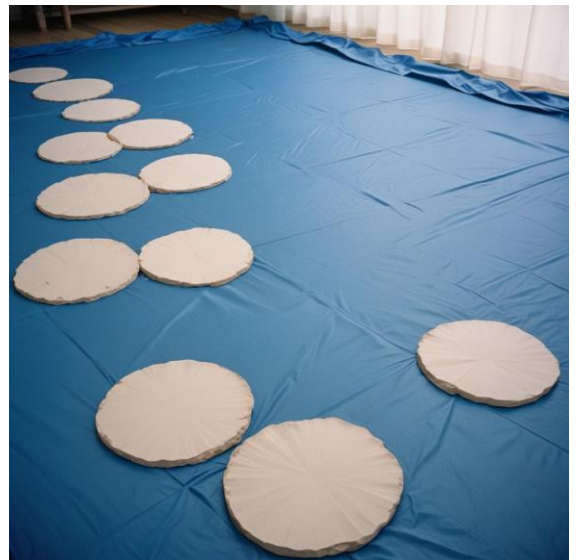
Numbers

Materials needed:

Paper, mats or chalk
Markers or tape
Dice or number cards.

Preparation:

Create a stepping path using large paper, a mat or chalk.
Write numbers along the path.



Steps:

For Toddlers:

Explain to your child that they will pretend to cross the river.
Roll the dice or allow your child to pick a number card.
Practice repeating the number.
The child should then move forward that number of places.
Repeat until they reach the other side of the river.

Sensory Pathway

This sensory pathway activity provides a tactile experience to help children understand the different terrains the Israelites might have encountered during their journey.

Skills learned:



**Sensory
development**



Gross Motor skills



Play

Materials needed:

Various surfaces that connect the story of crossing the Jordan.
(Ideas: Blue fabric, grass, sand, Wet towel, pebbles, Etc)

Preparation:

Arrange the materials in a sequence to create a sensory pathway. Each material will represent a different part of the journey.



Steps:

For Toddlers:

Explain to your child that they will be walking through different parts of the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land.

Start with the blue fabric or tarp and explain it represents the water of the Jordan River.

Guide them to walk barefoot over each surface, talking about what each surface represents:

- Blue fabric: The water of the Jordan River.
- Grass mat or artificial grass: The green grass on the riverbanks.
- Sand: The sandy shores and dry ground after the river was parted.
- Wet towel: The damp ground they might have felt right after crossing.
- Pebbles or small rocks: The rocky path they travelled on.

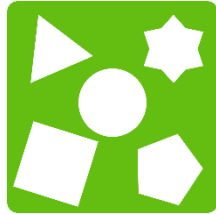
Let them walk through the pathway multiple times, encouraging them to describe how each surface feels.

Reinforce the lesson by telling the story of how God parted the Jordan River and led the Israelites on dry ground.

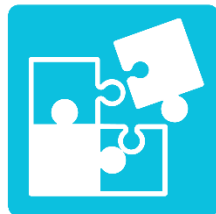
Sorting and counting Stones

This activity connects to the story of the Israelites building a memorial with 12 stones after crossing the Jordan River.

Skills learned:



Shapes



Problem Solving



Logic

Materials needed:

Small stones or pebbles

Containers or trays

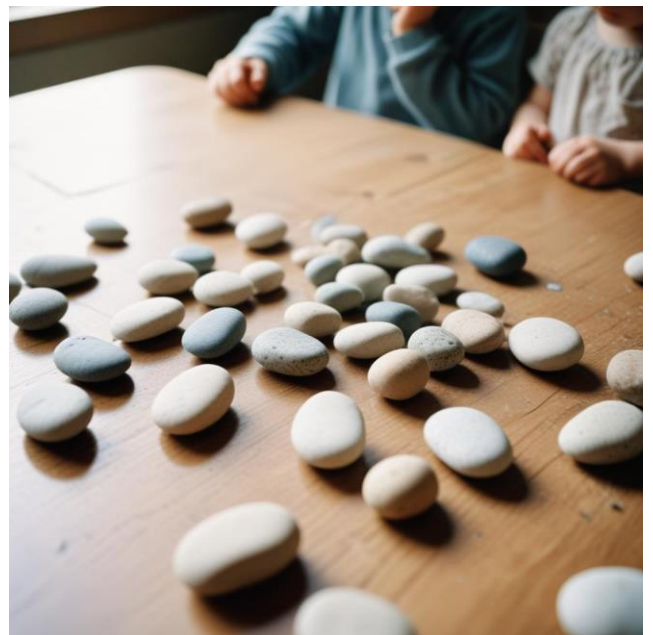
Markers or paint (optional)

Preparation:

Gather small stones or pebbles and place them in a container.

Prepare additional containers or trays for sorting.

(Optional) Mark or paint numbers 1 to 12 on some of the stones to emphasize counting.



Steps:

For Toddlers:

Introduce the concept of sorting by size, colour, or texture. Encourage your child to sort the stones into the different containers or trays.

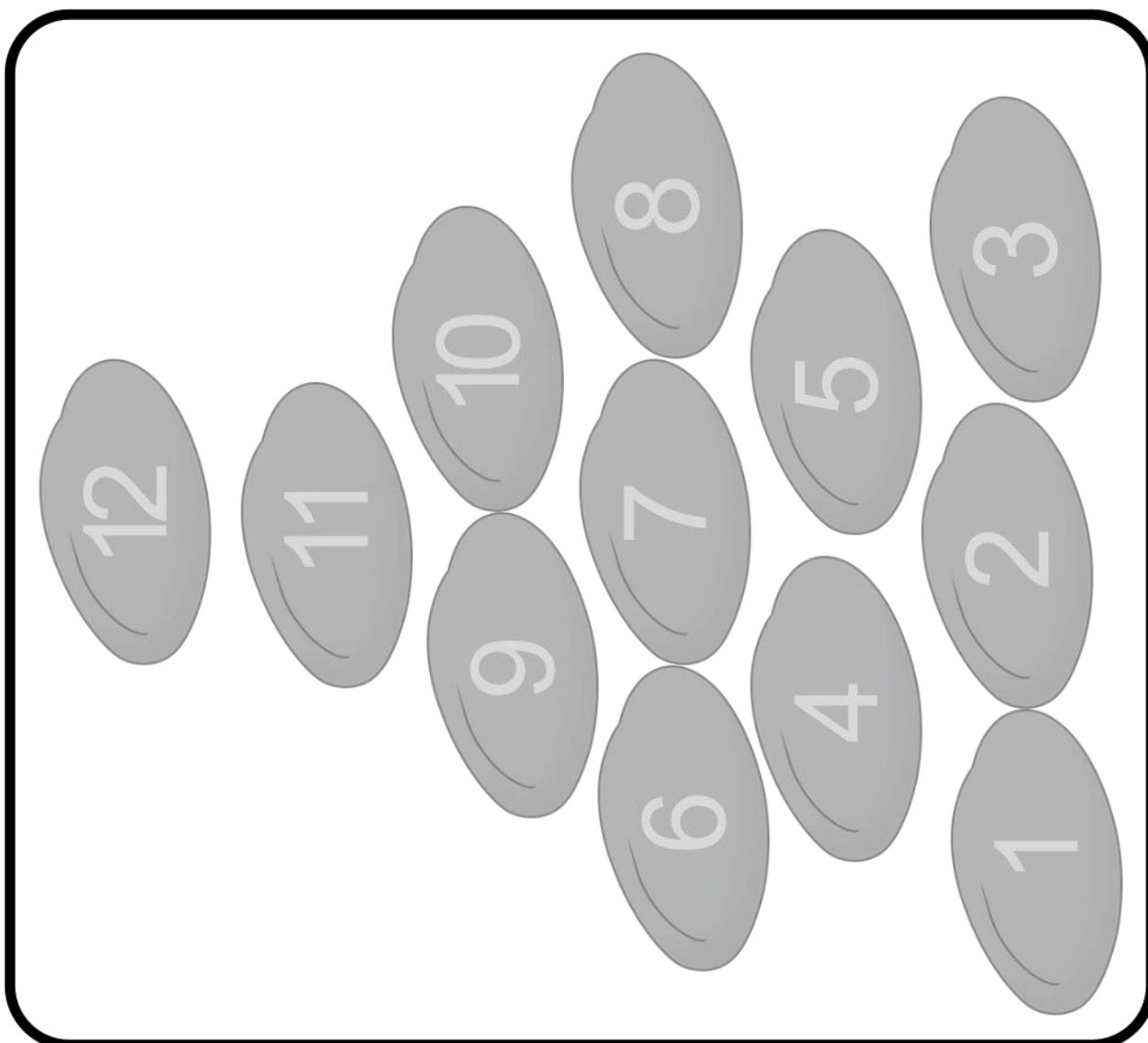
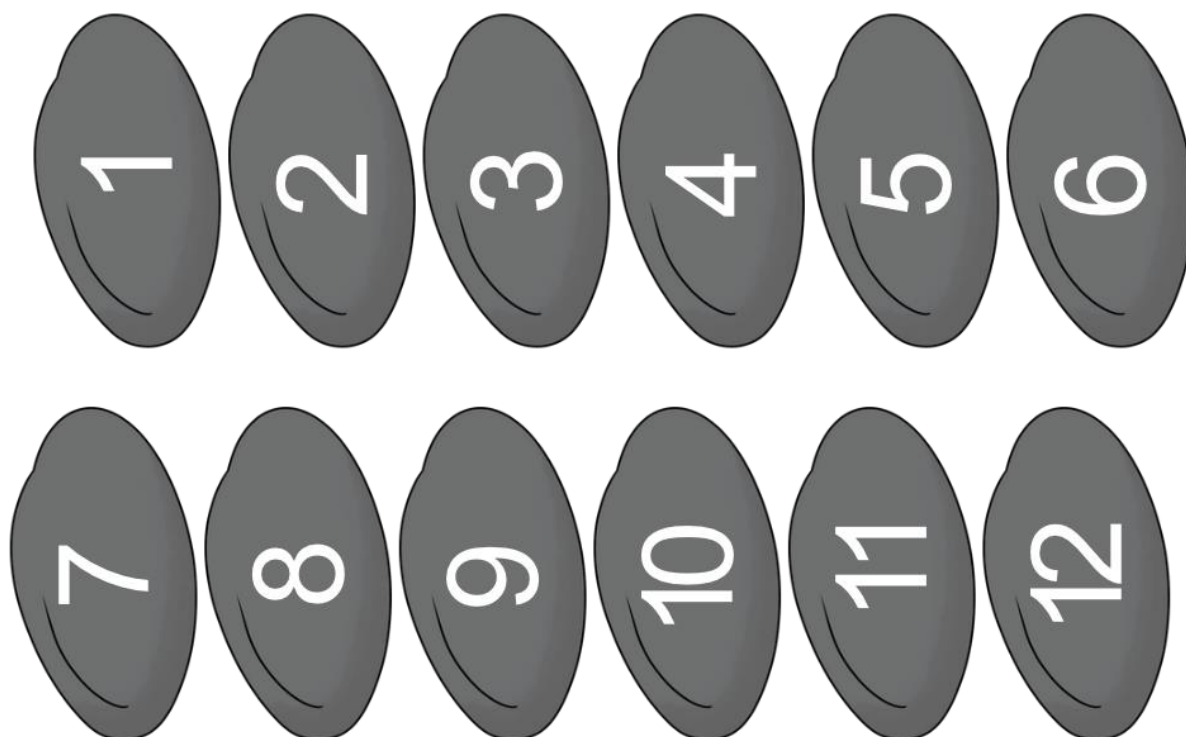
Once sorted, help your child count out 12 stones. Explain that the Israelites used 12 stones to represent the 12 tribes of Israel.

(Optional) If you have numbered stones, help your child arrange them in order from 1 to 12, reinforcing counting skills.

As your child sorts and counts, tell the story of how the Israelites built the memorial to remember God's help in crossing the river.

Emphasize the importance of remembering God's guidance and blessings.

Cut and Glue



Building the Memorial

In this activity, children will create their own memorial stones using playdough or air-dry clay

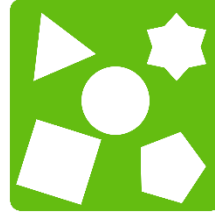
Skills learned:



Creativity



Numbers



Shapes

Materials needed:

Play-dough or air-dry clay

Small mat or tray.

Preparation:

Set up a clean, flat surface with a mat or tray for working with the playdough or air-dry clay.

(Optional) Have a picture book or illustrated Bible story on hand to reinforce the lesson.



Steps:

For Babies and Toddlers:

Give your child a piece of playdough or air-dry clay.

Show them how to roll the playdough or clay into small, round stones.

Encourage them to make 12 stones, counting each one as they go to reinforce counting skills.

Once they have made 12 stones, explain that they will now build a memorial by stacking the stones on top of each other.

Help your child arrange the stones in a small tower, stacking them carefully to form a stable memorial.

Footprint Pathway

This activity helps children understand the journey of the Israelites through a fun, physical activity.

Skills learned:



**Sensory
development**



Gross Motor skills



Imagination

Materials needed:

Blue paper or fabric

Yellow or brown paint (washable)

Large paper

Preparation:

Lay out a long piece of blue paper or fabric to represent the river.

Set up a station with washable paint and large paper for footprints.



Steps:

For Babies and Toddlers:

Explain to your child that they will be making footprints to represent the Israelites crossing the river.

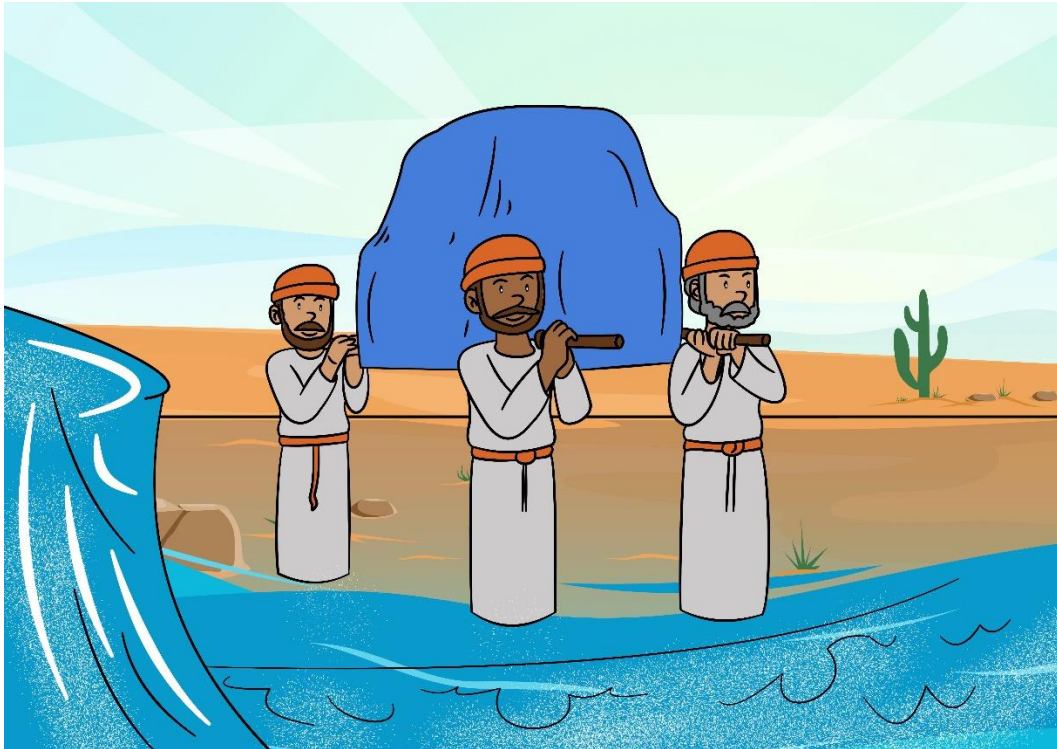
Help them step into the paint and make footprints on the large paper.

Remind them how God created dry land where the priests stepped carrying the Ark.

Lay the footprint paper on top of the blue fabric, creating a path.

Encourage them to walk along their footprint path, talking about how God guided the Israelites.

Songs



Recommended worship songs. Not produced by Trueway Kids. YouTube Videos to be used for personal use only.

'I Am a Disciple': March with Jesus

<https://youtu.be/r-rmbwDqFWk>