

# JESUS GOES WITH US



## Connect

Prepare: any item you can hide

We will play a modified game of Hide-n-Seek. Dad or Mom will hide the item and the kids will look for it.

Once the kids start looking for the item, Mom or Dad can give out some "clues". The twist is the "clues" may or may not help the kids find the item. In fact, the clues may even lead them further away from the item's location. Kids will eventually have to figure out if the "clues" are helping them or not. Play as many rounds as you want.

Did the "clues" help you? Or did they confuse you?

The clues were meant to guide you to the item although in our game, it did add to the confusion.

The truth is, it is always better to have someone guiding you. In real life, we can have that Someone.

## Read the Word

We have been reading about Jesus' presence in the Old Testament. In this story, Jesus was not just present before a selected few but to the entire Israelite nation.

Let's read Exodus 13:20-22

*20 The people of Israel left Succoth and camped at Etham. Etham was on the edge of the desert. 21 The Lord showed them the way. During the day he went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud. And during the night the Lord was in a pillar of fire to give them light. They could travel during the day or night. 22 The pillar of cloud was always with them during the day. And the pillar of fire was always with them at night.*

The Israelites have come out of Egypt and are now on their way to the land God promised them. But travelling through the desert was not easy. They were subject to all kinds of peril - extreme heat, desert storm, attacks from other people. God, however, did not just leave them on their own. Jesus was with them all the way, in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night, going ahead of them as they journey through the vast desert. How comforting is this - to see with our own eyes Jesus literally guiding you!

Today, we may not see something as tangible as the pillar of cloud or fire but we can still rely on God's guidance. We have the Holy Spirit with us. How do we know? In John 14:16-17, Jesus promised us the Holy Spirit and not only will He be with us but He will be in us, helping us fight our daily battles. We also have God's Word, the Bible. When we read and spend time studying it, God will reveal His truth to us.



**Parent to Kid/s:**  
**2-6 years old**

- Would you like Jesus to be with you everyday? How do you think He can be with you?

**7-12 years old**

- Do you believe the Holy Spirit is with you? How do you know?
- Do you have time everyday to read the Bible and spend with God?

**Kid/s to Parent:**

- How have you experienced the presence of God with us?

It is so reassuring to know that God goes with us. His presence is with us to guide us and help us through our lives. Let us always look to Him and seek Him, especially through our difficult times.



Dear God, thank you for giving us the Bible to guide us everyday. Please help us to remember that you are always with us through the Holy Spirit because You love us and want to help us. In Jesus' name, Amen!



Question: How long was the pillar of cloud and fire with the Israelites during their travels in the desert?

The Israelites sojourned in the desert for 40 years. And ever since they left Egypt, Jesus was with them through the pillar of cloud and fire.

Exodus 40:38 For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

Nehemiah 9:18-19 Even when they had made for themselves a golden calf and said, 'This is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,' and had committed great blasphemies, you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud to lead them in the way did not depart from them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to light for them the way by which they should go.

For 40 long years, Jesus never left them . Even when they sinned and complained and did not trust God, the pillar of cloud and fire never left them. How wonderful is that! That love exists even up to today. God's love for us is not dependent on how good we are. He just loves us so!

Will you follow and obey Him?

Source: <https://www.thebridgeonline.net/sermons/christ-the-pillar-of-cloud-and-fire/>