



WEEK
TWO
OCTOBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRE-K
STARTER

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

God always hears me.

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL
GENESIS 21:14-20

MEMORY VERSE

"God is with you
wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who is always with you?

BOTTOM LINE

God is always with me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Fill with Water

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Always with Me"

Bible Story

Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Name in the Sand

Repeat After Me

Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)

Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



FILL WITH WATER

WHAT YOU NEED: Construction paper in a variety of colors, including blue; plastic bin; empty, clear, plastic bottle; and painter's tape; *Optional: Chair*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tear the construction paper into approximately 2" pieces and mix in the bin. Place the bin on the floor or a chair on one side of the room. Place a line of tape on the floor across the room from the bin of paper. Place the empty bottle in the middle of the tape line.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to run to the bin of paper, find a blue piece of paper, and run to put the blue paper in the bottle. Continue until all the "water" has been found and put in the bottle.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come stand on the tape line, and play a game with me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to play a game where we fill this bottle with water, but the water is blue paper that we'll find in that bin over there. When I call your name, I want you to run to the bin, pick one piece of blue paper, run back, and put it in the bottle. Ready? [Child's name(s)], run to the bin, find one blue paper, and bring it to the bottle. [Child's name(s)], run to the bin! (*Continue until the bottle is full or all the blue paper is pulled.*) Wow, friends! Great job filling the bottle with water!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a woman and her son who were tired, hot, and thirsty, and God helped them find water to drink."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to drink a glass of water.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft



NAME IN THE SAND

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Name in the Sand" Activity Page, cardstock, broad-tipped marker, craft glue, paper bowls, play sand, spoons, baby wipes, and a plastic tablecloth

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Name in the Sand" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper in big block letters. Cover the table with the tablecloth. Pour sand into several bowls, and place the bowls on the table with the spoons.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to sit down at the table, and give each child the Activity Page with their name on it. Encourage each child to trace the letters of their name with the craft glue. Ask children to scoop some sand with a spoon and sprinkle it over their glue letters. Shake off excess sand, and set aside to dry.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table!" (Give each child the Activity Page with their name on it.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you see on the page in front of you? (Pause.) The letters on your paper spell your name! I want you to use the glue to trace your name. Here, I'll show you how. (Demonstrate.) Remember, a little glue goes a long way! But make sure you cover every letter with glue. (Pause.) Nice job! Now for the really fun part! Take some sand in a spoon and sprinkle it over the glue. (Pause.) Your names are beautiful! (Shake off excess sand.) Great job. We'll put these over here to dry." (Clean hands as needed.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, in our Bible Story today, we learned about a woman named Hagar and her son, Ishmael. They were in a really hot and dry desert. They didn't have water to drink and were really tired, hot, and thirsty. Hagar and her son began to cry, and God heard them! God sent an angel to help Hagar see a well of water. She filled a bottle with water and gave Ishmael a drink, and he wasn't thirsty anymore! God heard Hagar and Ishmael because God was always with them. God hears you because God is always with you too! **Who is always with you? God is always with me!**"

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



REPEAT AFTER ME

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to sit in a circle with you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to repeat the clapping pattern you make.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come sit in a circle with me. We're going to play a game where you listen and repeat the pattern I give you."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Are you ready to play? Listen closely! (*Clap three times.*) Your turn. (*Pause.*) Good job! (*Clap once.*) Your turn. (*Continue with different claps from one to five. Change the pace as desired.*) You listened and followed the patterns so well!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, Hagar and Ishmael were walking in the desert. They were really tired, hot, and thirsty. They cried and God heard them. God sent an angel to help Hagar see a well of water for her and Ishmael to get a drink from. God heard Hagar and Ishmael because God was always with them. God hears you because God is always with me too! **Who is always with you? God is always with me!**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

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WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Joshua 1:9. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Lead the children to pretend they are walking through a hot desert while you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story, the Memory Verse, and the hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of different sounds they hear.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we're walking through a hot, sandy desert. Do what I do and follow me to our Small Group spot. *(Walk slowly and wave your hand to cool your face as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)* Whew! We made it through the hot desert! Now we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: *(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)* "In our Bible Story today, Hagar and Ishmael were walking through a hot desert. Do you remember why they began to cry? *(Pause.)* You're right! Hagar and Ishmael cried because they ran out of water to drink. But Someone was always with them and heard them cry. Who was always with Hagar and Ishmael and heard them cry? *(Pause.)* Yes! God was always with them, and God heard them! God is always with you too. That's why when I ask you, '**Who is always with you?**' I want everyone to say, '**God is always with me.**' Let me hear you say it! **Who is always with you? God is always with me.**



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"I want us to remember that God is always with us, so the Bible verse we are learning says: 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) is with you (*bring two fists together*) wherever you go,' (*march in place*) Joshua 1:9. (*Open hands like a book.*) I love this Bible verse! Let's stand up and say it together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) is with you (*bring two fists together*) wherever you go,' (*march in place*) Joshua 1:9. (*Open hands like a book.*) Yay! (*Clap.*) 'God is with you wherever you go' (*Joshua 1:9, NLT*). Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

"Today, we're going to make a list of sounds we hear. It can be something you hear right now or something you've heard before—like when you were playing outside or inside your house. It can be anything! When I say your name, tell me one sound you can hear, and I will write it by your name." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You have heard a lot of cool sounds! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's pray and thank God that God hears us! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for this big, beautiful world You made. It's filled with so many sounds like (*read the list the children made*). It's amazing to think that no matter where we go in this world or how many sounds there are, You are always with us and You always hear us. You're the best, God, and we love You! In Jesus' name. Amen."



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer the following activity as preschoolers arrive. Let one Small Group Leader lead the activity while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

FILL WITH WATER

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Construction paper in a variety of colors, including blue
- Plastic bin
- Empty, clear, plastic bottle
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tear the construction paper into approximately two-inch pieces and mix in the bin.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

NAME IN THE SAND

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Name in the Sand" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Broad-tipped marker
- Craft glue
- Paper bowls
- Play sand
- Spoons
- Baby wipes
- Plastic tablecloth

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Name in the Sand" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper in big block letters.
- Cover the table with the tablecloth.
- Pour play sand into several bowls, and place the bowls on the table with the spoons.

REPEAT AFTER ME

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at bit.ly/3B4Z71j.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh.)

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Joshua 1:9. *Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.*

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

- Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_LetsFly