

WEEK SMALL GROUP TWO PRE-K MAY 2024 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

I can pray to God.

HANNAH 1 SAMUEL 1-2

MEMORY VERSE

"I will always love you."

JEREMIAH 31:3, CEV

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

God loves 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

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Heart Hopscotch

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways "You Are with Me" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. Praying Hands When to Pray Charades Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home Memory Verse Card Parent Cue Card (print or email) Parent Cue App



SMALL GROUP **PRE-K** STARTER

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME
PROVIDI	NG TIME FOR FUN INT 15 MINUTES	ERACTION			

MADE TO MOVE

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



HEART HOPSCOTCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape, heart cutouts, a marker, and a heart-shaped beanbag

WFFK

MAY 2024

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape a hopscotch course on the floor with painter's tape. Number the hearts 1 through 10 the space on the hopscotch course.

and tape them to the spots on the hopscotch course.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to toss the beanbag and play hopscotch. Give each child a turn. Repeat as many times as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Join me over here. I have a hopscotch course set up for us to play today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We have lots of hearts in our hopscotch course. The numbers are written on hearts, and our beanbag is shaped like a heart! Hearts make me think of love. [Child's name], give the beanbag a toss. (*Pause.*) Wow! You landed on [number]. Hop on the squares until you get to the beanbag; then hop over that space. (*Pause.*) Hop all the way to the end. (*Pause.*) Now hop back and pick up the beanbag on your way. (*Pause.*) Super job! (*Continue with each child.*) That was awesome!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we are going to hear a story about how we can pray and talk to God anytime because God loves us!

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by repeating "God loves you" and asking children to hop to each word. Repeat as desired to your designated area.

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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 to take home



PRAYING HANDS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: "Praying Hands" Activity Page, cardstock, washable markers, dot markers, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Praying Hands" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

BIBLE STORY

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DURING THE ACTIVITY: Position child's hands side by side on their Activity Page, one at a time, so it looks like their hands are holding the heart printed on the Activity Page. Lay left hand on the left side, palm up, and trace without drawing through the heart. Repeat with the right hand on the right side of the paper. Encourage children to decorate their heart and hands. Clean hands as needed.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today we learned that we can pray and talk to God anytime—when we feel happy, or sad, worried, or excited. We can pray anytime, anywhere."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to place your hands on the paper one at a time and trace around them, so it looks like you are holding the heart. (*Trace each child's hands.*) Now you can use the markers to decorate your heart and hands on the paper. (*Pause.*) Look at all of your sweet praying hands!" (*Clean hands as needed.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, Hannah prayed and talked to God when she was sad. She knew she could pray and talk to God anytime about anything because she knew God loved her. And that made her feel better. You can pray and talk to God when you feel happy or sad or frustrated. When you feel excited or worried or nervous or afraid, you can talk to God! You can pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything because God loves you! Who loves you? God loves me."



SMALL GROUP **PRE-K** STARTER

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME
			CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES		

MADE TO PLAY

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



WHEN TO PRAY CHARADES

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: "When to Pray Charades" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "When to Pray Charades" on cardstock and cut one set per Small Group.

BIBLE STORY

I can pray to God.

HANNAH 1 SAMUEL 1-2

MEMORY VERSE

"I will always love you."

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KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children one at a time to select a card and act it out. Continue until each child has a turn. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit with me in a circle. I have a fun game for us to play today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We learned in our Bible Story that we can pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere. These cards have different pictures showing when we can pray and talk to God. When I call your name, come take a card and then act it out for your friends to guess. Ready to play? Let's go! [Child's name], come take a card. Don't tell us what's on your card; just act it out. (*Help with the actions as needed*.) Does anyone have a guess what [child's name] acted out? (*Pause*.) Great job! Yes! You can pray and talk to God [time to pray]! Next up, [child's name], take a card and act it out. (*Continue with each child; reuse the cards if needed*.) Great job, everyone!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You can pray and talk to God when you feel happy or sad or frustrated. When you feel excited or worried or nervous or afraid, you can talk to God! You can pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything because God loves you! **Who loves you? God loves me.**"



SMALL GROUP **PRE-K** STARTER

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

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 Jeremiah 31:3. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to make a happy face or a sad face as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions; then encourage the children to tell you anything they want to pray to God about and write it in the journal because we can talk to God about anything.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using what they told you to write in the journal.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we are going to make happy and sad faces while we walk to our Small Group spot. You get to choose! Show me either a happy face or a sad face. (*Look around.*) Okay, happy and sad faces, follow me! (*Make a sad or happy face as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) We made it! Now everyone can make a happy face while we 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, Hannah prayed to God about feeling sad. Hannah's face wasn't sad anymore after she prayed to God. We can pray to God about anything, just like Hannah did. We can pray to God when we feel happy. We can pray to God when we feel sad. We can pray to God when we feel afraid. We can pray to God about anything because God loves us. God loves you, and **God loves me! Who loves you? God loves me!**

"He sure does! And in the Bible, God says He will always love you. Let's stand up and say the Bible verse we are learning together. Just say what I say and do what I do. God says, 'I (*point up*) will always (*draw circles with finger pointing up*) love you.' (*cross arms over chest*) Jeremiah 31:3. (*Open hands like a book*.) Yay! (*Clap.*) God will always love us! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and pray to God. (*Open journal*.) Today, we are going to write anything we want in our journal, because we can pray to God about anything. When I say your name, tell me what you want to pray to God, and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

BIBLE STORY

I can pray to God.

HANNAH 1 SAMUEL 1-2

MEMORY VERSE

"I will always love you."

JEREMIAH 31:3, CEV

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

God loves me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Thank you for doing that with me. Let's use what we wrote in our journal when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You that we can pray to You anytime, anywhere, about anything. Today, [child's name] wants to pray about (*read what they wrote*). [Child's name] wants to pray about (*read what they wrote*). (*Continue with each child.*) You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."



GETTING READY

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

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age-appropriate and handson fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible Story.

Prepare to offer the following activity as your preschoolers arrive. Let one teacher lead the activity while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.

HEART HOPSCOTCH

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

- Painter's tape
- 10 heart cutouts
- Marker
- Heart-shaped beanbag

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a hopscotch course on the floor with painter's tape.
- Number the hearts 1 through 10 and tape them to the spots on the hopscotch course.

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

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was 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 as many of 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 children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

PRAYING HANDS [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 ©2024 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

creating a craft WHAT YOU NEED:

- WHAI YOU NEED:
- "Praying Hands" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Washable markers
- Dot markers
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Praying Hands" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.

WHEN TO PRAY CHARADES [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:

- "When to Pray Charades" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

• Copy "When to Pray Charades" on cardstock and cut one set per Small Group.

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 <u>bit.ly/3B4Z71j</u>.)
- 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 Jeremiah 31:3. Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.



GETTING READY

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

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. <u>bit.ly/FL_LittleRedWagon</u>