

3-5's | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2026, Week 2

Bible Story: Hagar and Ishmael • Genesis 21:14-20

God always hears me.

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Memory Verse: "God is with you wherever you go." • Joshua 1:9 NLT

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

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.

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

- What Do You Hear?
- Desert Dig
- Grocery Store

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

- Wherever You Go Train
- Water in the Desert
- What's That Sound?
- God Hears Everything
- Desert Sand Painting
- Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- Parent Cue App
- Story (10 minutes)

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.



Bible Story

Hagar and Ishmael • Genesis 21:14-20

Key Question

Who is always with you?

Bottom Line

God is always with me.

Memory Verse

"God is with you wherever you go." • Joshua 1:9 NLT

10 min

Worship

5 min

Worship Opener

What You Need

 Worship Leader(s)

1

Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

What You Say:

WORSHIP

LEADER: "Hi, friends! My name is [your name]. I am SO happy to see you today! On today's adventure, we're learning that God can always hear us, no matter where we are! Let's warm up our voices and get started. Are you ready?" (*Listen.*)

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Yes!"

LEADER: "Start like this! Nod your head yes!"

(*Nod your head up and down.*)

"Good job! Now, nod your head no!"

(*Nod your head left and right.*)

"That's right. Let's sing this out, 'La, la, la, la, la, la, la.'"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "La, la, la, la, la, la, la"

LEADER: "Great work! "Let's try a quiet, tiny voice. Say 'Good morning!'"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Good morning!" (*whisper*)

LEADER: "Now a loud, big voice: 'GOOD MORNING!'"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "GOOD MORNING!" (*loud voice*)

LEADER: "Great job, everyone! Our voices are all warmed up and we're ready to go. What better way to use our voice than to worship God together! Get up on your feet!"

WORSHIP

What You Say:

AMAZING MUSIC

WORSHIP LEADER: "Let's serve the Lord and sing this song out together!"

SONG: "As for Me" Yancy Preschool Video or Instrumental is available on APlay with Amazing Music.

5 min

OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Great singing, friends! Now it's time for our memory verse! These are God's words from the Bible. *(Open hands like a book.)* Are you ready? Watch me say the words from the Bible and do the motions, and then you can do them with me!

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

'God *(point up)* is with you *(point to self)* wherever you go" *(march in place)*. Joshua 1:9 *(open hands like a book)*.

"Can you do that with me?

(Lead children to say the Memory Verse with Hand Motions once or twice.)

"Great job, friends! God is with us everywhere we go! Let's continue to worship together!

SONG: "Come and Go with Me" Preschool Video is available on APlay with Amazing Music.

"Great singing! God was with Daniel and helped him be brave! God loves you and is always with you too! Thanks for celebrating God with me!"

(To extend your worship time, we have provided additional songs by Yancy: "Coat of Many Colors," "I Will Pray," and "As for Me.")

25 min

Bible Story Section (Stage)

5 min

Intro Sketch

What You Need

No supplies needed

Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

What You Say:

INTRO SKETCH

(Host enters slowly, fanning self with hand, looking overheated. Wipes forehead and looks around as if searching for shade and water.)

HOST: "Whew... hi friends. It is REALLY hot today! I really feel like I need some water! I'm [your name], and welcome to [your environment's name or story time]!"

(Host continues fanning self.)

"Today, when I walked outside, I immediately thought... 'I need some water!' It feels like the sun is everywhere and I'm standing in the desert!"

(Pause, looks around imaginary space.)

"Have you ever been playing outside on a super-hot day and it makes you super thirsty for some water." *(Listen.)*

"That feeling can make everything seem a little harder, right? Well, today I want to tell you about a true Bible story about a woman named Hagar and her son Ishmael."

"But before we get there, let's imagine something together. Let's pretend we are in a hot, dry desert."

(Pause, concerned expression.)

"And in that place ... there's a big problem. There's no water! That sounds scary, right?"

(Host softens tone.)

"Hagar and Ishmael were in a situation just like that. They were tired, thirsty, and didn't know what to do next. But here's the amazing part ..."

(shift to hopeful tone)

"God heard them. Even in the middle of the desert. Even when they felt like they were all alone, God provided water for them in a way they didn't expect."

(Smile, reassuring)

"If you're ready to hear how God helped Hagar and Ishmael in the desert, say: 'Tell me a story!'"

CHILDREN and HOST: "Tell me a story!"

HOST: "I didn't hear you!"

CHILDREN and HOST: "Tell me a story!"

HOST: "That sounds like you're ready! I'll see you in a bit!"

(Host exits slowly, still fanning self.)

Preschool

First Look

September - Week 2

5 min

Wonder Bible Story (Video)

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

Bible Story (live)

What You Need

	Bible	1
	Kiddie pool/ large bucket (painted brown)	1
	2 smaller buckets filled with water	2
	1 reusable water bottle	1
	Optional: Cardstock	Several

What You Say:

BIBLE STORY

*Things to have ready: Set up storytelling area with an empty kiddie pool or large bucket painted brown like a well. You'll also need two smaller buckets of water off stage, a Bible, and an empty cup/reusable water bottle *Note: Buckets of water should be light enough for a person to carry.)*

Note: Never leave a tub or bucket of water unattended. When Large Group is over, discard the water immediately.

(Storyteller enters. Storyteller carries a Bible and an empty cup/reusable water bottle.)

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

(Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.)

"Have you ever heard of the desert? *(Listen.)* Do you think the desert is very hot or very cold? *(pause for answer)*. That's right, the desert is hot, and there isn't very much water! Today's story takes place in the desert."

"So, it's time to turn around *(spin around)* ... sit down *(sit down)* ... shake the wiggles out *(wiggle hands)* ... so we can hear *(cup hands behind ears)* what the story's all about!

SLIDE: Story Image W2 01 (Hagar and Ishmael in the desert)

"Today's true story from the Bible comes from the book of Genesis, and it begins with a woman named Hagar and her son Ishmael."

"This is God's Word *(point up)*, and it's true *(two thumbs up)* and powerful *(flex muscles)*! Hagar and Ishmael were out in the desert. The desert was not like a park or a playground. It was hot during the day, chilly at night, and there was no food or water nearby."

"Do you think Hagar and Ishmael were hot, thirsty, and tired?" *(pause)*

"Yes! That's exactly how Hagar and Ishmael felt. They were hot, thirsty, tired, and getting scared."

"Can you show me your scared face?" *(pause)*

"They didn't know where to go or what to do next."

SLIDE: Story Image W2 02 (Hagar cries out to God)

"As the water in the desert began to run out *(hold empty cup/reusable water bottle upside down to show it's empty)*, Ishmael became weak.

Hagar didn't want to see her son suffer. She felt so sad. She did the only thing she knew to do! She cried out to God!"

"She said, 'God, please help us!'"

"And something amazing happened ... God heard her voice."

"Even when no one else was around, even in the middle of the desert, God heard her. God always hears us when we pray to Him."

SLIDE: Story Image W2 03 (Angel visiting Hagar and Ishmael in the desert)

"Hagar sat down, not knowing what would happen next. But God had already made a way."

(Volunteers enter with two buckets of water, slowly pouring them into the kiddie pool/ large bucket.)

"God sent an angel to open her eyes, and suddenly, she saw something she hadn't seen before! There was a well of water nearby!"

"Right there in the desert ... water! God didn't move Hagar out of the desert. Instead, He provided exactly what she needed in the middle of it."

SLIDE: Story Image W2 04 (Hagar and Ishmael by the well of water)

"Hagar ran to the well and filled the container with water." *(Storyteller goes to well and fills cup/reusable water bottle.)*

"She gave water to Ishmael, and he was refreshed and strengthened."

"God took care of them in a place where it seemed impossible. Hagar realized something important: God heard her when she cried out to Him! Even when things feel scary, God is always with us!"

"Just like He heard Hagar, God hears us when we pray, and just like He provided water in the desert, God can provide what we need too! God is always with us! **[Bottom Line] God is always with me. Who is always with you?"**

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: [Bottom Line] "God is always with me!"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, [Bottom Line] God is always with me!"

(Pick up and close Bible.)

STORYTELLER: "Before we are done with story time together, let's say our monthly memory verse together one more time!"

'God (point up) is with you (point to self) wherever you go' (march in place). Joshua 1:9 (open hands like a book).

5 min

Prayer

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Say:

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Our story time is over, but we're not through. Let's take our hands (*open like a book*) and fold them together (*prayer hands*) and talk to God because God loves you!

"Dear God, thank You that You always hear us. When we are happy, sad, scared, or alone, You hear us and You care for us. Thank You for loving us and helping us like You helped Hagar and Ishmael. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Note: Never leave a tub or bucket of water unattended. Discard the water as soon as possible.

5 min

Outro Sketch

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Say:

OUTRO SKETCH

(Host enters.)

HOST: "Wow! Hagar and her son Ishmael were alone in a hot desert with no water, and they were very scared. Do you remember what happened next?" (Pause.)

"Yes! Hagar cried out, and God heard her. He showed them where to find water and took care of them."

"This story reminds us that God always hears us, no matter where we are. And just like God was there in the desert with Hagar and Ishmael, He is always with you, too, and **[Bottom Line] God is always with me. Who is always with you?"**

CHILDREN and HOST: **[Bottom Line] "God is always with me!"**

HOST: "Yes, **[Bottom Line] God is always with me!"**

"I think I *(point to self)* got the story. Did you *(point to children)* get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" *(Cup one hand behind ear.)*

CHILDREN and HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: *(Give two thumbs-up.)* "Good!"

Getting Ready | 3-5's Stage Large Group

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship, the Intro Sketch, and the Bible Story. The Stage Script is written for those who gather their preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible Story. If you are pulling your children to a rug on one side of your preschool space, you may benefit from using the Rug Script.

APlay

APlay is your all-in-one presentation, preparation, and curriculum ecosystem that saves you time and money. APlay is free with your curriculum subscription! APlay offers powerful tools that build media playlists, compile curriculum documents, auto-update supply lists by child count, cast media to screens, and so much more.

Built to work in harmony with your curriculum, APlay Service Builder allows leaders to drop in, toggle on and off, or customize teaching plans, worship elements, and media assets in seconds. For even more value, upgrade to Amazing+ to unlock the parent app, Parent+.

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (10 minutes)

A leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (10 minutes)

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advance preparation is necessary.

1. Worship

What You Need:

- Worship Leader(s)

Music and Sound Effects:

- "As for Me"—Yancy Preschool Video or Instrumental—available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "Come and Go with Me" available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "Dare To Be A Daniel" available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "Coat of Many Colors"—Yancy Preschool Video or Instrumental—available on APlay with Amazing Music
- "I Will Pray"—Yancy Preschool Video or Instrumental—available on APlay with Amazing Music

- "The B-I-B-L-E"—Yancy Preschool Video or Instrumental—available on APlay with Amazing Music

What You Do:

- Prepare all songs and have them ready to use.
- Check out the Ministry Leader Guide for more information.

2. Intro/Outro**What You Need:**

- No supplies needed

What You Do:

- No preparation needed

3. Bible Story**What You Need:**

- Bible
- Kiddie pool/ large bucket (painted brown)
- 2 smaller buckets filled with water
- 1 reusable water bottle
- *Optional: Cardstock*

Large Group Visuals:

- Story Image W2 01
- Story Image W2 02
- Story Image W2 03
- Story Image W2 04

Optional Video: (available in APlay)

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

- **WONDER! LOOK AT GOD'S STORY:** First Look offers weekly videos to engage preschoolers with the Bible Story. Join our Bible storytellers, Treehouse friends, and, of course, Ollie the Owl to discover the wonder in God's story.

Additional environment enhancement including:

- Countdown video

What You Do:

- Download the Large Group Visuals to display on a device or screen or copy on cardstock.

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

bit.ly/FL_EverywhereIGo

Supplies

Worship Opener

1. Worship Leader(s)

Quantity

1

Bible Story (live)

Quantity

1. Bible

1
2. Kiddie pool/ large bucket (painted brown)

1
3. 2 smaller buckets filled with water

2
4. 1 reusable water bottle

1
5. Optional: Cardstock

Several