



WEEK ONE – MAY 2024 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *King Josiah | 2 Chronicles 34*

Key Question: *Who loves you?*

Bottom Line: *God loves me*

Memory Verse: *“I will always love you.” Jeremiah 31:3 CEV*

Basic Truth: *God loves me*

Series Overview: This month is all about introducing preschoolers to God—the One who loves them with a love that lasts forever. When it comes to preschoolers and what they know about God, there are a few faith skills we want to make sure they have in their little red wagon. We want every child to know that they can hear from God, pray to God, talk about God to others, and live for God. We hope they will pull these faith skills around, wherever they go, for the rest of their lives. Then they can go with confidence because they have the faith skills needed for whatever comes their way.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Move: an activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Toy Crown

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Encourage children to spread out in an open area of the room. Wear the crown and explain that you will play a game of “King Says!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Call out different movements for the children to follow, but remind them to **ONLY** follow if you start with “King Says.” If you call out a movement and do not say “King Says,” remind the children to keep going. Do not call for anyone to be out, just continue to remind them of the rules of the game.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Introduce King Josiah, the very young king from today’s Bible Story.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come gather here with me! Let’s spread out so we have room to move. (*Put on the crown.*) What am I wearing? (*Pause.*) A crown! Who wears a crown? (*Pause.*) Yes, kings wear crowns. Let’s play, ‘King Says!’ I’ll be the king.”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “In this game, it’s important to listen carefully. I’ll call out a movement for you to follow. But only follow if you hear me say, ‘King Says’ first. Ready? King says, pat your head. (*Pause.*) Great job! King says, blink your eyes. (*Pause.*) Fantastic! Touch your elbow. (*Pause.*) I didn’t say King says . . . Let’s keep going!

(Continue with different movements, such as clapping your hands, touching your toes, shouting ‘hooray,’ saying your name, stomping your feet, etc.) You all are such great listeners! Thanks for playing ‘King Says’ with me.”

- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
 - “In our Bible Story today, we’ll hear about a king named Josiah who was a very young king. Come with me and let’s hear more about King Josiah.”
- **TRANSITION**
 - Move to Worship and Story by continuing to play “King Says” as you wear the crown.

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:15 – 11:45 – LARGE GROUP

Story Focus: I can hear from God. When King Josiah’s workers find scrolls with God’s words on them, he quickly reads the scrolls to hear from God. We want preschoolers to know they can hear from God too. Every time they listen to or read a Bible story, they can hear from God like King Josiah did. The Bible is full of stories and words from God about who God is, how we should live and how much God loves us. The Bible is like a big I LOVE YOU from God!

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP

Memory Verse With Motions

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]

Move: an activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Say the memory verse and teach the motions to the children
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you
 - Repeat several times
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Review the Bottom Line

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, join me over here. The Bible teaches us that 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.*) Wow! God loves us! Let’s learn our new Memory Verse and motions! Everyone, listen and watch me. ‘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.*)
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Now let’s do it together! Are you ready? ‘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.*) Nice job. Let’s do it again.” (*Repeat several times.*)
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Our Memory Verse teaches us that God will always love us. We can hear more about God and His love for us in the Bible, because the Bible is like a big ‘I LOVE YOU’ from God! **Who loves you?** [*Bottom Line*] **God loves me.** Let’s say that one more time, friends. **Who loves you?** [*Bottom Line*] **God loves me.**”

Journal + Prayer

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding + application

What You Need: “Memory Verse Card” Activity Page; Bible; journal

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Copy “Memory Verse Card” on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Jeremiah 31:3. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Encourage the children to listen for you to clap and take one step every time you clap 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 help you make a list of people you can hear from.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “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, King Josiah’s workers found a scroll with God’s words on it. King Josiah knew that when we read God’s words, we can hear from God, so he read God’s words and did what they said. We can hear from God when we read the Bible, because the Bible has God’s words in it. God wants us to hear Him because God loves us. So when you hear me ask, **Who loves you?** I want you to say, [Bottom Line] **God loves me! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!** Yay! [Bottom Line] **God loves me!** “We have a new Bible verse that will help us remember that God loves us! In this verse, 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.) Did you hear that? God will ALWAYS love us! Stand up with me and let’s say God’s words together! Just say what I say and do what I do. ‘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.) I love saying God’s words together! 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 people we can hear from, like a teacher, friend, or grandparent. When I say your name, tell me the name of one person you can hear from, and I will write it in our journal.” (Remember to print as you write in the journal, so children can recognize their names and the letters.)

- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**

- *“Now that we have our list, let’s use it 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 for loving (name each child). Thank You that we can hear from people like (read the list). Help us remember that we can hear from You too, God. Your words are waiting for us in the Bible! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”*