



WEEK TWO – MAY 2024 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *Hannah | 1 Samuel 1-2*

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: Heart Cutouts; Construction Paper; Painter’s Tape; Heart Stamp

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Hide hearts around the room, taping some to walls or furniture and tucking others next to toys. Cover hearts taped to walls and furniture with a piece of construction paper, and tape the construction paper only at the top to create a flap.
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Encourage children to look around the room for a heart. Every time a child finds a heart, give them a heart stamp on their hand. Repeat as desired.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, I have a fun game for us to play today!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “There are hearts hidden all around the room. I want you to go look for them and when you find one, come find me for a special stamp. Ready to find the hearts? Let’s go! (*Pause.*) Wow! You are great at finding the hidden hearts! Come to me when you find one so I can give you a heart stamp. (*Pause.*) Great job, everyone!”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Hearts make me think of love, and today we are going to hear a story about a woman named Hannah and how God loved her.”
- *TRANSITION*

- Move to Worship and Story by trying to find hidden hearts as you walk to your designated area.

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

Story Focus: I can pray to God. Hannah talks to God when she is sad because she knows she can talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything. And after Hannah cries out to God and talks to Him about why she is so sad, she isn't sad anymore. We want preschoolers to know that they can talk to God too—anytime, anywhere, and about anything—just like Hannah did, because God loves me!

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

Pray Poster

[Live For God | Application Activity]

Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: “Pray Poster” Activity Page, cardstock, glue stick, poster board, plastic tablecloth, washable ink pads, and baby wipes

What You Do:

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
 - Copy “Pray Poster” on cardstock, one per Small Group. Glue the picture to the center of your poster board.
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
 - Set the poster board in the middle of the children. Point to the teddy bear and remind children that we can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything. Help children cover the palm of one hand with ink and press it on the poster. Then clean children's hands.
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**

- Hang up the poster where parents can see it when they arrive. Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come sit with me.”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “In our Bible Story, we learned that we can pray and talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything! We can pray and talk to God when we’re excited about a playdate or when we lose our favorite teddy bear and we’re worried! Let’s add our handprints all around the edge of our poster. Cover your hand with ink and press your hand on the poster. *(Pause.)* Now let’s wipe our hands clean. *(Pause.)* Look how wonderful our poster looks!”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “These handprints remind us that we can pray or talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything because God loves us! **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*
 - 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 the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “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*
 - “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 **[Bottom Line] God loves me! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] 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.)
- *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.”