



## WEEK ONE – OCTOBER 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *Daniel + The Lions | Daniel 6:1-23*

**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*

**Basic Truth:** *God loves me.*

**Series Overview:** If you’ve ever been near a playground when an airplane flies by, you know the sound of the airplane is quickly followed by the sound of kids shouting with excitement! Their innate sense of wonder is immediately turned up as they ask questions like: Where do you think that plane is going? How big is that plane? How can it fly so high in the sky? Today, our preschoolers will go to places like school, daycare, church, and grandparents’ houses. We know God has plans for each of them, and as they grow, they will go to even more places that might be even further away. We want to make sure that wherever they go, they can look to God with a trusting heart and say, “Let’s fly!” because they know God is always with me.

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

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### Opening Small Group Activity

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

**What You Need:** Animal Moves” Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

### What You Do:

- Call children one at a time to draw a card and identify the animal on the card.
- Share the movement listed under the animal.
- Encourage all of the children to move as directed on the card.
- After several seconds, ask children to freeze.
- Call another child to draw a card.
- Call out a new movement.
- Repeat with every card and reset as needed so each child has a turn.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

- *“Friends, come stand with me! I have a fun game for us to play. When I call your name, I want you to pick one card, tell us what animal you see on your card, then show it to everyone. Spread out a bit so we all have room to move because we’re going to do some moving! Ready to play? [Child’s name], come draw a card! Tell us what your animal is. (Pause.) Wow! Show everyone. Your card has a [animal] on it, and it says to [movement]. Let’s all [movement] like a/an [animal]! (Pause.) Great job, [animal]s! Now, freeze! (Repeat with each card, reset, and continue until each child has a turn.) Wow! You have some awesome animal moves, friends. Great job! In our Bible Story today, we’re going to hear about some . . . (hold up the lion card) lions! Let’s go!”*

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

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**Story Focus: God is always with me.** Daniel loved God and prayed to God three times a day. But some other people who worked for the king tricked the king into creating a new law that said no one could pray to God. Daniel did what he had always done. He prayed to God. When the people saw Daniel praying to God, they ran and told the king, and the king threw Daniel into the lions' den. But God was with Daniel in the lions' den! God sent an angel to close the lion's mouths. God was always with Daniel, and God is always with you, too!

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

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**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:**

- Say the memory verse and teach the motions to the children
- Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you.
- Repeat several times.
- Review the Bottom Line.

**What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. ‘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.)*

- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**

- “Now let’s learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: ‘God.’ *(Flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down.)* Put one hand out in front you with your thumb like this. *(Hand out in front of you like you’re signaling ‘stop.’)* Now turn your hand and put your thumb on your forehead like this, *(rotate your hand and place your thumb on your forehead)* then move your hand down in front of your face like this. *(Flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down.)* Great, let’s do that together. Hands up, thumb on your forehead, and pull down. Say ‘God’ with me. *(With children.)* ‘God.’ *(Flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down.)* The next part of our verse says: ‘is with you.’ *(Bring two fists together.)* Make a fist with both hands, then put them together in front of you like this *(bring two fists together)* and say, ‘is with you.’ *(With children.)* ‘Is with you.’ *(Bring two fists together.)* Wonderful! Now let’s put that together. ‘God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* is with you.’ *(Bring two fists together.)* Great job! The next part says, ‘wherever you go.’ All we are going to do is march in place. *(March in place.)* and say: ‘wherever you go.’ *(With children.)* ‘Wherever you go.’ *(March in place.)* Can we do all three together? ‘God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* is with you *(bring two fists together)* wherever you go.’ *(March in place.)* “Now the last part is: ‘Joshua 1:9.’ *(Open hands like a book.)* Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you’re opening a book *(open hands like a book)* and say, ‘Joshua 1:9.’ *(With children.)* ‘Joshua 1:9.’ *(Open hands like a book.)* Great job! I think we’re ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? ‘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.)* Nice job. Let’s do it again.” *(Repeat several times.)*

- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**

- “The Bible teaches us that God is always with us, no matter where we are or where we go. **[Bottom Line] God is always with me.** Let’s say

that one more time, friends. **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line]  
God is always with me.”**

### **Morning, Noon + Night**

#### **[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers*

#### **What You Need:** Butcher Paper

#### **What You Do:**

- Use a marker to draw two vertical lines down the butcher paper to create three columns on the page.
- At the top of each column, write one of the following headings in large, block letters: “MORNING,” “AFTERNOON,” and “NIGHT.”
- Lay the paper on the table, and set the markers nearby.
- Point out the titles at the top of the columns and read them aloud to the children.
  - Start with the “MORNING” column and ask: “What are some things you do in the morning?”
  - Write or draw simple pictures to illustrate their answers in the left-hand column.
- Repeat with the remaining times of day.
- Suggestions:
  - Morning: brush your teeth, eat breakfast, get dressed, put on your shoes, feed the dog
  - Afternoon: eat your lunch, read a book, play outside, walk your dog, take a rest
  - Night: eat dinner, take a bath, read a story at bedtime, feed your fish, brush your teeth
- Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

#### **What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Friends, come find a spot at the table.”

- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*

- “Let’s talk about the things we do at different times of the day. At the top of this column, I’ve written the word: ‘morning.’ What are some things you do in the morning? I’ll write your answers right here in the ‘morning’ column. *(Write/draw answers.)* Great job! Those are good ones! What about at noon? Afternoon is in the middle of the day. What are some things we do then? *(Write/draw answers.)* We have one column left, it’s the ‘night’ column. What are some things you do at nighttime? *(Write/draw answers.)* This is a great list, friends! Thank you for helping me think of all the different things we do during the day.”

- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*

- “Our list has three different times of day listed. How many times did Daniel pray to God? *(Pause.)* Daniel prayed to God three times a day. Friends, is God with you in the morning? *(Pause.)* Yes! God is with you in the morning. Is God with you in the afternoon? *(Pause.)* Yes! Is God with you at night? *(Pause.)* Of course! Because God is always with us! **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me.**”