



WEEK FOUR – OCTOBER 2024 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *Jonah | Jonah 1-3:3*

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.

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: Painter's tape

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Place a line of tape on the floor in an open area of the room.
- Stand at one end of the line, and ask children to line up on the tape line facing you.
- Ask children a this or that question, and show them how to move to one side of the tape line or the other to answer the question.
- Then, ask children to return to the tape line and ask another question.
- Repeat as long as time and interest allow.
 - Suggestions for this or that questions:
 - pizza or spaghetti;
 - blocks or cars;
 - swings or slides;
 - playing inside or outside;
 - sunny or rainy;
 - chocolate or vanilla;
 - strawberries or bananas;
 - climbing trees or climbing rocks;
 - building pillow forts or building sandcastles;
 - puzzles or games
- Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

- *“Friends, come stand on this tape line and turn to face me. (Pause.) I have a fun game for us to play today! I’m going to ask you some this or that questions! You’ll move to one side or the other of the tape line you’re standing on depending on your answer. Okay, the first this or that question is: pizza or spaghetti? If you like pizza more than spaghetti, move to this side of the line (point to the left side of the tape line) and if you like spaghetti more than pizza, move to this side of the line. (Point to the right side of the tape line.) Okay, everyone, back on the tape. Next question! Blocks (point to the left side of the tape line) or cars? (Point to the right side of the tape line.) Back on the tape. Next question! Swings (point to the left side of the tape line) or slides? (Point to the right side of the tape line.) Back on the tape. (Continue as desired.) Wow! That was really fun seeing you go this way or that way. Today in our Bible Story, we’re going to hear about a man named Jonah and how God was with him when he went this way and that way. Let’s go hear all about Jonah!”*

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

Story Focus: God is with me wherever I go. God told Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh to tell the people who lived there to do what God says and love one another. But Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh. So, Jonah went the other way and got on a boat! While Jonah was on the boat, there was a big storm. He knew that, if he got off the boat, the storm would stop. While Jonah was in the water, God sent a big fish to swallow Jonah and keep him safe. Jonah was in the fish for three days and three nights. While Jonah was inside the fish, he prayed to God, and then God made the fish spit Jonah out onto dry land. Once again, God told Jonah to go to Nineveh. This time, Jonah did what God said and he went to Nineveh. God loved Jonah and was always with him—in the boat, in the fish, and when he went to Nineveh.

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

Going Places

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Review]

Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

What You Need: “Airplane Patterns” and “Airplane Cards” Activity Pages, cardstock, and scissors

What You Do:

- Write: “‘God is with you wherever you go.’ Joshua 1:9” at the top of the butcher paper.
- Place copy paper, stickers, crayons, and washable markers on the table
- Review the Memory Verse and motions with the children.
- Ask children to draw a place where they want to go, using markers, crayons, and stickers.
- Write each child’s name on their paper, and ask them to tape their drawing to the butcher paper.
- Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come stand with me! Let’s do the motions as we say our Memory Verse. Ready? Here we go! ‘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! Now find a seat at the table.” (*Give each child a piece of paper.*)
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Do you like to go places with your family? Like to the park or the store, or maybe to visit your grandparents? Or maybe you like to go to the beach? Let’s think of our favorite places to go

- and draw it! You can use the markers, crayons, and stickers to create a picture of your favorite place (*Encourage children to describe what they drew, then write their names and the place they drew on their picture.*) [Child’s name], God is with you when you are at [name the place they drew]. (*Repeat with each child.*) Now, go tape your drawing to the big paper on the wall! Later we’ll move it outside the room for everyone to see! Friends, you are such great artists and drew such beautiful places. I hope you all get to go to the special places you drew today.”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Let’s say and do the motions to our Memory Verse one more time. The Bible tells us that, ‘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.*) **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!** One more time! **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!** Great job, friends!”

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.”**