

WEEK FOUR – MAY 2025 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: Nehemiah Asks for Help | Nehemiah 1-4, 6:1, 15

Key Question: Who helps you do big things? **Bottom Line:** God helps me do big things.

Memory Verse: "I know that God helps me." – Psalm 54:4, NIrV

Basic Truth: God loves me

Series Overview: There was a time when learning how to tie our shoes was a big thing. Walking into a new preschool class was a big thing. And sleeping in our own bedroom by ourselves, that was a really big thing—like SO BIG! And now that we're all grown up, the big things keep coming. God is going to give our preschoolers big things to do. God is going to give them little things to do. And whether it's a big thing or a little thing, we want our preschoolers to know that they have the Lord our God to help them. God helps me do big things!

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: "Tool Match" and "Tool Match Outline" Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, and painter's tape

What You Do:

- Tape the "Tool Match Outlines" on the wall around the room at child's height.
- Give each child a tool cutout and explain they have a big job to do.
- If you have more children than tools, create teams or groups and rotate through making sure each child gets a turn.
- Encourage children to match their tool to the correct tool outline on the wall.
- Once a child makes a match, they can exchange their tool for a new one and look for another match.
 - o Repeat as desired.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Hello, friends! Today, we're going to play a fun game called Tool Match! Look at all these tools! (Hold up the tool cutouts.) Each of you will get a tool, and your job is to match it to its outline on the wall. Are you ready to find your tool match?"
- DURING THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Take your tool and start looking for the matching outline on the wall. When you find a match, put your tool next to it! (Pause as they find matches.) Great job, [child's name]! You found a match! Now you can pick another tool to find another match. Let's keep going and see how many matches you can find! (Repeat as desired.) Friends, you

made a lot of tool matches! I loved watching each of you hunt around the room for all the tools you needed."

• AFTER THE ACTIVITY

o "In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about how a man named Nehemiah and God's people used tools to fix a broken wall around Jerusalem. Let's go hear all about it!"

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

Story Focus: We can do big things when we work together. Nehemiah hears that the wall around his home of Jerusalem is broken. He cries and fasts and prays for days. The king Nehemiah works for notices that Nehemiah is sad and asks him what's wrong. Nehemiah tells the king about his home. With the king's blessing, Nehemiah heads to Jerusalem to see what he can do. When he gets there, the job is SO BIG that he asks people for help. The result? The city wall is repaired and Nehemiah and the people learn that God helps us do big things when we work together.

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

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We Need You

[Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

• Stand in an open area of your activity space.

- Ask children to join you by calling out names or a clothing item, and link arms to make a wall.
- Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Hey, friends, I am all alone! I need people to join me. Listen closely for me to call you over."
- DURING THE ACTIVITY
 - o "If you are wearing a [clothing item], I need you! (Pause.) Yes! [Child's name] I need you! Link arms with me. (Pause.) We still need more people. If you are wearing a [clothing item], we need you! (Continue until all children are in the group.) Look, all of us are together! When we are all linked together, we look like a big wall. On the count of three, I want everyone to scatter, and we'll play again! One, two, three! (Repeat as desired.)"
- AFTER THE ACTIVITY
 - o "In our Bible Story, Nehemiah had a big job to do, but he couldn't do it alone. He needed lots of people to help him. Nehemiah had a big job, but God helped him do big things. Who helps you do big things? [Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!"

Memory Verse Stacking

[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: "Memory Verse Stacking" Activity Page, cardstock, wood blocks, scissors, and clear tape

What You Do:

- Place the blocks on the table.
- Review the Memory Verse with the motions.

- Point out the matching hand motions on each block and repeat the Memory Verse together again.
- Encourage the children to help you stack the blocks in order as you repeat the verse together.
- Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Friends, come over here with me! Let's do the motions as we say our Memory Verse together. Ready? 'I know (touch head with fingertips) that God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) helps me,' (place thumbs-up on opposite palm) Psalm 54:4. (Open hands like a book.) Great job!"

• DURING THE ACTIVITY

o "Look at these blocks. (Pause.) They have pictures of the motions to our Memory Verse! Let's see if we can repeat the Memory Verse again with these blocks! (Point to each block as you say that part of the verse and do the motions.) 'I know (touch head with fingertips) that God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) helps me,' (place thumbs-up on opposite palm) Psalm 54:4. (Open hands like a book.) Super-duper! Can you stack them up while we say the verse? (Repeat as desired.) That was really neat seeing our verse on these blocks and playing with them as we said the verse and did the motions."

• AFTER THE ACTIVITY

o "God helped Nehemiah and the Israelites work together to fix the wall around Jerusalem. That was a really big thing to do! God will help us do big things, too! Who helps you do big things? [Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!"