



WEEK
ONE
OCTOBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



1. ANIMAL MOVES

WHAT YOU NEED: "Animal Moves" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Animal Moves" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Lay the cards

face down in the center of your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: 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.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

BIBLE STORY

God is always with me.

DANIEL AND THE LIONS
DANIEL 6:1-23

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me! I have a fun game for us to play."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "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!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about some . . . (hold up the lion card) lions! Let's go!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to call out animals for the children to mimic as they travel: strut like a rooster, hop like a kangaroo, waddle like a duck, etc.

MEMORY VERSE

"God is with you wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who is always with you?

BOTTOM LINE

God is always with me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft



5. DANIEL AND THE LIONS
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Daniel and the Lions" and "Daniel Fun at Home Note" Activity Pages, cardstock, crayons, scissors, sandwich-size resealable bags, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Daniel and the Lions" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Copy "Daniel Fun at Home Note" on cardstock and cut, one note per child. Write each child's name on their bag.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their king, Daniel, and lion cutouts.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line while the children play with their figures.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, hello, friends! Come sit at the table, and let's make some story figures."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Use the crayons to color your figures. (Pause.) Now fold each of them in half like this to help them stand. (Help each child fold their figures.) You have a king, a Daniel, and two lions. We can use these to tell our Bible Story!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our story begins with a man named Daniel who loved God and prayed to Him every day. Walk your Daniel figure around. (Pause.) Daniel had an important job working for the king. Walk the king over to Daniel. (Pause.) Daniel was really good at his job, so the king wanted Daniel to be in charge of the whole kingdom! But there were some other workers who didn't like this and tricked the king into making a law that said Daniel could not pray to God anymore. Oh no! What did Daniel do? (Pause.) That's right! Daniel continued to pray.

"When the king's other workers saw Daniel praying to God, they told the king. Then the king had to do what his law said and throw Daniel to the lions. Move Daniel in between the lions. But friends, God was with Daniel when he worked for the king. God was with Daniel when he prayed. And God was with Daniel when he was thrown in with the lions! And because God was always with Daniel, God sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths! God kept Daniel safe! God was always with Daniel, and God is always with you too! **Who is always with you? God is always with me!"**

BIBLE STORY

God is always with me.

DANIEL AND THE LIONS
DANIEL 6:1-23

MEMORY VERSE

"God is with you wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9, NLT

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

BIBLE STORY

God is always with me.

DANIEL AND THE LIONS
DANIEL 6:1-23

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 Joshua 1:9. Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

Encourage the children to pretend to be lions while you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

MEMORY VERSE

"God is with you wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9, NLT

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of places they can talk to God.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

KEY QUESTION

Who is always with you?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we are lions while we walk to our Small Group spot. Come on, lions! Follow me! (Pretend to be a lion as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Roarr! Here we are! You can be children again so we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

BOTTOM LINE

God is always with me.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, we learned that God was with Daniel when he prayed. God was with Daniel when he worked for the king. God was even with Daniel when he was with the lions! God was always with Daniel, and God is always with you too! That's why every time I ask you, 'Who is always with you?' I want you to say 'God is always with me!' Let me hear you! Who is always with you? God is always with me! You got it!"

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

"And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that God is always with us. It says, '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.) Let's stand up and say that together! Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.) You sound awesome! (Give fist bumps.)"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Daniel talked to God in his room, so we are going to make a list of places we can talk to God. It can be any place because we can talk to God anywhere! When I say your name, tell me one place where you can talk to God, and I will write it by your name." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all these places! (*Hold up journal.*) We can talk to God in all of them! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, Daniel loved You and talked to You no matter what. Help us remember that we can talk to You anywhere, like at the (*read the list the children made*). Thank You for being with Daniel and for always being with (*say each child's name*). We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."