

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 3

# Small Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

## Small Group (15 minutes)

### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Scroll Hunt
2. Roll and Build
3. Pick Two

## Large Group (20 minutes)

### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "The Plans" and "Really Awesome Plan"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

## Small Group (25 minutes)

### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Memory Verse
2. Nesting Story Cups
3. Color to Color Plan
4. Josiah's Crown
5. King Josiah and the Scroll
6. Journal and Prayer

### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

**God's plans are best for me.**

## King Josiah

2 Chronicles 34

### Key Question

**Who has plans for you?**

### Bottom Line

**God has plans for me.**

### Memory Verse

**"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord.**

**Jeremiah 29:11 NLT**

### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 3

SOCIAL 1/3

# Scroll Hunt



## What You Need

- Cardstock
- Yarn
- Scissors



## Inclusive Pro Tips

For a version with less movement, ask children to help find the scroll by pointing it out. Once the scroll is located, bring it back together. If using this version, adjust "What You Say" accordingly.

## ① What You Do

### Before the Activity

1. Roll up two pieces of cardstock to make two scrolls.
2. Cut a 12-inch length of yarn for each and tie one around each rolled paper.
3. Hide one scroll in your activity area within the children's view but not immediately obvious.

### During the Activity

1. Encourage children to look for the hidden scroll.
2. Once the scroll is found, ask the child(ren) to bring it back to you.
3. Ask children to close their eyes and hide the scroll again. Repeat as desired.

### After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

## ② What You Say

### Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Look at this! **(HOLD UP THE SECOND SCROLL.)** This is a scroll. I hid one just like this in our room today! Let's go on hunt to find the hidden scroll."

### During the Activity

"Here we go! We need to look high and low. **(PAUSE.)** Where could the scroll be hiding? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)** Let's look carefully and find it together! **(ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO KEEP HUNTING.)** Wow! **[CHILD'S NAME]**, you found the scroll! Let's hide it again! Close your eyes while I hide it! **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)** That was fun looking for the hidden scroll with you today."

### After the Activity

"Today in our Bible Story, we'll hear how someone found a scroll when they were rebuilding the temple. The scroll they found was really special because it had God's words written on it, just like our Bible today. Let's go hear all about it!"

**Transition** → Move to Worship and Story by pretending to look for hidden scrolls.

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 3

GROUPS 1/6

# Memory Verse Construction



## Memory Verse Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "Memory Verse Construction" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Butcher Paper
- Masking Tape
- Washable Markers

### Notes

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

### Inclusive Pro Tips



Hide some shapes in more visible locations and ask children to point to the shape when they spot it.

## ① What You Do

### Before the Activity

1. Copy "Memory Verse Construction" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
2. Cover the table with butcher paper.
3. Along the center of the butcher paper, draw a large orange square, large blue circle, large red heart, and a large green triangle in that order.
4. Place the cards around the room.
5. Do the motions as you say the Memory Verse together.

### During the Activity

1. Point to the shapes on the paper and explain that they need to find those shapes around the room to build the Memory Verse.
2. Walk as a group around the room to search for the hidden shapes.
3. Encourage children once all the shapes are found, to match them to the shapes on the paper.
4. As they match the shapes, say that part of the Memory Verse together.
5. After constructing the Memory Verse, have the children repeat the verse while doing the hand motions one more time.

### After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

Continued on the next page →

## GROUPS 1/6

# Memory Verse Construction



## Memory Verse Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "Memory Verse Construction" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Butcher Paper
- Masking Tape
- Washable Markers

### Notes

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



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Hide some shapes in more visible locations and ask children to point to the shape when they spot it.

## ② What You Say

### Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Let's say our Memory Verse as we do the motions together. Everyone ready? "'For I know (TOUCH HEAD WITH FINGERTIPS) the plans I have for you,' (MARCH) says the Lord," (POINT UP) Jeremiah 29:11. (OPEN HANDS LIKE BOOK). Great job friends!"

### During the Activity

"Today, we're going to work together to build our Memory Verse on these big shapes! (POINT TO THE SHAPES ON THE BUTCHER PAPER.) I have hidden the matching shapes around the room. Let's go find the shapes and construct our Memory Verse! Let's go! (WALK TO COLLECT ALL THE SHAPES THEN GO BACK TO THE TABLE TOGETHER.) Let's match the shapes we found to the shapes on the table. Ready? (PAUSE.) Point to the square. (PAUSE.) Here's the square shape we found. The words on this shape say, "For I know." Say that with me. "For I know." Great! Point to the circle. (PAUSE.) Here's the circle shape we found. The words on this shape say, "The plans I have for you." Say that with me. "The plans I have for you." Great! Point to the heart. (PAUSE.) Here's the heart shape we found. The words on this shape say, "Says the Lord." Say that with me. "Says the Lord." Great! Our last shape is the triangle! Here's the heart shape we found. The words on this shape say, Jeremiah 29:11. Say that with me. Jeremiah 29:11. Look! We just built our Memory Verse! Let's all say our verse and do the motions one more time. 'For I know (TOUCH HEAD WITH FINGERTIPS) the plans I have for you,' (MARCH) says the Lord," (POINT UP) Jeremiah 29:11. (OPEN HANDS LIKE BOOK).

### After the Activity

"We followed the shape plan and constructed our Memory Verse together! What a great reminder that God has plans for you and [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me!"

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 3

GROUPS 5/6

# King Josiah and the Scroll



## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "King Josiah and the Scroll" and "Scroll Words" Activity Pages
- Cardstock
- Crayons or washable markers
- Scissors
- Craft knife
- Clear tape
- Permanent marker

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- Glue sticks in place of the craft knife
- Clear tape



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow children to glue their scroll words to the page instead of feeding them through the slits in their paper. If using this version, adjust "What You Say" accordingly.

**Note** → Use the craft knife before children arrive and store it out of reach in another room.

## ① What You Do

### Before the Activity

1. Copy "King Josiah and the Scroll" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Copy "Scroll Words" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.
3. For each child, cut along the dotted lines on each child's "King Josiah and the Scroll" paper.
4. Write each child's name on their paper.

### During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color their picture then help each child slide the cutout through the slits in their paper and tape the ends together.
2. Demonstrate how to turn the paper strip.

### After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page →

## GROUPS 5/6

# King Josiah and the Scroll



## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "King Josiah and the Scroll" and "Scroll Words" Activity Pages
- Cardstock
- Crayons or washable markers
- Scissors
- Craft knife
- Clear tape
- Permanent marker

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- Glue sticks in place of the craft knife
- Clear tape



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow children to glue their scroll words to the page instead of feeding them through the slits in their paper. If using this version, adjust "What You Say" accordingly.

## ② What You Say

### Before the Activity

"Hello, hello friends! What a great day it is! I have a super neat story picture for you to create today! Come sit at the table with me."

### During the Activity

"Look! It's the young king, Josiah! While you color your paper, I'll review our Bible Story. King Josiah kept the people safe and helped them know the right things to do. King Josiah loved God and wanted to follow God's plans. One day, King Josiah decided to repair the temple so the people could go and worship God. While the people were working, someone found a very special book.

This book was so special because it had God's words in it! Everyone hold up your strip of paper. This paper has God's words on it, just like the scroll they found in our Bible Story. The words say "'For I know the plans I have for you,' says the Lord." Jeremiah 29:11. That's the Memory Verse we've been learning! It also says where you can look in the Bible to find today's story. We'll add this to your picture for the scroll. **(HELP EACH CHILD SLIDE THEIR PAPER STRIP THROUGH THE TWO SLITS ON THEIR PAPER. TAPE THE ENDS TOGETHER.)** You can move the paper like this to see all the words. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** When King Josiah heard God's words, he called ALL the people together so they could hear God's words too! After everyone heard God's words, King Josiah and all the people promised to follow God's plans because God's plans are best!"

### After the Activity

"King Josiah knew that God's plans are best. God had big plans for King Josiah and God had plans for you too. Who has plans for you? **(BOTTOM LINE)** God has plans for me."

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

September — Week 3

GROUPS 6/6

# Journal and Prayer



## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity  
Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal
- 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.

## ① What You Do

### Before the Activity

1. If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut one per Small Group.
2. Place one card in your Bible at Jeremiah 29:11.  
→ Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.
3. Encourage the children to pretend they are builders and make hammering or sawing motions as you lead them to your Small Group spot.
4. Sit down and gather the children around you.

### During the Activity

5. Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of what they plan to do the rest of the day.

### After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page →

## GROUPS 6/6

# Journal and Prayer


 MADE TO  
 Create

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity  
Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal
- 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.

## ② What You Say

### Before the Activity

"It's Small Group time! Today we are going to pretend we are builders while we walk to our Small Group spot! Hold up your pretend hammer or saw and follow me! (PRETEND TO HAMMER OR SAW AS YOU LEAD THE CHILDREN TO YOUR SMALL GROUP SPOT.) Hammer, hammer, hammer! Saw, saw, saw!"

We made it! Now it's time to sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

### During the Activity

(OPEN THE BIBLE AND LAY IT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN.) "In our Bible Story today, King Josiah loved God. King Josiah wanted to fix the temple so his people could go there and pray and sing to God. Do you remember what King Josiah's builders found when they were fixing the temple? (PAUSE.) Yes! They found a scroll with God's words on it! What did the builders do with the scroll? (PAUSE.) You're right! They took it to King Josiah. Josiah was so happy to have God's words because he knew that God's plans are best! He called all the people to come and hear God's words so they would know that God's plans are best too!"

"God had plans for King Josiah. And God has plans for you too! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me! Again! Who has plans for you? [BOTTOM LINE] God has plans for me!"

Yes, He does! And the Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that God has plans for us. It says, "'For I know (TOUCH HEAD WITH FINGERTIPS) the plans I have for you,' (MARCH) says the Lord," (POINT UP) Jeremiah 29:11. (OPEN HANDS LIKE BOOK.) That's God talking! God knows the plans He has for us, because God knows everything! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! "'For I know (TOUCH HEAD WITH FINGERTIPS) the plans I have for you,' (MARCH) says the Lord," (POINT UP) Jeremiah 29:11. (OPEN HANDS LIKE BOOK.)

"Way to go! (HIGH FIVES) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (OPEN JOURNAL.) Do you know that we make plans every day? It's true! We plan to play outside. We plan to go to school. We plan to go see family and friends. We plan to eat. We make all kinds of plans! That's why we are going to make a list in our journal of what we plan to do today. Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me your plans for today 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

"See? (HOLD UP JOURNAL.) We all make plans! Let's pray and thank God that He has plans for us too! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (GIVE EACH CHILD WHO WANTS TO PRAY THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO.) Dear God, Thank You for having plans for (NAME EACH CHILD) and for me. Help us remember that no matter how good our plans are, like (READ THE LIST THE CHILDREN MADE), Your plans are always best for us. We love You! In Jesus' name. Amen."