

# October 15, 2017

**Bible Story Focus:** God can help me do hard things.

David and Jonathan • 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:3-42

**Memory Verse:** “We have the LORD our God to help us.” 2 Chronicles 32:8, NLT

**Key Question:** Who can help you?

**Bottom Line:** God can help me.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me.

## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day’s Bible story.

*Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your 2-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.*

### **1. Hard Roll**

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

**What You Need:** Large laundry basket and a medium-sized ball

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

*Before the Activity:* Place the basket on its side so that the opening is parallel to the floor.

*During the Activity:* Have the children stand about seven feet from the basket. Challenge the children to try to roll the ball into the basket. Be sure to tell the children that the activity is meant to be a hard task. Be sure each child has a turn to roll the ball.

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

*Before the Activity:* “God always helps us do things that are hard!”

*During the Activity:* “Today we are going to try to do a very hard task. We are going to roll this ball (*hold up*) and try to get it inside the basket (*point*). Are you ready to try something hard?” (*Pause and then do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “WOW! I know that was hard, but you did great! God can help us do hard things. Today in our Bible story God helps two people named Jonathan and David do a hard thing.”

**Transition:** Move to Bible story time by holding hands. Say, “I am so excited to hear our TRUE story from the Bible! Today’s story is about two friends. Let’s hold hands with our friends while we walk to the story area!”

## 2. Hello and Goodbye

*Made to Play:* An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

**What You Need:** A small doll and a small, deep box that the doll can fit into (*Note: Be sure the doll can fit into the box completely without being seen.*)

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Place the doll inside the box.

*During the Activity:* Sit in the middle of the activity area with the children while holding the box. Take the doll out of the box and say, “Hello!” and then place the doll back in the box and say, “Goodbye!” Repeat several times. Be sure to end the activity with “goodbye.”

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “I have a friend in this box. She would like to come out and say hello!”

*During the Activity:* (*Pull the doll out of the box.*) “Hello! Oh, now she has to go again. (*Place the doll back in the box.*) Goodbye!” (*Repeat several times.*)

*After the Activity:* “I am so glad that our friend came to say hello. It was sad when she had to say goodbye. In our story today, someone else has to say goodbye too!”

**Transition:** Move to Bible story time by inviting the children to wave and say goodbye to the activity area. Say, “Let’s wave and say goodbye to the activity area! We need to go to the story area. Bye, activity area!”

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## **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the bottom line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

*Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities after the Bible Story. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.*

### **1. Verse with Friends**

#### **Hear from God | Memory Verse Review**

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

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

*Before the Activity:* Guide the children to stand in front of you.

*During the Activity:* Say the verse with the children. Then ask the children to choose a friend and hold their hand. Say the memory verse several more times while the children hold hands with a friend.

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

*Before the Activity:* “Let’s say our memory verse together: *We have the LORD our God to help us, 2 Chronicles 32:8.*”

*During the Activity:* “Great job! Now let’s say the memory verse with a friend. Everyone hold someone’s hand. Now let’s say the memory verse again while holding hands with our friend. *We have the LORD our God to help us, 2 Chronicles 32:8.*”

*After the Activity:* “Saying our memory verse with friends was so much fun. It is so nice to be with friends. David had to say goodbye to his friend Jonathan and that was hard. God helped him, though, because God helps us do hard things! God can help you too. **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!”**

## **2. Goodbye**

### **Talk About God | Bible Story Review**

*Made to Create:* An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

**What You Need:** “Goodbye” Activity Page, white cardstock, scissors, and sad face stickers

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

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Goodbye” Activity Page onto the cardstock. Cut the page in half along the dotted lines. Each child will need a half page.

*During the Activity:* Give each child half of an Activity Page and a sad face sticker. Help the children place the sad face in between the pictures of David and Johnathan.

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

*Before the Activity:* “We heard a Bible story today about how David and Jonathan had to say goodbye. They were sad because it was hard. God helped them, though, because God helps us do hard things.”

*During the Activity:* (Give each child an Activity Page.) “David and Jonathan were sad to say goodbye. So let’s put a sad face between them.” (*Demonstrate and then do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “You can take your paper home and tell your family how God help David and Jonathan do a hard thing. You can tell them that God helps us do hard things too! **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!”**

### 3. Mini Zig Zag Zone

#### Live for God | Application Activity

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

**What You Need:** 3 hula-hoops, a small ball, and floor tape

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Place the hoops in a vertical line so that they are touching each other. Place the ball at the end of the line of hoops. Then use the floor tape to make a heart on the floor beyond the ball.

*During the Activity:* Have the children choose a partner. Encourage the children to go through the obstacle course as a pair. Have the children start at the first hula-hoop. Have them jump inside each hoop. Then have the children roll the ball to each other. Then encourage them to jump into the heart and say the Bottom Line. Be sure each pair of children has a turn to go through the obstacle course.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Let's play in the Zig Zag Zone!"

*During the Activity:* "Today we are going to go through the Zig Zag Zone with a friend. (Pair children up.) Let's start here! (Point to the first hoop.) Jump into each hula-hoop together. (Demonstrate.) Then pick up the ball and roll it to your friend. Then you can jump into the heart and say, 'God can help me!' together. Are you ready?" (Pause.)

*After the Activity:* "Way to go! You did a great job going through the Zig Zag Zone with a friend! That was hard to do, but God helps us do hard things, just like He helped the friends say goodbye in our story today. **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!**"

### 4. Broken Heart

#### Live for God | Application Activity

*Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft*

**What You Need:** "Broken Heart" Activity Page, red cardstock, blue construction paper, scissors, and glue sticks

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy the "Broken Heart" Activity Page onto the red cardstock and cut along the dotted lines. You will have a heart in two pieces. Each child will need both pieces of a heart.

*During the Activity:* Encourage the children to put the heart back together on the blue paper. Help the children glue the heart together as one piece onto the construction paper.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “David and Jonathan were sad when they had to say goodbye. It was really hard, but God helped them.”

*During the Activity:* “We are going to make a heart. Oh no! It is broken. (*Hold up.*) I am sure that David and Jonathan’s hearts were sad when they said goodbye, but God helped them. So we can put the heart back together!” (*Demonstrate. Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Yay! You put the heart back together. Great job! God can help us in many ways. He helps us do hard things and He helps us feel better when we are sad. God can always help us. **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!**”