

October 8, 2017

Bible Story Focus: God can help me do anything.

David Is Strong in Battle • 1 Samuel 18:7; 12-14

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. God Can Help Me

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: Have the children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Invite the children to act out different actions that God can help them with. The actions are jump, hop on one foot, pretend to eat vegetables, pretend to clean up toys, and pretend to rake leaves. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Sometimes there are things that are hard to do. God can help us do hard things!”

During the Activity: “We can do hard things right now. God will help us! First, let’s jump really high. (*Demonstrate.*) Awesome! How let’s hop on one foot! I know it can be hard, but God will help us try! (*Do activity.*) Way to go! Now let’s pretend to eat vegetables.

They are sometimes hard to eat. (*Demonstrate by pretending to eat with a fork.*) You are all so brave and strong!" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Those things can be hard to do, but you were awesome! God can help us do anything. Today in our Bible story, God helps David be brave and strong! I cannot wait for you to hear our EXCITING story!"

Transition: Move to Bible story time by inviting the children to move to the story area while flexing their muscles. Say, "I know you are all strong! God helps you be strong. Let's walk to the story area while flexing our muscles!"

2. Stop and Charge

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

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a strip of the floor tape on one side of the activity area. This will be your starting line. Place a strip of tape about 15-20 feet from the starting line. This will be the finish line.

During the Activity: Have the children stand at the starting line. Tell the children that when you say, "Charge!" they should walk fast toward the finish line. When you say, "Stop!" the children should freeze until you say, "Charge!" again. Repeat several times until the children reach the finish line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a game!"

During the Activity: "Everyone line up on this line. (*Point to starting line.*) When I say, 'Charge!' I want everyone to walk fast to this line. (*Point to finish line.*) When I say, 'Stop!' you have to stop and FREEZE! Are you ready to play?" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Awesome job charging! We are going to hear an EXCITING Bible story today about an army. I bet they are going to charge in the story!"

Transition: Move to Bible story time by saying, "CHARGE!" and encouraging the children to walk fast to the story area.

3. Anything

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room.

What You Need: "Allergy Alert Poster," white cardstock, different colors of Play-Doh®, wet wipes, and small cookie cutters

What You Do

Before the Activity: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on white cardstock and hang it on the door. Place the Play-Doh on a table in the activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to make things with the Play-Doh. They may use the cookie cutters or make something on their own. Be sure to tell the children that they can make ANYTHING!

After the Activity: Wipe messy fingers with the wet wipes.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Yay! Play-Doh!"

During the Activity: "You can make ANYTHING you would like with the Play-Doh. You can use the cookie cutters (*point*) or you can make something all by yourself." (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "WOW! You are all so creative! You could make ANYTHING you wanted and they all turned out great! You know, God can help us do anything. Our Bible story today is about that. I can't wait for you to hear it!"

Transition: Move to Bible story time by saying, "Now it is time to hear how God can help us do ANYTHING! Let's walk to the story area by quietly chanting, 'Anything!' Here we go!"

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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. Dot the Verse

Hear from God | Memory Verse 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: “Dot Verse” Activity Page, yellow cardstock, and dot markers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Dot Verse” onto the cardstock.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page and a dot maker. Help the children place a dot over each word of the memory verse on their Activity Page.

After the Activity: Say the memory verse with the children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We have an awesome memory verse this month!”

During the Activity: “It is: *We have the LORD our God to help us*, 2 Chronicles 32:8. (Give each child an Activity Page and a dot marker.) Use the marker to make a dot over each of the words.” (Demonstrate and do activity.)

After the Activity: “Great job! Now let’s say our memory verse together: *We have the LORD our God to help us, 2 Chronicles 32:8.* Great job! Our verse tells us that God will always help us! He will help us with anything. **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!**”

2. David and the Army

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: “David” and “Army” Activity Pages, white cardstock, scissors, and glue sticks

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Pages onto the white cardstock. Cut out the David cutouts on the “David” Activity page. Each child will need one David cutout.

During the Activity: Give each child an “Army” Activity Page and a David cutout. Help the children glue the David cutout onto the “Army” Activity Page in the space with the dotted lines around it.

After the Activity: Retell the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We heard an exciting Bible story today!”

During the Activity: (Give each child an Activity Page.) “David was leading God’s army into a battle. Our page has God’s army on it. (Point.) It has a space on it where David is supposed to be. (Give each child a cutout.) Here he is! (Hold up David cutout.) Use your glue stick to glue David into the space.” (Point.)

After the Activity: “Nice work! David led God’s army into battle over and over again. They were getting very tired. They needed to be strong! Do you remember who helped them during the battle? (Pause.) You got it! God helped them! God can help us too. He can help us with anything! **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: A toddler tunnel, a bucket, toddler-safe blocks, and floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the tunnel at the front of the activity area. Place the bucket about five feet from the end of the tunnel. Place the blocks on the floor next to the bucket. Then use the floor tape to make a circle on the floor beyond the bucket.

During the Activity: Have the children start at the beginning of the tunnel and crawl through it. They will then pick up all of the blocks and place them into the bucket. They will then jump into the circle and say the Bottom Line. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Let’s play in the Zig Zag Zone!”

During the Activity: “Let’s start here! (*Point to the beginning of the tunnel.*) Crawl into the tunnel and then put the blocks into the bucket. (*Demonstrate.*) Once you finish the blocks, you can jump into the circle and say, ‘God can help me!’ Are you ready?” (*Pause.*)

After the Activity: “Way to go! You did a great job going through the Zig Zag Zone! That was hard to do, but God helps us do hard things! **Who can help you? [Bottom Line] God can help me!**”

4. Army on a Stick**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: “Army Stick” Activity Page, white cardstock, craft sticks, scissors, crayons, and clear tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut along the dotted lines. Each child will need one cutout.

During the Activity: Give each child a cutout and some crayons. Encourage the children to color the cutout. Help the children tape the cutout to a craft stick.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are going to make something to remind us of our Bible story today that you can take home and show your families!”

During the Activity: “First we need to color the army. *(Give each child a cutout and crayons.)* Great job! Now we need to tape it to a stick.” *(Finish activity.)*

After the Activity: “Perfect! Now you can take it home and tell your family how God helped David win against the army and God can help us too! **Who can help you?** **[Bottom Line] God can help me!**”