



WEEK ONE - JULY 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *These Guys Aren't on Fire • Daniel 3*

Bottom Line: *Trust that God is always with you.*

Memory Verse: *"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." - Philippians 1:6 NIV*

Life App: *Confidence - Living like you believe what God says is true.*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: In July, we continue our discovery of confidence with an incredible example found in Daniel 3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found their faith put to the test when they chose to obey God rather than bow down to the golden statue. They remained confident in God's power, and God rescued them from the fiery furnace.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to come up with some fun dance moves to use later in the "Freeze Dance" activity.

Here are a few suggested dance names to spark ideas (call them out and let kids come up with what the dance move should look like to fit the name):

- Monkey Hop
- Hot Foot Shuffle
- Heel Turn
- Leap and Bow
- Funky King Step
- 3-Friend Slippery Slide
- Angel Twist

2. Freeze Dance

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Music from "Elementary" playlist

What You Do:

- Review some of the silly dance moves from Early Arriver or ask kids to come up with other fun ways to dance.
- Give the dance moves a fun name.
- Explain that you will play music and call out one of the silly dance steps they came up with.

- Tell them to keep dancing until they hear the music stop. Then they must freeze and be perfectly silent until the music begins again.
- After each pause, call out a different dance step before starting the music.
- If desired, play an elimination game. Ask those who move or make a sound during the freeze to sit down.

What You Say:

"I love how you dance! You're great 'Freeze Dancers' and have some very cool moves. You were good listeners too! You listened for the music just the way I asked you to do.

[Transition] Today in Large Group we're going to hear about some men who were told to do something when they heard the king play music. Let's find out what they did."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Trust that God is always with you. "Not only has God been faithful to Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego, but also God has proven his faithfulness to all sorts of people throughout history. We can live with confidence knowing that God will be with us in every situation we face.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Draw by Faith

[Application Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: "Draw by Faith" cards from Activity Page; markers; large index cards

What You Do:

- Pair the kids up with a partner.
- Give one partner a large index card and a marker and ask them to sit down on the floor.
- Explain that you will show the other partner a "Draw by Faith" card that contains a picture.
- Without speaking, the children who viewed the picture will sit behind their partners. Then, using their finger as a pen, they must draw on the backs of their partners what they saw on the "Draw by Faith" card.
- Tell the partners with the markers and index cards to draw what they think is being traced on their backs.
- Give partners one minute to complete the challenge. Kids should not speak except to ask their partner to redraw the image on their back.
- When the time is up, let kids show one another their pictures and then compare them with the one from the "Draw by Faith" card.
- Talk about what's happening in the picture. Ask kids to share why they would need to trust that God is with them if they were in that situation.
- Let partners switch roles and play again with a new "Draw by Faith" card until all the cards have been used and each picture discussed.
- Here are suggested discussion points to focus on with each picture:
 - Lightning Bolt - fear of storms
 - Sad Face - when we are sad
 - Band-Aid - if we get hurt or sick
 - Roller Coaster - trying something new
 - Stick Figure - standing up and doing what's right even when others don't
 - House - being home alone; fear of the dark

What You Say:

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego faced something very big, very hard, and very scary! You won't ever face a fiery furnace, but you will face situations that may feel just as scary and impossible. Everyone feels afraid sometimes. When you start to feel worried, sad, or afraid, that's a signal to stop and talk to God. [Bottom Line] Trust that God is always with you. He's even closer than your friend who was drawing on your back. You couldn't see

him/her, but you knew he/she was there. You can't see God, but you can know that He's with you. He's bigger than any problem or fear and even closer than the person sitting next to you. Call on Him anytime, anywhere, and He will hear you."

2. Hot Feet

[Memory Verse Activity]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Bible marked at Philippians 1:6; red tissue paper flames

What You Do:

- Help kids look up Philippians 1:6.
 - *When finding verses with kindergartners, guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word Philippians at the top of the page as you say "Philippians" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 1 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 1 for the little 6; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
 - *When finding verses with first graders, guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Philippians in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Philippians starts with the letters P-H. When the kids find Philippians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Philippians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Philippians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 6 in chapter 1.*
- Read the verse aloud to the group.
- For this first week, help the kids memorize the beginning of Philippians 1:6.
- Invite them to say the first phrase ("Being confident of this") and then stop and listen as you finish the rest of the verse. Do this several times.
- Explain that "confident" means "sure," and then ask kids to tell you something they're sure of.

- Ask them to replace the word SURE with CONFIDENT. (For example: I'm confident that my shoes are on the right feet.)
- Tell kids they can be just as confident that God has a plan for them as they are about having their shoes on the right feet.
- Practice the verse by playing a game in which kids pretend the floor is on fire and they must lift their feet up every few seconds to keep them from burning.
- Place a tissue paper "flame" on top of each kid's head.
- Tell them that when they hear you say, "PUT OUT THE FIRE!" they must drop their paper flame on the floor and stomp on it.
- The first person to stomp on his flame leads the others in saying the first part of the memory verse ("Being confident of this"), after which you'll recite the rest of Philippians 1:6.
- Let kids put their flames back on their head and play several more times.

What You Say:

"When you [Bottom Line] trust that God is always with you, it helps you to not be afraid. You can't see God the way you can see your mom or dad when they are with you, but you can be just as confident that He's right beside you. Do you remember what 'confident' means? (Pause for answers.) That's right! It means you are SURE that something is true. Let's say Philippians 1:6 one more time together. You start, and I will finish." (Pause as kids say, 'Being confident of this,' and then recite the remaining part of the verse.)

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Glow Stick

What You Do:

- Sit in a circle and hand the glow stick to one of the kids.
- Pray a simple prayer like the one below.
- When finished, ask the child holding the glow stick to hand it to someone else. Repeat the Bottom Line and prayer for that child.
- Continue until everyone has been prayed for.

What You Say:

"Dear God, help [child's name] to be confident that You are with him this week when he (fill in with something that pertains to the child you're praying for). In Jesus' name, amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to tell what happened to three men in the Bible who didn't bow down to the gold statue.