

WEEK 2- October 2019 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: God knows everything so I can be brave.

Gideon at Battle • Judges 7:9-22

Memory Verse: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God

goes with you." Deuteronomy 31:6, NIV

Key Question: Who can help you be brave? **Bottom Line:** God can help me be brave.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

Summary: We love our superheroes. We love their strength and bravery and how they use their special powers and super weapons to save the day. Whether it's a lasso that forces truth telling or a trident that manipulates water, it's always exciting to watch! What about in real life? We all want to be strong and courageous. We all want to say we would be brave when faced with fear. But how? What can help us be brave? How can our preschoolers be strong and courageous SUPER KIDS without the capes and super powers we see in the movies? This month we plan on giving preschoolers the answers to all of these questions while having some superhero fun!

We want our preschoolers to grow up knowing that they can be brave, because God is with them. Yep! God can help them be brave! And they don't even need a cape or a mask!

9:10-9:25 | 10:40-10:55 | 12:10-12:25 - MAKE IT FUN

1. March

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 line up in a single file line behind you.

During the Activity: Ask the children to follow you as the leader and to mimic what you are doing. Lead the children around the room while marching.

After the Activity: Choose a child to be the new leader to lead the other children around the room. Continue with the activity by allowing all of the children a turn to be the leader.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's march! I am your leader. Do what I do."

During the Activity: "Follow me! (Do activity.) Great job! Keep marching. (Continue the activity.) Let's have a new leader. (Choose child.) [Child's name] will be our leader now. Let's follow [child's name]." (Finish activity.)

After the Activity: "You are all awesome leaders. You are SUPER KIDS! Today we are going to hear a story about another awesome leader. He is a SUPER KID! I can't wait to hear our Bible story today!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by chanting this month's Bottom Line as you walk to the story area.

9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Next, preschoolers will learn all about Gideon and how he bravely went into battle with just torches, pots, and trumpets.

Story Focus: God knows everything so I can be brave. God told Gideon he would win the battle, and Gideon trusted God to know everything and be with him as he fought the much bigger army.

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 MAKE IT STICK

1. Gideon at Battle

Talk About God | Bible Story Review

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Guide the children to stand in front of you. Retell the Bible story as you act it out.

During the Activity: You be Gideon, and instruct the children to pretend to be his men. Break the children up into three groups, and place each group in a different place in the activity area. Ask the children to pretend to play trumpets. Then ask the children to pretend to hold jars and then break them. Ask the children to hold their pretend torches high.

After the Activity: When you get to the part about the other side running away, high five each other and jump for joy.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard a wonderful Bible story today about how God can help make us brave!"

During the Activity: "Let's pretend that we are Gideon and his men at battle. Gideon did not think they could win the battle, but God knows everything, and He knew they could. Gideon had to be brave and trust God. I will be Gideon. Grab your jars and your trumpets. We have to separate into three teams. (Do activity.) Now when Gideon says GO, play your pretend trumpets super loud! Ready . . . GO! (Play trumpets.) Great job! Now break your jars and hold your torches high!" (Continue activity.)

After the Activity: "WE WON! Gideon and his men made the other side run away. High fives and let's celebrate! (Finish activity.) Gideon was brave and listened to God because God knows everything! God made Gideon brave. God can make us brave too! We can be SUPER KIDS just like Gideon! Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave!"

2. Oh the Places You Go Tracing

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: "Places You Go" Activity Page, cardstock, and crayons

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Places You Go" Activity Page onto cardstock (one per child). Set the crayons out on the table.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to use the crayons to trace each line from the child on the left of the page to the places she goes on the right side of the page. As they're tracing, repeat the words of this month's Memory Verse.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Think about all the places you go in a week. Tell me, who is with you when you go to each of those places? (Pause.) Yes! God is with you. On this page, you'll see a child on one side and several places she could go on the other. I want you to trace the lines to get her from one side to the place she needs to go on the other."

During the Activity: "Let's say our Memory Verse together as you trace. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God goes with you, Deuteronomy 31:6. Great job! Keep tracing."

After the Activity: "You did a super job! You can be brave because God is with you everywhere you go. He is with you at school, He's with you at the park, He's with you at the store, and He's with you as you play with your friends in the neighborhood. Because God with you, that makes you a Super Kid! Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave."

3. Trumpet Making

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: "Trumpet" Activity Page, yellow cardstock, clear tape, scissors, a hole punch, and yarn

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Trumpet" Activity Page onto yellow cardstock (one per child). Roll the trumpet up like a cone and secure with tape, making sure that the Bottom Line and Bible story text are visible. Cut the yarn into two-foot pieces (one piece per child).

During the Activity: Give each child a rolled Activity Page. Let them use the hole punch to punch two holes—one on either end of the "trumpet." Help the children run the yarn

through the holes and secure with a knot. Encourage the children to place the trumpets around their necks.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Gideon trusted God, even when his army got smaller and smaller. And in the end, they won the battle by blowing their horns and scaring the enemy! God knew what would happen, and that made Gideon and his men so brave. Let's make a trumpet to wear around our necks as a reminder that [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave."

After the Activity: "We can trust God like Gideon did. We can be brave because God is with us. That makes us Super Kids! Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave."

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Deuteronomy 31:6, NIV. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Raise your hand if you know the way to our Small Group spot.

(Look at the children and choose a leader.)

"Wow! So many of you know the way to our Small Group spot. That's awesome! This time, I am going to ask [child's name] to show us the way to our Small Group spot. Everyone, follow [child's name].

(Encourage the children to follow the child you chose to be the leader.)

"We made it! Thank you for leading, [child's name]. And thank you, (call out each child's name), for being great followers! Now it's time to sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

"Who can tell me the leader's name in today's Bible story? (Pause.)

"You got it! His name was Gideon. Gideon was brave and did what God told him to do because he trusted that God knows everything. And if God knows everything, He will always know what's best!

"We can be brave Super Kids and do what God says, too, because God really does know everything! He will always know what's best for us.

"So tell me: Who can help you be brave?"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "God can help me be brave!"

SGL: "He sure can! And the new Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that the God who knows everything is always with us helping us be brave. It says this.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the LORD your God goes with you, Deuteronomy 31:6.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Are you ready? Say it with me."

CHILDREN and SGL: "Be strong (put right forearm and wrist out in front of you, similar to Wonder Woman) and courageous! (Put left forearm and wrist out in front of you and hit wrists together.) Do not be afraid . . . (wind up in a crazy karate chop pose and chop down on the word "afraid"), for the LORD (point your right hand up) your God (point your left hand up) goes with you (put both hands on hips in a "strong" pose), Deuteronomy 31:6." (Hold out hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "You sound awesome! (*Give children fist bumps.*) Let's sit down now so we can write in our journal and pray.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Today we are going to make a list of things we don't know, like how tall you will be or what job you will do when you grow up or what kind of car you will drive. You don't know any of these things, but there is someone who does: God! God knows everything! After we make our list, we can pray to God and ask Him to help us be brave Super Kids and trust that He knows everything.

"Think about some things you don't know yet. When I say your name, tell me one thing and I will write it you in our prayer journal.

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Thank you for doing that. This is a great list! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, there are so many things we don't know. We don't know *(read what the children listed)*. Not knowing can sometimes be scary. Please help us remember that You are always with us and You know everything. When we remember that, it will help us be brave. Thank You for loving us like You do. In Jesus' name, amen."