



## WEEK 1 - November 2019 - PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story Focus:** I can thank God for my family.

Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz • *Ruth 1–2*

**Memory Verse:** “I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.” Psalm 111:1, ESV

**Key Question:** Who can you thank for everything?

**Bottom Line:** I can thank God for everything.

**Basic Truth:** God made me.

**Summary:** Can you say thank you?” How many times will a child be asked that question in their preschool years? We ask them again and again because we want to help them learn to be thankful. This month is all about saying thank you. In fact, we are going to be bubbling over with thankfulness in the Bubble Factory, our theme for this month.

Throughout the month, preschoolers will learn to be thankful for their family, friends, and food. And, they’ll learn that saying, “Thank you” is just as important as being thankful.

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**9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 | 12:00-12:10 - FREE PLAY**

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

## 1. Moving Houses

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

**What You Need:** "House" Activity Page; red, green, blue, and yellow cardstock (one piece of each); and wall tape

### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Copy "House" onto the four colors of cardstock. Use the wall tape to secure the four colored house pictures to the wall in four corners of the activity area at a child's eye level.

*During the Activity:* Gather the children in the center of the activity area. Point out the four houses in the corners of the room. Identify the color of each house together. Instruct the children to move to a certain colored house. Once all the children have arrived, call them back to the center to repeat with the other colors. Continue as time and interest allow.

### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Do you see the pictures I've hung the corners of the room? What are the pictures of? *(Pause.)* Yes, a house! What colors do you see? *(Pause.)* Great job! I see a yellow, green, red, and blue house. Listen to my instructions as I call out a certain colored house. When I do, I want you to move to that house by walking quickly. Ready?"

*During the Activity:* "Okay, friends. Please move to the yellow house! *(Pause.)* Great job! Now come back to the center here with me. Please move to the green house!" *(Continue with activity.)*

*After the Activity:* "You certainly know your colors! And you did a great job moving to the correct house each time. In our Bible story today, we'll hear about some people that had to move and go to a new house."

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to pack your belongings and then carry them so you can move to a new place. Items to pack and move: toys, clothes, plush animals, games, books, dishes, bikes, shoes, etc.

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

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### **Large Group Overview:**

Week one, we are going to thank God for our families.

**Story Focus:** I can thank God for my family. Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz were so thankful for the family God gave them. When you go from no family to lots of family, you start bubbling with thanks!

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

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## **1. Memory Verse with Motions**

### **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:* Say the Memory Verse and do the following motions in front of the children. *I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the LORD (both hands point up) with my whole heart (both hands over heart), Psalm 111:1. (Open hands like a book.)*

*During the Activity:* Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

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

*Before the Activity:* "I am going to say our new Memory Verse today. Everyone watch me! *I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the LORD (both hands point up) with my whole heart (both hands over heart), Psalm 111:1.*" (Open hands like a book.)

*During the Activity:* "Now let's do it all together! Are you ready? (Pause.) *I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the LORD (both hands point up) with my whole heart (both hands over heart), Psalm 111:1.*" (Open hands like a book.)

*After the Activity:* "Our Memory Verse tells us that we should thank God for everything.

**Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!"**

## **2. Pattern Houses**

### **Live for God | Application Activity**

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

**What You Need:** "Pattern Houses" Activity Page; yellow, blue, red, orange, purple, and green cardstock (one of each color); and scissors

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

*Before the Activity:* Copy the Activity Page onto the six different colors of cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. You will have a total of 24 cards.

*During the Activity:* Lay the cards in the activity area. Challenge the children to work together to make patterns with the cards. Call out a combination of three colors, such as: blue, yellow, red. Instruct the children to select the colors you called out and place them in a line that that order.

*After the Activity:* Continue the activity by adding more cards to the combinations. You may also repeat colors as desired.

Examples of possible combinations:

3 colors:

Blue, yellow, red

Green, blue, green

Red, purple, blue

4 colors:

Blue, blue, red, red

Yellow, red, orange, green

Orange, orange, yellow, green

5 colors:

Green, green, blue, green, blue

Purple, yellow, orange, red, blue

Purple, green, purple, green, yellow

6 colors:

Green, green, green, green, red, red

Red, yellow, green, red, yellow, green

Red, yellow, green, blue, purple, orange

### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “We are going to make patterns today. Listen super closely so that you know which patterns to make.”

*During the Activity:* “We are going to make our patterns out of houses. In our Bible story today, we learned that Ruth and Naomi were family and found a new place to live. When I call out colors, use the cards (*point*) to make a pattern of those colors. Let’s do one together. Red, yellow, green. (*Demonstrate by making the pattern.*) You guys work together to make the next one! (*Pause.*) Nice work! Let’s try again, and add more colors!” (*Continue the activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “That was great work! We made patterns out of the houses. We can thank God for our houses, and we can thank God for our families. We can thank God for EVERYTHING! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**”

### 3. Thankful Bubbles

#### 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:** “Bubble Bottle,” “Bubbles,” and “Parent Note” Activity Pages; any color cardstock; blue cardstock; copy paper; scissors; crayons; paper clips; and stickers

*(NOTE: You may choose to forego the “Bubbles” Activity Page by die-cutting medium-sized circles from blue paper instead. Each child will need four to six bubbles.)*

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Bubble Bottle” Activity Page onto any color of cardstock. Copy the “Bubbles” Activity Page onto the blue cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. Each child will need four to six bubbles. Copy the “Parent Note” Activity Page onto the copy paper and cut on dotted lines (one note per child).

*During the Activity:* Give each child the “Bubble Bottle” Activity Page, stickers, and crayons. Invite them to decorate the bottle any way they would like.

*After the Activity:* Clip the bubbles and the Parent Note to the bubble bottle and send home with the children.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “We can thank God for EVERYTHING!”

*During the Activity:* “We are going to make a craft that you can take home and write down all the things you are thankful for. First, we are going to decorate the bubble bottle. *(Hold up.)* You may decorate it any way that you would like. Then you may take it home with some bubbles *(hold up)* and write what you are thankful for with your family.” *(Do activity.)*

*After the Activity:* “Great job! You can take your craft home and hang it on your wall. You can ask a family member to help you write things that you are most thankful for on the bubbles and then add them to your bubble bottle. We can thank God for EVERYTHING! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**”

### 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 Psalm 111:1, ESV. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** “It’s Small Group time. Today we are going to pretend to pick up food off the ground and put it in our baskets like Ruth did in the story. Come on! Let’s gather some food!

*(Encourage the children to pretend to put food in baskets as you lead them to your Small Group spot.)*

“Wow! You really filled up your baskets! Let’s sit down now 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.)*

“Our Bible story today was about a family that helped one another. Do you remember how Ruth helped Naomi? *(Pause.)*

“Great memory! Ruth went to work in the fields every day to get enough food to take to Naomi so they would have something to eat.

“Do you remember how Boaz helped Ruth and Naomi? *(Pause.)*

“You got it! Boaz told his workers to leave enough food so Ruth could fill her basket.

“Do you think Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz were thankful for their family? *(Pause.)*

“I do, too! We can be thankful for our family. We can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything?”**

**CHILDREN and SGL:** *[Bottom Line]* **“I can thank God for everything!”**

**SGL:** “And I have the perfect Bible verse for us to learn so we can remember to thank God for everything. It says this.

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

*“I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, Psalm 111:1.*

*(Close the Bible and lay it down.)*

“Let’s stand up and say our new Bible verse with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

**CHILDREN and SGL:** *“I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the LORD (both hands point up) with my whole heart (both hands over heart), Psalm 111:1.” (Open hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

**SGL:** “You sound great! Thanks for saying that with me! 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 people in our family and how they help us. We can use the list when we pray to thank God for our family.

“When I say your name, tell me one person in your family, and I will write it 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.)*

“This is so sweet! Thank you! Now we can use our list when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

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

## **Prayer**

**SGL:** “Dear God, thank You for our family. They help us in so many ways! [Child’s name] wants to thank You for how [family member’s name] helps them [way they help]. *(Repeat for each child.)* In Jesus’ name, amen.”