

# WEEK 3 - November 2019 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: I can thank God for food.

Manna • Exodus 16

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.

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

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

#### 1. Rain Makers

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

What You Need: A large bag of cotton balls

#### What You Do:

Before the Activity: Scatter the cotton balls in the activity area.

During the Activity: Gather the children in the activity area. Encourage the children to pick up the cotton balls and toss them in the air to make it rain. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Enlist the children to gather the cotton balls.

## What You Say:

During the Activity: "Friends, come over here with me! Let's toss these cotton balls in the air to make it rain inside the classroom!"

After the Activity: "That was so fun! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about something that fell from the sky, but it wasn't rain. I can't wait for you to hear it."

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by calling out different things that might fall from the sky as you encourage the children to either catch them or move out of the way. Objects that might fall from the sky: loaves of bread, pianos, bouncy balls, cotton balls, rain, snow, erasers, candy, shoes, puppies, feathers, books, plush animals, cereal, soup, pandas, etc.

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

# Large Group Overview:

During week three, we are going to thank God for our food.

**Story Focus**: I can thank God for food. If we could talk to Moses and the Israelites as they ate their manna, they would be sure to remind us to bubble with thanks for having choices and plenty to eat!

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

# 1. Raining Bubbles

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: Bubble solution and a bubble wand

### What You Do:

Before the Activity: Direct the children to lie down on the floor.

During the Activity: Blow the bubbles toward the children. Encourage the children to pop all of the bubbles as they can come down on them. After the bubbles are popped, ask the children to stand up and say the Memory Verse. Repeat several times.

# What You Say:

Before the Activity: "It is raining bubbles!"

During the Activity: "When I blow the bubbles, they will rain down on you, and you may pop them. When you pop the bubbles, stand up and we can say the memory verse. Are you ready? (Do activity.) Great job!"

After the Activity: "God gives us everything. We should always be thankful to God for EVERYTHING! Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!"

# 2. Act It Out

### 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: cotton balls used earlier

#### What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather the children in the activity area to re-enact today's Bible story. Encourage the children to lie down as if going to sleep. As they're "sleeping," sprinkle some cotton balls around the room as the manna. Then declare that it's morning and time to wake up. Instruct the children to gather a few pom-poms as their food for the day. Repeat as time and interest allow.

# What You Say:

During the Activity: "In our Bible story today, the people were so hungry and they worried about where their food would come from. Let's gather together. It's nighttime. Time to sleep! Everyone, lie down here and close your eyes. (Pause. Sprinkle pom-poms on the ground.) The sun is up! Time to wake up, everyone. Oh, my goodness! Look what's on the ground. God sent us food to eat. Isn't that amazing? God gives us food, and we should say thank you."

After the Activity: "God provided food for the people, right from the sky! He gave them what they needed. God gives us what we need, too, including food to eat. We need to say thank you. Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything."

#### 3. Tent Card

# **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: "Tent Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, crayons

#### What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. (Be sure not to cut on the solid line.) Each child will need one cutout.

During the Activity: Give each child a cutout, and allow them to decorate both sides with the crayons.

After the Activity: Fold the cutout on the solid line to make a tent card.

## What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are going to make a card that you can put on your table when your family eats dinner."

During the Activity: "First, we need to decorate the card. This will be so much fun! (Do activity.) Perfect! When we fold the card on the line (demonstrate), it makes a card that will sit on the table."

After the Activity: "Your family will love your card! You did a great job. We can show our family the card to remind them that 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. I want you to think of your favorite food. (*Pause.*) Are you thinking of the food you like to eat more than anything? Great! Now pretend you are eating your favorite food while we walk to our Small Group spot. Got it? Start eating and follow me!

(Pretend to eat food while you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"Mmm, that was good! Now we can 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.)

"Our Bible story today was about food. Do you remember what kind of food was in the story today? (Pause.)

"You're right! Bread! God's people were out in a desert, and they were VERY hungry. They didn't have any food to eat, so God gave them some. He made bread—called manna—fall from the sky every morning.

"Sometimes our food may not be our favorite, but we should always thank God for whatever food we have. Right? Right! We should thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "I can thank God for everything!"

**SGL:** "Let's stand up and say the new Bible verse we have been learning. 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 say that together with the motions."

**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 are so smart! Way to go! (Give the children a fist bump.) Now let's sit down so we can write in our journal and pray.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Today we are going to make a list of foods that are NOT our favorite. Do you know why we are thanking God for foods that are NOT our favorite? Because we can thank God for everything! That means we can tell God thank you for ALL the food He gives us, even our NOT favorite foods.

"When I say your name, tell me one food that is NOT your favorite and I'll write it by your name 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. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

# Prayer

**SGL:** "Dear God, we want to thank You for everything—even the foods we don't like that much. We want to be thankful for ALL the food You give us. [Child's name] wants to thank you for [food]. (Repeat for each child.) Help us to always be thankful, no matter what. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."