



WEEK 2 - November 2019 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: I can thank God for my friends.

David and Jonathan • *1 Samuel 18:1-4*

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. Missing Friend

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

What You Need: Two chairs and a sheet

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the chairs side by side and hang the sheet over them.

During the Activity: Line the children up side-by-side in front of the chairs. Ask them to close their eyes. Choose one child to go behind the chairs and hide. Ask the children to open their eyes and try to guess which friend is missing.

After the Activity: Continue the activity by giving each child a turn to hide behind the chairs.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are all such good friends! Look around at all of your friends."
(Pause.)

During the Activity: (Line the children up facing away from the chairs.) "Everyone close your eyes. (Pause and choose the child to hide.) Great job! Now open your eyes. One of our friends is missing. Can you look around and see who is missing? (Pause.) Great job! Let's do it again!" (Repeat with each child.)

After the Activity: "All of our friends are very important. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about two people who were good friends. I cannot wait to hear our Bible story today!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging the children to hold hands 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:

We will thank God for our friends in week two. Friends help us, encourage us, and make us laugh.

Story Focus: I can thank God for my friends. We can read about two great friends, David and Jonathan, in the Bible. They cared for one another and even shared their things.

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

1. Friends

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: “Friends” Activity Page, cardstock, and crayons

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Friends” on cardstock and cut on the dotted lines.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page and invite them to decorate the two-gingerbread people on the right as themselves and a friend.

After the Activity: Retell the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today we heard a Bible story about two friends, David and Jonathan.”

During the Activity: (Give each child an Activity Page.) “There is a picture of David and Jonathan on our page. (Point.) There are also two more people on our page. (Point to the gingerbread people.) This is you and your friend. Use your crayons to decorate you and your friend.” (Do activity.)

After the Activity: “Great job! Jonathan was the son of the king and David was his good friend. Jonathan loved that David was his friend and would do anything for him. God gives us good friends, and we should always be thankful for our friends! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**”

2. Ways to Be a Good Friend

Live for God | Application Activity

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

What You Need: A large piece of butcher paper, markers, and wall tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: On the top of the butcher paper, write “Thank You, God, for good friends!” Hang the butcher paper on a wall close to the activity area at a child’s eye level with the wall tape.

During the Activity: Gather the children to sit in front of the butcher paper. Read the title at the top of the page to the children. Encourage the children to call out ways to be a

good friend. As you write their ideas on the butcher paper, draw bubbles around each answer. Continue as long as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Come sit here with me. Do you see these words? It says, ‘Thank You, God, for good friends!’ I want you to raise your hand, and when I call on you, tell me one way to be a good friend. Let’s fill this whole page with ideas of how to be a good friend!”

After the Activity: “Wow! You gave so many great answers. I’m so thankful God gives us good friends! And if you do these things, you can be a good friend, too. We can thank God for friends. **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**”

3. Friend to Friend

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: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Divide the children into pairs.

During the Activity: Say, “Knee to knee,” and have the children touch their knee to their partner’s knee. Continue the activity with the following movements: elbow to elbow, toes to toes, and hand to hand. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are all friends!”

During the Activity: “Everyone pick a friend to be your partner. *(Pause.)* Awesome! Now let’s do movements together! First, let’s do knee to knee! Touch your knee to your friend’s knee. Great job! Now let’s do elbow to elbow!” *(Continue and finish activity.)*

After the Activity: “Way to go! God gave us good friends, and we should always be thankful! **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 walk arm-in-arm with our friends like this (*demonstrate hooking your arm together with a child’s arm*) all the way to our Small Group spot. Friends are the best, so let’s walk together with our friends! Is everyone arm-in-arm with a friend? Here we go!

(Lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

“We made it! Give a friend a high five and then sit down so we can 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 two friends named David and Jonathan. David and Jonathan were best friends. Raise your hand if you have a really good friend. *(Pause.)* Me, too! Do you know you can thank God for your friends? *(Pause.)* It’s true! You can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything?”**

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

SGL: “And the Bible verse we are learning will help us remember to thank God for everything with our whole heart. 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: “Wow! That was awesome! *(Give each child a high five.)* 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 our FRIENDS! Friends are wonderful, and we are going to thank God for them today when we pray.

“When I say your name, tell me one of your best friends, and I’ll write their 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! 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, thank You for our friends. [Child’s name] is thankful for [friend’s name]. *(Repeat for each child.)* We love our friends, God. Thank You for giving them to us. In Jesus’ name, amen.”