

WEEK 1 - May 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: God made me, and He loves me.

God Made Me • Genesis 1:26; Psalm 139:14

Memory Verse: "Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love."

Romans 8:39, NIrV

Key Question: Who loves you? **Bottom Line:** God loves me. **Basic Truth:** God loves me.

Make it Fun

Activities to help kids transition into the classroom and set up the bible story.

-Jump Up

Make it True

Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world

-Large group time

Make it Stick

Activities and crafts that help kids personalize the story and apply the truths to their life.

- -Memory Verse
- -Parachute
- -Heart Print
- -Journal and prayer

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

1. Jump Up!

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:

During the Activity: Gather all of the children in your activity area. Explain to the children that you will call out different things they might love and give them an action to perform if they do. Examples are in the dialogue below.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Friends, come over here with me. We all like different things. Some of us love chocolate ice cream and some love vanilla. I'm going to call out something you might love along with an action. If you love it, just follow the directions. Here's an example: If you love sunshine, jump up and down. Who loves sunshine? Awesome jumping! Okay, ready for the next one?

"If you love apples, pretend to take a big bite!

If you love popsicles, clap your hands.

If you love ice cream, stomp your feet.

If you love building things, wave your hands.

If you love riding your bike, march with me.

If you love to paint, paint in the air.

If you love to play outside, jog in place.

If you love goldfish, swim like a fish.

If you love the color blue, raise your hands in the air.

If you love to sing, sing 'la la la la la!"

After the Activity: "That was fun! We can love sunshine and the color blue. There are lots and lots of things in this great big world God made for us to love. In large group today, we'll hear about the most special thing God ever made! I can't wait for you to hear!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by calling out more examples like those above. More options:

If you love music, dance!

If you love mornings, yawn and stretch.

If you love jumping, jump, jump, jump.

If you love your friends, give a high five.

If you love pigs, say, "oink, oink."

If you love fruit punch, pretend to take a big gulp.

If you love your scooter, show me how you ride it.

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

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: God made me, and He loves me. We will jump into the month talking about how much thought and planning God put into making each of us. People are God's most special creation. And, each one of is unique. There is no one like us in the whole world. How awesome would it be for every preschooler to believe that they are wonderfully made by God in His image? So awesome! And, because God made us, He loves us.

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

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.

"Nothing at all (shake head and wave your arms in front of you) can separate (lock your fingers together) us from God's (point up with both hands) love (hug yourself). Romans 8:39." (Open your 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. Everyone, watch me!

"Nothing at all (shake head and wave your arms in front of you) can separate (lock your fingers together) us from God's (point up with both hands) love (hug yourself)." Romans 8:39. (Open your hands like a book.)

During the Activity: "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready?

"Nothing at all (shake head and wave your arms in front of you) can separate (lock your fingers together) us from God's (point up with both hands) love (hug yourself). Romans 8:39." (Open your hands like a book.)

After the Activity: "God loves us all! Nothing will ever change that! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!"

2. Parachuting Hearts

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: A parachute/sheet and foam hearts or heart cutouts

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay out the parachute in the activity area. Scatter the hearts around the surface of the parachute.

During the Activity: Lead the children to stand around the perimeter of the parachute. Encourage them to bend down, grab the parachute with both hands, and stand up. Lead the children to wave their arms to move the hearts across the surface.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "What do you see on our parachute? (Pause.) Yes, hearts! Today, we've been talking about how God made us and loves us! These hearts remind me of love. Let's celebrate how much God loves us as we wave our parachute and make these hearts jump up and down!"

After the Activity: "Let's set the parachute down gently on the count of three. Ready? One, two, three. That was so fun. Friends, God loves you SO much! He made you special for sure. Tell me, who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me."

3. Heart Print

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: "Heart Print" Activity Page, cardstock, inkpads, scissors, and wet wipes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page on the cardstock. Cut the page in half on the dotted lines. Each child needs one half page.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page half. Help the child place their finger in the ink and press it inside the heart on the Activity Page. Continue the activity until the heart on the page is full of fingerprints.

After the Activity: Wipe messy fingers with wet wipes.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "God loves you!"

During the Activity: "Hearts show love. We are going to make a heart with your fingers! Your fingerprints (hold up finger) are just for you! No one else has your fingerprint. God made us all special. This heart will show that God loves you!" (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "We are the most special thing that God made! He loves us SO much! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!"

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 Romans 8:39. 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 march to our small group spot with the legs and feet God made us. Follow me! Let's march, march, march!"

(March as you lead the children to your small group spot.)

LEADER: "Annund stop! We made it! Let's 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.)

SGL: "Our Bible story today was about how God made (name of child) and (name of child) and (name of child) and . . .(Point to each child as you say their name.)"

SGL: "And because God made you, He loves you very much. That's why, when I ask you, 'who loves you?', I want you to say, [Bottom Line] 'God loves me.' Who loves you?"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "God loves me!"

SGL: "He sure does! God loves you SO much, nothing at all can ever separate you from His love. And the Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that!"

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

SGL: "It says, 'Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love,' Romans 8:39."

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

SGL: "That means God will never, ever, ever, stop loving you! That is the BEST news! Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. I don't want us to ever forget it!"

CHILDREN and SGL: "Nothing at all (shake head and wave your arms in front of you) can separate (lock your fingers together) us from God's (point up with both hands) love (hug yourself). Romans 8:39." (Open your hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with the motions a few times.)

SGL: "I love that verse! I love hearing that God will NEVER stop loving me. And He will never stop loving you! Yay, for God's love!"

(Give each child a high five.)

SGL: "Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God."

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

SGL: "So, today we learned that God made us. Right? Right!"

(Give two thumbs up.)

SGL: "And because God made us, He loves us very much. Right? Right!"

(Give two thumbs up.)

SGL: "Well, since God made our bodies, and He loves us, I thought we could make a list of some of our favorite things about our bodies.

"Think about your body. What is your favorite part? God made your feet to run, and a brain to think, and a tongue to taste yummy food. So, when I say your name, tell me one of your favorite body parts."

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so

the children recognize their names and the letters.)

SGL: "This list is SO great! We can use it 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, You did a wonderful thing when you made (say each child's name). We want to tell You some of our favorite things about the bodies you made. (Name of child) really likes his (read what they listed). (Name of child) really likes her (read what they listed. Repeat with each child and what they listed.) And I really like my (say something you like about yourself). You are amazing, God, and we love You. In Jesus' name, amen."