



WEEK 3 - August 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: I am so important to God, He sent me Jesus.
God Loves Us So Much • *John 3:16*

Memory Verse: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14, NIV

Key Question: Who made you?

Bottom Line: God made me.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Make it Fun

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

-Little hearts make a big heart

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.

-Cheese
-Love Walk
-Best gift of all
-Journal and prayer

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. Little Hearts Make a Big Heart

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: Butcher paper, tape, markers or crayons.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Draw a large heart on the paper. You can write, "God loves us so much."

During the Activity: Encourage children one at a time to go and draw little hearts inside the big hearts. Continue until the big heart is filled with all the little hearts. Remember to let the children to use only one marker or crayon and to wipe each one after use.

After the Activity: Talk about how God loves us so much! *Optional: Hang the heart in the hallway for pickup.*

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: I am so important to God He sent me Jesus. We find out how important we are during week three. You see, God loves every person in the whole wide world so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. THAT is how important we are to God.

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Cheese

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: Floor tape and a large, preschool-safe mirror with a stand

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Use the floor tape to make a long path across the activity area. Place the mirror at the end of the path.

During the Activity: Ask the children to walk along the path one at a time while saying the memory verse. When the child gets to the end of the path, ask them to look in the mirror and say, "Cheese." Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn to look in the mirror.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We have an awesome memory verse this month."

During the Activity: "Let's walk this path (*point*) and say our memory verse. When you get to the end of the path, you will see someone who is important to God. (*Do activity.*) When you see who is important to God, say, 'Cheese!'" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "We are all important to God, and He gave us Jesus! God made everyone!
Who made you? [Bottom Line] God made me!"

2. Love Walk

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: worship song from the thriving page

What You Do:

During the Activity: Encourage the children to walk around the room as you play music. Stop the music sporadically. When the music stops, pick a child and tell everyone their name. Then everyone else can say, "[Child's name] is so important that God sent Jesus!" Repeat until every child has had an opportunity.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! Spread around the room. Remember, God made you! I'll play music as you walk around the room. Then when the music stops I will pick someone. And we will say your name then 'is so important that God sent Jesus.'"

During the Activity: Say it with me: [Child's name] is so important that God sent Jesus.

"Okay, everyone let's walk again!"

After the Activity: "Great job, friends! God LOVES you so much that He sent Jesus! I'm so glad to know that God made me and that God loves me. **Who made you? [Bottom Line] God made me.** Yes, He did!"

3. The Best Gift of All

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

What You Need: "Jesus Cutout" Activity Page, cardstock

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Jesus Cutout" onto cardstock and cut on dotted lines, one copy per group. Glue the "Jesus Cutout" onto the back of one of the pieces of cardstock. Set the cardstock pieces on the floor of your activity area.

During the Activity: Gather the children around the pieces. Explain that out of all the gifts in the world, there is one special gift! Call on the children one at a time to select a gift, you will pick it up, and look on the back. Let the children search until they've found the gift with the picture of Jesus on the back.

If time allows, have the children close their eyes as you place the "gifts" in different spots around the activity area. Let the children take turns selecting gifts again, until they find the Jesus gift.

After the Activity: Gather all the cardstock gifts for clean-up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over here with me! Do you see all these gifts? One of them is very special. Let's look until we find it!"

During the Activity: "Let's take turns! I will call on you to pick a gift. You can look on the back to see if you've found the special one! (*Do activity.*) You found it! It's JESUS! God loves us SO much that He gave us Jesus, the best gift of all!"

After the Activity: "Today, we'll hear how God gave us Jesus, the best gift ever. Why? Because He loves us and we are important to him. I can't wait to hear all about Jesus, the best gift ever."

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 139:14. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each Small Group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we're going to clap with our hands while we say, 'God loves me!' Let's practice before we try to clap, talk, and walk all at the same time. Get your hands ready to clap and say what I say!"

CHILDREN and SGL: (*Clap as you say each word.*) "God loves me. God loves me. God loves me!"

SGL: "You sound great! Now, let's just add our walking feet, and we can clap, talk, and walk all the way to our Small Group spot. Just say what I say and follow me!"

CHILDREN and SGL: (*Walk and clap as you say each word.*) "God loves me. God loves me. God loves me." (*Continue all the way to your Small Group spot.*)

SGL: "We did it! Way to go! (*Give air high fives to the children.*)

"Now, let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

“Today’s Bible story was about how important you and you and you (*point to each child*) are to God. God loves you SO much, He sent His Son, Jesus, to be your friend forever! That’s a lot of love!

“Do you know why you are so important to God? (*Pause.*) Because God made you! **Who made you?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] “**God made me!**”

SGL: “Yes, He did! God made you, and He loves you very much! And the Bible verse we are learning tells us how God made you. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*)

“*I am fearfully and wonderfully made, Psalm 139:14. (Close the Bible and lay it down.)*

“Did you hear that? You are WONDERFULLY made by God! Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “*I am (point thumbs to chest) fearfully (right arm muscle) and wonderfully (left arm muscle) made, (clap hands together) Psalm 139:14.*” (*Hold hands open like a book.*)

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

SGL: “Wow! You are fearfully and wonderfully made by God! (*Clap and cheer.*) Yay! God made you and [*Bottom Line*] **God made me!**

“Now, let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

“I will write your names in our prayer journal because each of you are SO important 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, it feels good to know that we are SO important to You that You gave us Jesus to be our friend forever. I pray that as (*name each child*) grows up and begins to wonder if they really are important to anyone that they will remember how very important they are to You. I pray they remember that You love them with the greatest love. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”