



WEEK 4 - Nov 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Today's Bible Story: I can thank God for people who help me.

Nehemiah Builds a Wall • *Nehemiah 1–6*

Memory Verse: "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good." Psalm 107:1, NIV

Key Question: Who is good?

Bottom Line: God is good.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Make it Fun

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

-Build a wall

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.

-Paired-up verse
-People who help
- Build a wall
-Journal and prayer

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. Build That Wall

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

What You Need: Craft sticks/ or blocks

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a box of craft sticks in your activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to work to build a wall around your classroom with the craft sticks.

After the Activity: Have the children return the craft sticks to the box for clean-up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over here with me. Let's build a wall around the room with these craft sticks. You can stack them any way you want. Let's work together, because this is a big job!"

After the Activity: "Wow! What awesome builders you are. In our Bible story, we'll hear about a man who wanted to rebuild a very large wall. But he needed help! Let's find out what happened."

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to pantomime building a wall.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: I can thank God for people who help me. Week four will be filled with blocks and tools as we pretend to help Nehemiah repair the wall. Nehemiah had so many people helping him, and our preschoolers have a lot of people helping them too. We want our preschoolers to see the teachers, doctors, neighbors, coaches, and grocery clerks who help them and say, "Thank You, God!"

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Paired-Up Verse

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: Several soft balls

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Pair the children to sit on the floor facing each other in your activity area.

During the Activity: Have the children pass the ball back and forth by rolling it on the floor as you repeat this month's memory verse together.

After the Activity: Gather all the balls for clean-up.

Social Distancing Option – Roll the ball towards the wall so it will bounce back.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Okay friends, let's find a partner and sit facing each other right over here."

During the Activity: "Let's roll the ball on the floor, back and forth, to our partners and say our memory verse together. Ready? 'Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,' Psalm 107:1." (Repeat as a time and interest allow.)

After the Activity: "We can give thanks to the Lord. Why? Because **[Bottom Line] God is good.** Say it with me! **Who is good? [Bottom Line] God is good!**"

2. People Who Help

Live for God | Application Activity

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

What You Need: Butcher paper, markers, and wall tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Hang the butcher paper on the wall with the wall tape. At the top of the page, write "People Who Help Me" in large block letters.

During the Activity: Gather the children to sit in front of the butcher paper and name people who help them. Write their answers on the butcher paper.

After the Activity: Reread all the things listed on the butcher paper.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! I need your help. Come sit in front of this paper."

During the Activity: “I want you to think of someone who helps you. Raise your hand. When I call on you, I want you to name someone who helps you, and I’ll write it on the paper.”

After the Activity: “Let’s see, there are a lot of people who help us! There’s *(read all the names on the list)*. Tell me, who gave us all these people to help us? *(Pause.)* Yes, God did! God gives us GOOD things like people who help us. Why? Because He is good. **Who is good? [Bottom Line] God is good.**”

3. Build a Wall

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: “Wall” Activity Page, cardstock, and wall tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Wall” on the cardstock, one per child. Place a loop of tape on the back of each of Activity Page to stick to the wall, later.

During the Activity: Give each child a “Wall” page with tape on it. Challenge the children to place the pages on the wall. Help the children place the bricks on top of each other to build the wall. Continue the activity until all of the bricks are on the wall.

What you say:

Before the Activity: “Let’s be like Nehemiah and build a wall.”

During the Activity: *(Give each child an Activity Page.)* “These will be our bricks. *(Point.)* Place them on the wall on top of each other, and we can build a wall.” *(Do activity.)*

After the Activity: “WOW! Nice wall! It looks like the one Nehemiah built in our Bible story today! God gives us people who help us! We can thank God for people who help us. **Who is good? [Bottom Line] God is good!**”

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Paperclipped “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at Psalm 107:1, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Today, we’ll march to our small group spot. Get your knees up high like this *(demonstrate)* and follow me! *(March with high knees while pumping your arms as you lead the children to your small group spot.)*

“That was some mighty fine marching, friends! 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.)*

“Our Bible story today was about a man named Nehemiah. Nehemiah had a big job to do. He wanted to repair the wall that went all the way around the city! It was a very big job. Did he do it all by himself? *(Pause.)* No way! He had lots of people help him. They marched right up and got to work. Do you think Nehemiah was thankful for the people who helped him? *(Pause.)* I do, too. **[Bottom Line] God is good** to give us people to help us. **Who is good? [Bottom Line] God is good!**

“Having people help us is another good gift God gives us. And the Bible verse we’re learning will help us remember to thank God because **[Bottom Line] God is good!** *(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)*

“Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, Psalm 107:1. (Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Let’s stand up and say that Bible verse together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: *“Give thanks (clap on each word) to the LORD (point up) for he is good, (two thumbs up) Psalm 107:1.” (Open hands like a book.)*

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: “Wow! Next time we are together, I’ll have my stickers/handstamp ready so you can try the verse by yourself. I know you will be ready!”

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

“Today, we’ll make a list of people who help us. This could be a very long list. Doctors, teachers, grocery clerks, librarians, friends, coaches, police officers, garbage collectors, farmers . . . there are SO many people who help us! So when I say your name, I want you to tell me one person who helps you, and I will write the 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.)

SGL: “Look at all of the people who help us! *(Hold up the journal.)* Let’s use this 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, You are so good! You give us so many people to help us. We just want to thank You for some of the people who help us like *(read the list the children made)*. And I want to thank You for *(name each child)*, because they help me every time we come to church. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. amen.”

