



WEEK 2 - May 2021 - PRESCHOOL

Today's Bible Story: I should go God's way.

Jonah • *Jonah 1:1–3:10*

Memory Verse: "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIrV

Key Question: Whose way is perfect?

Bottom Line: God's way is perfect.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Make it Fun

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

-Animal delivery

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 hop
-Can you jump over it?
-Blow
-Journal and prayer

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. Animal Delivery

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

What You Need: "Animal Delivery" Activity Page, paper, crayons, shoe box with lid or anything that resembles mailbox

What You Do:

Before the Activity: place the 'mailbox' in plain sight and tape one animal on top from "animal delivery" activity page

During the Activity: Give the children each a piece of paper and ask them to decorate and to deliver their "messages" to the animals' mailboxes.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Today, we're going to deliver important messages. I see a mailbox for a (insert animal) (point)"

During the Activity: "Here are our messages! (Give each child paper.) Walk to the different mailboxes to deliver the messages. Place your messages in the mail box!" (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "Great job, friends. Today, we'll hear a Bible story about a man named Jonah and a very special message that God wanted him to deliver. I can't wait to find out what happened!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to be mailmen as you walk to the story area. Pretend to hold a mail bag and put letters in pretend mailboxes.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: I should go God's way. Week two, we will hear the story of Jonah and some of the choices he made. Preschoolers will learn about what happened to Jonah when he decided to go his way instead of going God's way. They will hear how Jonah eventually decided, that God's way is perfect so that was the way he should go.

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Memory Verse Hop

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: "Memory Verse Words" Activity Page, cardstock, and floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Memory Verse Words" on cardstock, one set per small group. Lay the memory verse words in verse order on the floor of your activity area, spacing them out so your preschoolers can easily hop from one word to another. Tape them to the floor.

During the Activity: Review this month's memory verse with the motions first. Then have the children hop along the words of the verse as you repeat it together.

After the Activity: Pull up all the tape and words from the floor for clean-up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We're learning a great verse this month about how God's way is perfect! Let's say it together with our motions.

"'God's way (*point up*) is perfect,' (*two thumbs up*) 2 Samuel 22:31." (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity: "Do you see these words on the floor? It's the words of our verse. See? Right here it says, 'God's way is perfect,' 2 Samuel 22:31. Let's hop along from word to word as we say the verse together. We can go one at a time so every friend has a turn."

After the Activity: "That was so fun! I'm so glad to know that I can go God's way because **[Bottom Line] God's way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God's way is perfect!**"

2. Can You Jump Over It?

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: two pool noodles

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the pool noodles a few feet apart in your activity area.

During the Activity: Gather the children in your activity area. Challenge them to see if they can jump over both pool noodles. (Stay safe by doing one child at a time)

After the Activity: Pick up pool noodles.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come stand over here with me! Do you think you can jump over these pool noodles? Let's find out! Watch out for friends. Let's make sure only one of us jumps over it at a time."

After the Activity: “Great job, friends! You did it. You jumped right over those just as I asked! You followed my instructions and went my way. But guess what? There is someone even MORE important that we should follow! Can you guess who it is? *(Pause.)* Yes! We should go God’s way because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!** When you choose to go God’s way, you’ll always head in the right direction!”

3. Blow

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: “Jonah” and “Big Fish” Activity Pages, white cardstock, blue cardstock, scissors, clear tape, and party blowers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the “Jonah” Activity Page on white cardstock and cut on the dotted lines, one cutout per child. Copy “Big Fish” Activity Page on white or blue cardstock and cut on the dotted lines, one cutout per child.

During the Activity: Give each child a “Jonah” cutout, a “Big Fish” cutout, and a party blower. Help the children tape the big fish piece to the front of the blower on the plastic piece. Be sure not to obstruct the mouthpiece so that the child can still blow it. Tape the Jonah piece to the end of the blower piece.

After the Activity: Encourage the children to blow the blower and “blow” Jonah out of the fish.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We heard a super-cool story today! Jonah did not listen to God and was swallowed by a big fish.”

During the Activity: “Jonah knew he should always go God’s way, and the big fish blew him out! We’ll make a cool craft that you can take home and use to tell the Bible story to your family.” *(Do activity.)*

After the Activity: “Awesome! Now blow on the mouthpiece. *(Demonstrate.)* WOW! You blew Jonah out of the big fish! God wanted Jonah to go His way. He wants us to go His way, too! God’s way is perfect!

Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!”

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 2 Samuel 22:31, journal, and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Today, we’ll swim like little fish all the way to our small group spot. Come on little fish! Swim with me! *(Pretend to be a fish and “swim” as you lead the children to your small group spot.)* That was fun! 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 Jonah who learned the hard way that we should go God’s way. We should always go God’s way because, just like our Bible verse says. *(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)*”

“‘God’s way is perfect.’ 2 Samuel 22:31. *(Close Bible and lay it down.)* **Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**

“Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “‘God’s way *(point up)* is perfect,’ *(two thumbs up)* 2 Samuel 22:31.”
(Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: “We can always trust what God tells us to do because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect.** Let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*”

“God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and tell the people, ‘Go God’s way.’ Today, we’ll make a list of places we can go and tell the people, ‘Go God’s way.’ When I say your name, tell me one place you can go and tell the people to go God’s way. Then I’ll write the place in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name! *(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: “These are some great places! And why should we tell people, ‘Go God’s way?’ Because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!** 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 teaching us that Your way is perfect. Help us to JUMP, JUMP, and go your way. Help us go to *(read the list the children made)* and tell others to go your way, too, because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!** We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

