



## WEEK 5 - May 2021 - PRESCHOOL

**Today's Bible Story:** God's way is always perfect.

Gideon's Army • *Judges 7:1-8*

**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.*

-Bean bag balance

### 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  
-Plate hop  
-Gideon's Flip Army  
-Journal and prayer

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## **First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN**

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### **1. Bean Bag Balance**

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

**What You Need:** Several bean bags

**What You Do:**

*During the Activity:* Give the children a bean bag and ask them to place it on their heads. Challenge the children to walk across the room while trying to keep the bean bags on their heads. After a few minutes, have the children change directions and walk the other way, still with the bean bag on their head. If the bean bag falls off, instruct the child to simply replace it and continue with the activity. Repeat as desired.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Hey, friends! I have these bean bags" (*Point.*)

*During the Activity:* "Let's walk as straight as we can across the room (*Demonstrate.*) While we walk, we need something to do! (*Demonstrate.*) Place a bean bag on your head and try to walk while you keep it on your head! (*Do activity.*) Awesome sauce! Now, let's go the other way!" (*Finish activity.*)

*After the Activity:* "Great job, friends. You did what you were asked to do and went where you were asked to go! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about someone who went where God told him to go and did what God told him to do."

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by giving the children instructions on where to go and what to do while walking. For example, walk down this hall and hold your hands by your side.

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## **Large group - MAKE IT TRUE**

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### **Large Group Overview:**

Story Focus: God's way is always perfect. We will wrap up the month with Gideon. Gideon really had to trust that God's way is perfect—especially after he heard God's plan for Gideon to lead the army. Let's just say it was not your typical battle plan. Gideon trusted God because He knew that God's way is perfect.

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## Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

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### 1. Memory Verse Voices

#### 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:

*During the Activity:* Gather the children in your activity area. Review the memory verse together with the motions as you call out different voices to use for each repetition. Voices suggestions are Whisper, Opera Voice, Low Voice, Happy/Smiley Voice, Dinosaur Voice, and Loud Voice.

#### What You Say:

*During the Activity:* "Friends, let's say our memory verse with the motions we've learned! Say it with me in your regular voice. 'God's way (*point up*) is perfect,' (*two thumbs up*) 2 Samuel 22:31. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Great job! Now let's say our verse in a whisper voice." (*Repeat several more times using different voices.*)

*After the Activity:* "That was fun. You are great at using different voices. Tell me, **whose way is perfect?** (*Pause.*) Yes! [**Bottom Line**] **God's way is perfect!**"

### 2. Plate Hop

#### 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:** Four different colors of plates

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Place the plates on the floor randomly all over the activity area. Be sure the color of the plate is facing up.

*During the Activity:* Ask the children to go stand by any plate they would like. Then call out a color and ask only those children standing by that plate to do ten jumping jacks. Ask the children to go find another plate to stand next to and call out a different color. Ask the children standing next to that color of plate to do eight bunny hops. Continue the activity by asking the children to keep changing plates and calling out different colors and different numbers of movements. Examples of movements: jumping jacks, bunny hops, toe touches, twists, head pats, claps, and hop on one foot.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Today in our Bible story we heard about someone who went where God told him and did what God told him to do"

*After the Activity:* “Let’s practice going where we are told and doing what we are asked to do. First everyone go stand by a plate (*Pause*) Great job! You went where I asked you to go! Now if you are standing by a red plate do ten jumping jacks. Remember, I only asked the ones who are standing by a RED plate to do jumping jacks. (*Pause*) Great job! You did what I asked you to do. Now everyone, go and find a new plate to stand next to!” (*Finish activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Friends, you are so good at listening and following the right way. We can all follow God’s way! **Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**”

### 3. Gideon’s Flip Army

#### 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:** “Gideon’s Flip Army 1” and “Gideon’s Flip Army 2” Activity Pages; cardstock; paper towel tubes; glue sticks; scissors; crayons; and permanent marker

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy “Gideon’s Flip Army 1” on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy “Gideon’s Flip Army 2” on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Write child’s name on their tube.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to color their papers. At one end, wrap the blank part of “Gideon’s Flip Army 1” around the tube and glue down leaving Gideon as a flap. Wrap all pieces of “Gideon’s Flip Army 2” around the tube and glue leaving the army as flaps. Demonstrate how to fold down the army.

*After the Activity:* Review the story.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “Today, we heard a story about a man named Gideon and the army God asked him to put together. Let’s make a craft to help us tell the story.”

*During the Activity:* “I have four strips of people for you to color. The first is Gideon, and the other three are his army. (*Pause.*) Now that you have Gideon colored, I’ll wrap it around your tube. Glue that down. Next, we’ll add the army. (*There are three strips of army.*) Watch how they can move. (*Demonstrate.*) Let’s use this to review our story.

“God told Gideon to put together an army. (*Make sure all of the army is upright.*) But God said his army was too big. Gideon said if any of the men were scared, they could leave the army. Put the first army down. (*Demonstrate.*) God saw the army and told Gideon it was still too big. He told Gideon to take the army to the water, and if they put their face to the water to let them go home. Put the second army down. (*Demonstrate.*) The army Gideon was left with was small and just the right size. Gideon went God’s way, and the army defeated the Midianites.”

*After the Activity:* “When God asks us to do something, it doesn’t always make sense to us, but we can trust that 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, fun-shaped pen, and reward stickers or handstamp

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** “It’s Small Group time! Today, we’ll be very quiet and tip-toe to our small group spot. Shh . . . be very, very quiet and follow me. (*Tip-toe quietly as you lead the children to your small group spot.*) Wow! You are great at that! 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 Gideon. He was leading God’s army. I’m sure there were times when they had to be very quiet, too, so no one found them! Gideon had to trust that **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect**, even when he didn’t understand what God was doing. There may be times when we have to do that, too. That’s why I’m glad we’re learning this Bible verse. It 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.*) We will stand up and say that together with the motions one time, then anyone who wants to try to say it can. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! 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.*)

**SGL:** “Wonderful! (*Give two thumbs up.*) Let’s sit down. When it’s your turn to say the Bible verse, you can stand up and try it. (*Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.*)

“You did it, [child’s name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! (*Say this with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.*)

“When I count to three, I want everyone to show me their [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! Yay! I see them! I’m so proud of you! (*Clap and cheer for the children.*)

“Let’s sit down again so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*) Today, we’ll make a list with your names. I want to use it to pray that you will trust that **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect** and JUMP, JUMP, and go God’s way. When I say your name, it will be your turn to write your name. (*Say each child’s name and let them write their name in the journal. Encourage them to do their best and applaud them for trying.*)

“You did such a great job! 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 (*name each child*). I pray they will trust that Your way is perfect. I pray they will be brave enough to tell others that Your way is perfect. And I pray they will go Your

way, even when they don't understand. Thank You for loving us and helping us go Your way. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

