



WEEK 4- June 2021 - PRESCHOOL

Today's Bible Story: God can do anything.

Elijah and the Fire • 1 Kings 18

Memory Verse: "I trust in God. I am not afraid." Psalm 56:11, NIV

Key Question: Who can trust God?

Bottom Line: I can trust God.

Basic Truth: God loves me

Make it Fun

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

-What can you do?

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
- Elijah's story
- Real or fake
- Journal and prayer

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. What Can You Do?

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: Have the children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Ask the children to do different movements in different quantities to see what they can do: five star jumps, four jumping jacks, two spins, three twists, and one frog jump. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! I want to see what awesome things that you can do!"

During the Activity: "I will call out something cool for you to do, and you try to do it! I am so excited to see what you can do! First, let's see who can do five star jumps! (*Do activity.*) Very cool! You are all so amazing! Now, let's see who can do four jumping jacks!" (*Continue and finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job, friends. You can all do amazing things! Today in our Bible story, we'll hear how God can do EVERYTHING!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by chanting the Bottom Line as they walk to the story area.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: God can do anything. We end the month learning about trusting that God can do anything—even something like send fire down to an altar. Elijah totally trusted God and told everyone around him that God is the one true God and they should trust Him, too. We want our preschoolers to know that they can Press Play and trust that God is the one true God, and He has the power to do anything.

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Memory Verse Door Hangers

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 Door Hangers" Activity Page; cardstock; "Press Play Art Sticker Labels" Activity Page; Online Labels® #OL1025WX or equivalent; and scissors

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Memory Verse Door Hangers" on cardstock and cut out, one door hanger per child. Copy the "Press Play Art Sticker Labels" on the label paper, several stickers per child. Set the stickers and door hangers on the table.

During the Activity: Gather the children around the table and encourage them to follow along as you read the verse together on the front. Encourage the children to use the stickers to decorate their door hangers. As they decorate, show the children how to place it on a doorknob. Encourage them to find a place to hang them at home and say the memory verse each time they open or close that door.

After the Activity: Write each child's name on the back of their door hangers and set aside for pick up. Gather all leftover labels for clean-up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come gather around the table with me! I have some fun door hangers for us to decorate with these stickers. Right on the front is our memory verse. Can you say it with me?"

"I (*point thumbs to chest*) trust in God (*point up*). I am not afraid (*cross hands back and forth and shake head*), 'Psalm 56:11.'" (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity: "These are door hangers! See, you can hang it on the doorknob to your room or bathroom or any door in your house just like this (*demonstrate*) when you get home. Every time you open or close that door, I want you to say this month's memory verse as a reminder that you can always trust God!"

After the Activity: "Let's make sure our names are on the back and set them over here. You can grab them before you head home today. Every time you see them, remember that **[Bottom Line] I can trust God**. There isn't ANYTHING God can't do, so you can trust Him. Tell me, **who can you trust? [Bottom Line] I can trust God.**"

2. Elijah's Story

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

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

What You Need: "Big Story Cards," cardstock, and scissors;

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Big Story Cards" on cardstock, one set per activity.

During the Activity: The leader will put the story pictures in order with the help of their small group

After the Activity: Talk about how we can trust God because God can do anything.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hi, friends! We heard a story about a man named Elijah who trusted that God can do anything!"

During the Activity: "Today's Bible story was SO amazing! Let's put some story pictures in order while we talk about what happened.

"Our Bible story began with a king named Ahab. He thought his fake god had powers, and he told everyone to worship his fake god. But a man named Elijah knew that God is the one true God and he wanted everyone to know the truth. So, Elijah told King Ahab they would both build an altar, and the god who sent down fire would be the one true God. King Ahab said, 'Okay let's do it.' (*Hold up the #1 card.*)

"King Ahab and his people did what Elijah said. They built an altar for their fake god. They began shouting and asking their fake god to send down fire. They shouted and they shouted and they shouted, but nothing happened. (*Lay the #1 card down and hold up the #2 card.*)

"Then it was Elijah's turn. Elijah built an altar for God. He even poured water all over the altar to make it hard to catch on fire. Then Elijah prayed to God. Elijah told God that he believed God is the one true God and that He has the power to do anything. Elijah asked God to show His power to everyone so they could believe, too. Then something amazing happened! (*Lay the #2 card down and hold up the #3 card.*)

"God heard Elijah's prayer and sent fire down on the altar! God even dried up all the water with the fire! Everyone saw what happened and knew that God is the one true God and has the power to do anything!"

After the Activity: "Elijah trusted God because He knew God can do anything. When we believe that God can do anything and that He is the one true God, it will help us trust God, too. **Who can trust God? [Bottom Line] I can trust God! One more time! Who can trust God? [Bottom Line] I can trust God!**"

3. Real or Fake?

Live for God | Application Activity

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

What You Need: Basket and six sets of real food and toy food items

What You Do:

During the Activity: Play a game with the children where you present a real and fake (toy) version of six different kinds of food. The children will observe the food items and say which is real and which is fake.

After the Activity: Talk about how God showed everyone that He is the one true God and He can do anything!

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Come sit with me. We’re going to play a game. Do you see this basket of food? Some of it is real. That means we can really eat it. And some of it is fake. That means we only play with it. You can’t really eat it. When I hold up two foods, I want you to tell me which one is real and which one is fake. Got it? Let’s play!”

During the Activity: “I have this [food’s name] and this [food’s name]. (*Hold up real and fake item.*) I want you to touch them and smell them. (*Let each child touch and smell the items.*) Now, tell me, which one is real and which one is fake? (*Pause.*) How did you know which one was real and which one was fake? (*Discuss.*) Good job!” (*Repeat with each food item.*)

After the Activity: “In our Bible story today, the people believed that their fake god was real, but it wasn’t. It couldn’t do anything. It was fake like this toy [food item]. (*Hold up toy item.*) We wouldn’t eat a toy [item], would we? (*Pause.*) No way! We want to eat real [items]! (*Hold up the real item.*) Elijah trusted in the one true God—the real God. And because God can do anything, God answered Elijah’s prayer and sent down fire to show everyone that Elijah told the truth. God really is the one true God! Elijah trusted God, and we can, too. **Who can trust God? [Bottom Line] I can trust God!**”

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 56:11, journal, fun-shaped, and reward stickers or handstamp

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Today, you can act like ANY animal you want while we walk to our small group spot. It really can be ANYTHING! A dog, horse, bird, snake . . . ANYTHING! Think about which animal you want to act like and follow me! (*Pick an animal to act like as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

“We made it! It was fun being ANY animal we wanted! Now let’s sit down, and we can 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 God can do ANYTHING. Like, He really can do ANYTHING! And Elijah wanted all of the people to know that God is the one true God and can do ANYTHING. That’s why Elijah prayed for God to send down fire. He wanted the people to see and believe.

“God being able to do ANYTHING is another reason why we can trust God! So stand up, and let’s say the Bible verse with the motions we have learned. *(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card and lay it down.)*

CHILDREN and SGL: “I *(point thumbs to chest)* trust in God *(point up)*. I am not afraid *(cross hands back and forth and shake head)*,’ Psalm 56:11.” *(Open hands like a book.)*

SGL: “Great! You can sit back down and anyone who wants to try to say it, can. I have my [stickers or handstamp] ready! *(Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.)*

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

“Now when I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me their [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! *(Pause to look.)* Yay, I see them! I am so proud of you! Hold your hands high and tell me, **who can trust God?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: *[Bottom Line]* “I can trust God!”

SGL: “One last time, **who can trust God?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: *[Bottom Line]* “I can trust God!”

SGL: “Yes, you can always trust God! Now let’s sit down 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 things we want to say to God. It can be ANYTHING! God loves it when we talk to Him about everything. So, when I say your name, tell me what you want to say to God. I will write it 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.)

“This is so good! I’ll use it when I pray. 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 always being with us and hearing us when we talk to You. Today, [child’s name] wants to say *(read what they listed)*, and [child’s name] wants to say *(read what they listed)*, and . . . *(continue with each child)*. We believe we can trust You with

everything and that You can do ANYTHING. You are awesome, God! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

