

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



## WHAT DO YOU WEAR?

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Swimsuit, cold weather hat or gloves, apron, gardening gloves, sunglasses, raincoat or rain boots, and a large bucket or bin

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place the clothing items you gathered in the bin or bucket. Set it on one side of your activity area.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the children in your activity area on the opposite side of the clothing. Point out the clothing items. Explain that you will call out a situation to one child at a time and they will run, find the proper clothing for that situation, hold it up, then put it back in the bin and run back. Repeat, calling out different situations so each child has a turn.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Gather all clothing items back in the bin and set aside for clean-up.

## BIBLE STORY

God helps me stand strong.

**ARMOR OF GOD**  
**EPHESIANS 6:10-17**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, gather over here with me! Do you see this bin of clothing items? (*Pick up some of the items and name them.*) Let's line up right here. (*Guide children to line up single file across from the bin.*) One at a time, I will call out a situation that needs a certain piece of clothing. When it's your turn, I want you to run to the bin, select the correct piece of clothing, and hold it up. Then you can put it back and run here to give the next friend a turn. Ready?"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "What do you wear when you go swimming? (*swimsuit*)

What do you wear when you play in the snow? (*hat or gloves*)

What do you wear when you cook in the kitchen? (*apron*)

What do you wear when you work in your garden? (*gardening gloves*)

What do you wear when it's bright and sunny? (*sunglasses*)

What do you wear when it's raining?" (*rain boots or raincoat*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "That was SO fun! We need certain kinds of clothes for certain situations! In our Bible story today, we'll learn about what soldiers wear. Let's go!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to put on and take off the different clothing options they just played with: a swimsuit, sunglasses, gardening gloves, an apron, rain boots or a raincoat, a winter hat or gloves.

## MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart."

**PROVERBS 3:5, NIV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who can trust God?

## BOTTOM LINE

I can trust God.

## BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

## MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



## SHIELD DOT-TO-DOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Shield Dot-to-Dot" Activity Page, cardstock, and washable non-toxic markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Shield Dot to Dot" Activity Page on cardstock, one per child. Set the pages and markers on the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to use the markers to connect the dots on their page. Identify what they see (*a shield*) and talk about how soldiers use shields to protect themselves. Point out the Bottom Line on the page and review together. Encourage the children to color their shields.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Make sure each child's name is on their paper and set aside for pick-up. Gather all markers and set aside for clean-up.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit at the table and find a marker."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's connect the dots on our pages by drawing lines from one dot to the other. At the bottom of your page (*point*), it says, '**I can trust God.**' Now color your shields." (*Continue activity.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "What do you see? (*Pause.*) Yes, it's a shield! Soldiers hold shields in front of them like this (*demonstrate holding a shield in front of your chest*) to protect themselves and stand strong! God helps us stand strong, too! When we trust God, it's like holding up a shield to protect us from danger. We can always trust God. Tell me, **who can trust God? I can trust God.**"

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## JINGLE BELL DANCING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Jingle bells; elastic; scissors, music player; and the monthly song, "I'm Gonna Tell"

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Cut the elastic into small pieces. Run a jingle bell or two onto each piece of elastic and tie the ends in a knot to create a bracelet; one per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a jingle bell bracelet to wear. Encourage them to dance and shake their jingle bells to the music as you play the monthly song.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the jingle bell bracelets and set aside.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "We're learning an awesome song this month about trusting God. It's called 'I'm Gonna Tell,' and we sang it today in Large Group! Let's put on these bracelets and dance and sing!" (*Do activity.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "That was fun! I'm so glad that God helps us stand strong. We can tell everyone about Him and how much He LOVES us! Tell me, **who can trust God? I can trust God.**"

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



**JOURNAL AND PRAYER**

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Paper-clipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Proverbs 3:5, journal, and fun-shaped pen

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** "It's Small Group time! I want everyone to pretend to put on your armor and pick up your shield. We will march like soldiers to our small group spot. Soldiers ready? Follow me! (*Pretend to put on armor then march the children to your small group spot.*)

"Soldiers stop! That was great marching! 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 special armor God gives us when we trust Him and go His way. I want us all to trust God. That's why the Bible verse we are learning says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart,' Proverbs 3:5. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Stand with me, and let's say the Bible verse together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

**CHILDREN AND SGL:** "'Trust in the Lord (*point up*) with all (*arms out wide*) your heart,' (*hands over heart*) Proverbs 3:5." (*Open hands like a book.*)

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

**SGL:** "Great job, soldiers! One more time, **who can trust God?**"

**CHILDREN AND SGL:** "**I can trust God!**"

**SGL:** "Louder! **Who can trust God?**"

**CHILDREN AND SGL:** "**I can trust God!**"

**SGL:** "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 that protect us and help keep us safe. Maybe it's wearing your seatbelt in a car, holding a grown-up's hand when you cross the street, wearing a helmet when you ride your bike, brushing your teeth, wearing a jacket in the cold, wearing a life jacket in water . . . there are lots of things that protect us and keep us safe.

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## (JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“So think about it. When I say your name, tell me one thing that protects us and keeps us safe, and 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.)*

“And I’ll add one more thing to our list: Trusting God and going His way. Trusting God and going His way is like wearing armor that protects us! 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 all of the things we have that protect us from getting hurt. Things like *(read the list the children made)*. Most of all, thank You for the special armor You give us when we trust You and go Your way. I pray that *(name each child)* will trust You with all of their heart so they can stand strong. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”