



WEEK
ONE
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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



FAMILY GROUPS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Families" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, clear tape and plastic cups

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Families" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set per activity. Turn the cups upside down and tape one card to each the cup. Mix the cups and set them around the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to gather the cups from area and group all the families together by the colors of their shirts. Once all cups are sorted, mix them up and play again as time allows.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect all cups for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, look around the room. What do see? I see so many families here! Can you find the shirt colors that go together?"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You did an awesome job! Look at all these families. We'll hear about a family in our story today."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by calling out different members of the family (*father, mother, baby, big sister etc.*) as children travel or walk like that family member.

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God for my family.

**RUTH, NAOMI,
AND BOAZ**
RUTH 1-2

MEMORY VERSE

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart."

PSALM 111:1, ESV

KEY QUESTION

Who can you thank for everything?

BOTTOM LINE

I can thank God for everything.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God for my family.

**RUTH, NAOMI,
AND BOAZ
RUTH 1-2**

"I will give thanks (*thumbs to chest*) to the Lord (*point up*) with my whole heart (*hands over heart*)," Psalm 111:1. (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I will say our new memory verse. Everyone, watch me! 'I will give thanks (*thumbs to chest*) to the Lord (*point up*) with my whole heart (*hands over heart*),' Psalm 111:1." (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready? 'I will give thanks (*thumbs to chest*) to the Lord (*point up*) with my whole heart (*hands over heart*),' Psalm 111:1." (*Open hands like a book.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that we should be thankful for everything that God has given us! **Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything!**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



FAMILY GARDEN PICTURE FRAME

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Family Garden Picture Frame" Activity Page, cardstock, garden stickers, smiley face stickers, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Family Garden Picture Frame" on cardstock, one per child. Write child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add the garden and smiley face stickers around the border of the frame.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! We're learning that we can thank God for everything, especially our family."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's make a picture frame! Add these stickers on your frame. (Pause.) Super job! I see garden stickers and smiley face stickers! When you get home, you can add your family picture inside your frame!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, we learned about a lady named Naomi. Naomi's husband and sons had died, and she was all alone. She decided to go back to the town where she grew up. Ruth, who had been married to one of her sons, said she would go with her; she would be her family! God gave Naomi family to help her. They walked all the way to the town where Naomi grew up.

"When they got there, they were so hungry, but didn't have any food. Ruth saw a field nearby where workers gathered grain. As they gathered the grain, some would fall to the ground. So Ruth went behind the workers and gathered what had fallen to the ground. The owner of the field was Boaz. When he found out she was family, he made sure she had plenty of good food to pick from his garden. Ruth and Naomi said thank you for the family that God gave them to help them. All families look different and all families can take care of each other. Thank you, God, for giving us our families! **Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything.**"

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God for my family.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Psalm 111:1, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to pick food from a garden, like Ruth did in our Bible story. Hold your pretend basket like this (*demonstrate*) and pick pretend food like this (*demonstrate*) while we walk to our small group spot. Okay, gardeners, follow me! (*Pretend to pick food from a garden as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"Whew! Our baskets are full of yummy food from the garden. Great picking, little gardeners! 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.*)

"Today's Bible story was about family. When Naomi's husband and sons died, the only family she had was Ruth. Ruth stayed with Naomi and told her she would be her family. Naomi thanked God for Ruth. When Naomi and Ruth got back to Naomi's home town, God added Boaz to their family! Naomi and Ruth were thankful for Boaz, and Boaz was thankful for Ruth and Naomi. They were all thankful for their family!

"You can thank God for your family, too, because you can thank God for everything. **Who can you thank for everything?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I can thank God for everything."

SGL: "Yes, you can! You can thank God for everything! And the new Bible verse we'll learn will help us remember to thank God for everything with our whole heart. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,' Psalm 111:1. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Let's stand up and say that together with these motions I'll teach you. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'I will give thanks (*thumbs to chest*) to the Lord (*point up*) with my whole heart (*hands over heart*),' Psalm 111:1." (*Open hands like a book.*)

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

SGL: "Great job! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*) Since Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz were thankful for each other, I think we should make a

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PRELUDE

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25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

list of some of the family we are thankful for. I want you to think of one person in your family who you are thankful for. I know there's more than one, but think of just one for today. When I say your name, tell me the name of the person in your family who you're thankful for, and I will write it beside your name in our prayer journal.

"Okay, listen for your name and get ready to tell me one person's name from your family! (*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 such a special list. Thank you for making it with me. Now, let's 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 our families. Thank You for [child's name and family member's name]. Thank you for . . . (*name each child and their family member*). And thank You for giving us Jesus so we can be a part of Your family forever. You are amazing, God, and we love You. In Jesus' name, amen."