



WEEK
THREE
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



MAKE IT RAIN

WHAT YOU NEED: Large umbrella and spray bottle of water

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children in your activity area. Open the umbrella.

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God for food.

MANNA
EXODUS 16

DURING THE ACTIVITY: One at a time, let the children take turns standing under the umbrella as you spray water to make it rain. Repeat so that every child has a turn under the umbrella.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Close umbrella and set aside with the water bottle for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather here with me. (*Hold up the umbrella.*) Who can tell me what this is? (*Pause.*) Yes, it's an umbrella! Why do we use an umbrella? (*Pause.*) To protect us from the rain! I will let each of you take a turn standing under our umbrella while I make it rain with this spray bottle! Don't worry, the umbrella will keep you dry."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! Did you know there was a time when God made it rain, but it wasn't water? In today's story, we'll hear about something special God rained down on people!"

MEMORY VERSE

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

PSALM 111:1, ESV

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to walk in the rain. Children can carry pretend umbrellas, splash in puddles, etc.

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



WAKE UP AND DANCE!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Music player and upbeat worship music

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to spread out in your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain to the children that when they hear the music, they are free to dance, dance, dance! When the music stops, they lay down and pretend to sleep. When the music starts again, they can jump back up and dance away. Stop the music periodically to allow them to dance and sleep!

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here with me! Let's spread out so we have plenty of room. Put your arms out like this. (*Hold your arms out to the side.*) Make sure we aren't touching any other friends. Great! You can put your arms down."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's have a dance party! When you hear the music, you can dance, dance, dance! But, when the music stops, I want you lay down and pretend to sleep. Ready? Let's dance!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "What good listeners you are! God sent the people food while they were sleeping! Can you imagine waking up to find the food you needed for the day right there, ready for you? We can thank God for all that He gives us, including food so we can grow healthy and strong. **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



TABLETOP THANKS
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Tabletop Thanks" Activity Page, cardstock, dot markers, clear tape, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Tabletop Thanks" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their

BIBLE STORY

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MANNA
EXODUS 16

paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to dot marker the food on their paper. Help children fold at designated marks then tape shut.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we can thank God for our food.

MEMORY VERSE

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

PSALM 111:1, ESV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, who can we thank for all the food we have? (Pause.) That's right! We can thank God for our food. Let's make a thankful decoration for your kitchen table."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "No matter what food we eat, we can always thank God for it. Use the dot markers to color in the food on your paper. (Pause.) Very nice! Now we'll fold it over at these lines and tape it closed. Add the piece of tape right here. (Point to the bottom where the edges overlap.) Fantastic! Now you have a table decoration that will help you remember to always thank God for your food."

KEY QUESTION

Who can you thank for everything?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, we heard about the Israelites. They were God's people. They were out in the hot, sandy desert, and they were hungry. God told them He would give them food. Every night while they were asleep, God covered the ground with bread. When the Israelites woke up, they had bread for breakfast. Moses and the Israelites thanked God for their food, and we can thank God for our food, too. Because we can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything.**"

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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 fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to eat bread while we walk to our small group spot. My bread is yummy garlic bread. What

kind of bread will you eat? (*Pause for responses.*) All of those breads sound delicious! Start eating your yummy bread and follow me! (*Pretend to eat bread as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"We made it, and my tummy is full of bread! Now is a good time to 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 something amazing that God did! Moses and the people didn't have any food. What was the amazing thing God did about it? (*Pause.*) You're right! God gave the people food. Moses and the people thanked God for their food, and you can thank God for your food, too. You can thank God for EVERYTHING. **Who can you thank for everything?"**

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

SGL: "You sure can! The Bible verse we're learning 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. Make sure you do the motions with me!"

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: "You sound SO good! Way to go! (*Give fist bumps.*) Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"Since Moses and the people were thankful for the food God gave them, I think we should make a list of some of our favorite foods. Then when we pray, we can thank God for our food. Get ready! When I say your name, tell me one of your favorite foods to eat, and I will write it in our prayer journal. (*Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so*

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(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"This list is making me hungry! Let's use it when we 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 all of the yummy food you give us. Thank You for *(read the list the children made)*. Help us thank You for everything, even the foods that aren't our favorites, because we can thank You for everything! You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."

