

SMALL GROUP

S-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

BIBLE STORY

I can trust what God says.

MOSES AND THE SEA EXODUS 13:17-18;14

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who knows what's best for you?

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



1. MOVE TO CHOOSE

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper, painter's tape, heart and smiley face stickers, chisel tip permanent marker, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

paper and tape to the floor in an open area of the room. Cut a large circle from the butcher paper and tape to the floor across from the heart. Draw two large eyes and a smile on the circle. Point out the shapes on the floor. Then pass out one sticker, either a heart or smiley face, to each child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to look at the sticker they were given and when you say, "Run," encourage them to run as quickly as they can to stand on the shape that matches their sticker. Count to three and have the children stick their stickers to the paper shape. Call the children back to the center of your area and repeat. Pass out another sticker and repeat. Option: Call out different ways to move to their shape like hop, march, take baby steps, take giant steps, etc.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the concept of things separating like the water in our Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me. What do you see on the floor? (*Pause.*) Yes, a big heart and a big smiley face. I have a sticker for each of you. (*Pass out the stickers.*) When I say, 'Run' you run to the big floor shape that matches your sticker."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everybody, ready? Run! Yay. You found your match. Good job. When I count to three, stick your sticker on the shape. One, two, three! Stick your stickers on your big floor shape. Now run back and stand next to me. (Pause.) Here's another sticker. (Pass out the stickers.) Look at the new sticker you have. Ready? Run! (Repeat as desired.) Yay! You did it! Great job, friends!" (Repeat with several other ways to move, such as jumping, walking, etc., if desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! We started out together, but then we separated when you ran to your shape! Some went this way, and some went that way. Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about a time when God made some water separate to make a path right down the middle. It was amazing, and I can't wait for you to hear all about it."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to walk down a straight path as if walking through a path in the water. Watch as the children walk and make sure they stay in line, one behind the other.



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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

BIBLE STORY

I can trust what God says.

MOSES AND THE SEA EXODUS 13:17-18;14

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who knows what's best for you?

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



5. THE SEA SEPARATED

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "The Sea Separated" Activity Pages, cardstock, crayons, dot markers, scissors, craft knife, brads, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "The Sea Separated" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color Moses and the Israelites with crayons and color the water with markers. Help stack the papers and add the brad to secure.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Use the craft to help review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, sit at the table with me. Let's make a picture of Moses and the Israelites from our Bible story today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Color your picture of Moses and the Israelites with crayons. (*Pause.*) Now color the water with markers. (*Pause.*) Super! Let me help you stack the papers and secure them. (*Attach the papers with the brad.*) Terrific! We can use these to help us retell our story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story, we heard how God sent Moses to help His people, the Israelites. Pharaoh made them do very hard work without paying them for a very, very, very long time. And Pharaoh wouldn't let them leave! Moses led the people out of Egypt and into the desert. Then God told them to camp at the Red Sea. They didn't understand why God wanted them to go there, but they did what God said.

"While they were camping, they saw the Pharaoh and his army coming. Moses told the Israelites to trust God and not be afraid. God knows what's best for us. God will make a way. Then God told Moses to stretch his staff over the sea, and Moses did what God said. The sea parted and made a dry path for them to walk on! God made a way for His people. Once they were safely on the other side, God closed the waters and kept Moses and His people safe from Pharaoh and his army. Moses and God's people trusted that God knew what was best for them, and we can trust that God knows what's best for us, too! Who knows what's best for you? God knows what's best for me."



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

BIBLE STORY

I can trust what God says.

MOSES AND THE SEA EXODUS 13:17-18;14

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who knows what's best for you?

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you don't have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on

cardstock and cut, one per small group. Place one card in your Bible at 1 John 3:20. Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to pretend they're swimming as you go to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Bible story, Bottom Line, and memory verse with motions. Then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of things God tells us to do.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the journal list.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to swim to our Small Group spot. (Demonstrate different ways to swim.) You can doggie paddle, do the backstroke, whatever you want to do! Just follow me and swim! (Pretend to swim as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) That was fun! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Open the Bible to this month's memory verse and lay it in front of the children.) "What do we swim or take a bath in? (Pause.) That's right! Water! And our Bible story had lots of water in it. The water was called the 'Red Sea.'

"God used Moses to lead God's people out of Egypt. Moses did what God said, but when they got to the Red Sea, it was so big they couldn't even swim across it! What did God do to help Moses and His people? (*Pause.*) Right again! God parted the Red Sea and made a dry path for them to walk on. God knew what was best for Moses and His people. And God knows what's best for you and me, too, because God knows everything!

"The Bible teaches us that 'God . . . (hold open palm with thumb to forehead and pull down) knows (touch head with fingertips) everything (spread arms out),' 1 John 3:20. (Open hands like a book.) Stand up with me. We'll say that verse together with motions. Just say what I say and do what I do. 'God . . . (hold open palm with thumb to forehead and pull down) knows (touch head with fingertips) everything (spread arms out),' 1 John 3:20. (Open hands like a book.)

"Good job! (Give high fives.) Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

journal and talk to God. We know that what God tells us to do is best because God knows everything. Let's make a list of some things God tells us to do. We can use our list when we pray. Hmm. What are some things God tells us to do?" (Help, share, love, pray, forgive, use gentle hands and words, etc. Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This is a wonderful list! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

"Dear God, We know You love us. A LOT! That's why we can trust that You always know what's best for us. You know what's best for (name each child). Help us do what You say, like when You tell us to . . . (read the list the children made). We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."