



WEEK  
**FOUR**  
NOVEMBER 2023

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



## 1. INSTRUMENT PARADE

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool musical instruments, music player, and this month's music

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Help children line up in pairs. Give each child an instrument.

### BIBLE STORY

I can thank God all the time.

**DAVID PRAISES GOD**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:12-15;**  
**PSALM 149:1-5**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Play the music and encourage the children to play along in tempo as they march and play their instruments. Stop several times to allow children to trade instruments with a friend.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible story and how someone danced and played music to thank God.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come gather here with me. Let's line up, two by two, and I'll give you an instrument to play. We're going to have an instrument parade!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Listen to the music and play along to the beat. Follow me. Let's march! (*Pause music.*) Everyone, freeze where you are and switch instruments with a friend. (*Start music.*) Okay! Let's parade some more! (*Repeat as long as interest and time allow.*) That was so fun! I love marching in an instrument parade with you."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our Bible story today, we'll hear about someone who danced and used music to tell God thank you!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to pretend to play an instrument as they march in a parade all the way to the designated area.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Always give thanks to God."

**EPHESIANS 5:20, NIRV**

### 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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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



**5. PARADE IN A BOX**  
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Parade in a Box Label" and "Parade in a Box Parent Note" Activity Pages, Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent, cardstock, paper boat trays, crayons, dot markers, washable markers, stickers, stamps, washable inkpads, yarn or ribbon, tissue paper squares, glue sticks, hole punch, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker; *Optional shoe boxes or gift boxes instead of boat trays*

**BIBLE STORY**

I can thank God all the time.

**DAVID PRAISES GOD**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:12-15;**  
**PSALM 149:1-5**

**MEMORY VERSE**

"Always give thanks to God."

**EPHESIANS 5:20, NIRV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who can you thank for everything?

**BOTTOM LINE**

I can thank God for everything.

**BASIC TRUTH**

God loves me.

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Parade in a Box Label" on label paper, one per child. Punch a hole on one end of the boat trays, one per child. Cut ribbon or yarn in two-foot lengths, one per child. For each tray, thread one end of the yarn or ribbon through the hole and tie in a knot. Write each child's name on their tray.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to decorate their parade float with any of the materials. Ask children to add their labels. Clean hands as needed. Have a parade with your floats. Encourage children to take floats home with the Parent Note and put something they are thankful for inside their float.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "We've been learning stories about how we can thank God for family, friends, food—for everything! Let's make a thankful parade float."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "You can use any of the supplies to decorate the inside and outside of your float. (Pause.) Wow! These look great! Add this label anywhere on your float. It says, '**I can thank God for everything. Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything.**' Fantastic. Stand up and place your floats on the floor. Hold on to the yarn and pull it as you follow me. (Pause.) Great job of parading with me and your thankful floats. You can take these floats home and put something inside it that you're thankful for. Then you can have a parade of thanks at home!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our story today, we learned about David. David was King of Israel, and he loved God. David liked showing God that he was thankful, so he danced and used music to tell God thank you. So can we—anytime, anywhere, and in lots of different ways! We can thank God ALL the time! Let's thank God for everything. Ready? Thank You (*move flat hand forward from lips*), 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



## 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible, journal, fun-shaped pen, and reward stickers or handstamp

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Place one card in your Bible at Ephesians 5:20.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Sing a simple song with the children as you walk to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the memory verse and motions, then encourage children to help you make a list of places you can thank God.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! We'll sing to God like King David did while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me! (*Sing a familiar song 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 the "Memory Verse Card" and lay it open in front of the children.*) "In today's Bible story, King David loved God so much that he praised God in front of the entire city! King David knew that God loves us, and we can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything!**"

"We have been learning a Bible verse that tells us when we can thank God. It says, 'Always (*draw large circles with index finger*) give thanks (*move flat hand forward from lips*) to God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*);' Ephesians 5:20. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Stand up with me. We'll say that verse together one time with motions. Then, if anyone wants to say it by themselves, they can. Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Always (*draw large circles with index finger*) give thanks (*move flat hand forward from lips*) to God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*);' Ephesians 5:20. (*Open hands like a book.*) That was wonderful! Let's sit down so anyone who wants to say that Bible verse can give it a try. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.*)

### BIBLE STORY

I can thank God  
all the time.

**DAVID PRAISES GOD**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:12-15;**  
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### MEMORY VERSE

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## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! *(Repeat with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.)* I'm very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse! When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! *(Pause.)* Yay! *(Clap.)*

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. Today, we learned that we can praise and thank God all the time! That means we can praise and thank God everywhere we go! Let's make a list of places where we can praise and thank God. It really can be anywhere, so when I say your name, tell me the name of a place, and I'll write it in our prayer journal." *(Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Thank you for making this list with me. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)*

"Dear God, I'm so thankful we can praise and thank You all the time. That means we can praise and thank You when we're *(read the places the children listed)* and everywhere we go! You are so awesome, God! Thank You for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."