



WEEK
TWO
NOVEMBER 2023

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE SOCIAL **WORSHIP** STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God
for friends.

DAVID AND JONATHAN
1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

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.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "All I Wanna Do," included in your monthly files; and "Attitude of Gratitude," from the Very Big Things album available on OrangeKidsMusic.com; Optional Dance Moves Video for "All I Wanna Do," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "Attitude of Gratitude," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

Worship Leader enters.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Friends, I'm glad to see you at church today! My name is [your name]. We have SO much to be thankful for, especially when we remember that all good things come from God. God gives us everything we need.

"When I ask, '**Who can you thank for everything?**', I want you to say, '**I can thank God for everything!**' **Who can you thank for everything?**'"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "I can thank God for everything."

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, **"I can thank God for everything."**

Lead children in singing "All I Wanna Do," this month's worship song.

"That's right! **I can thank God for everything!** And the Bible teaches us that 'Always (draw large circles with index finger) give thanks (move flat hand forward from lips) to God (hold open palm with thumb to forehead and pull down);' Ephesians 5:20. (Open hands like a book.)

"Let's say our memory verse together!"

Lead children to say the memory verse with the motions.

"Great job!"

Lead children in singing "Attitude of Gratitude."

"All day long, we can have an attitude of gratitude! Thanks for worshipping with me today! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (wiggle hands) so we can hear (cup hands behind ears) what the story's all about!"

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.



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INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Bike helmet, pipe cleaners, construction paper, markers, crepe paper streamers, and fun stickers

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.

HOST: "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment's name or story time]! I'm [your name]. My friends and I are planning to throw a parade of thanks!

Hold up the decorated helmet.

"I thought it would be super fun to ride my bike in the parade. So, I've started decorating my helmet. Do you like it?"

Pause, then hold up streamers.

"And look at these fun streamers! My friend, Jasmine, doesn't have a bike. She has a wheelchair. So, I'm going to make some decorations for her wheelchair for when we ride together in the parade.

Hold up the "Jasmine" banner.

"She could hang this on her wheelchair. Do you think she'll like it? I hope so! But I think it needs something else. Maybe some flowers or jewels or pom-poms? I'll go see what I can find!"

Storyteller enters as Host exits with "Jasmine" banner.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper plates, yarn, scissors, hole punch, markers, bathrobe with a belt, toy sword, large gift bag, and Bible; *Optional t-shirts and fabric markers; Story Images and cardstock*

Storyteller enters, carrying a Bible and filled gift bag as Host exits.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.

"Today's true Bible story is about two friends! Speaking of friends, I need two friends to help me tell the story today.

Select two older children to play David and Jonathan.

"Thanks for helping me out today. I need you to wear these.

Hang a paper plate medal around each child's neck.

"So, the two best friends in our Bible story today were named David and Jonathan.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 01)



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(Point to the letters on the medals.) "D" for David and "J" for Jonathan! They were so thankful that God gave them such good friends.

"Raise your hand if you have a good friend. *(Raise hand.)* Yay! Friends are great.

Point to each child as you talk about them.

"Jonathan loved his friend David and David loved his friend Jonathan. David and Jonathan were good friends. David and Jonathan talked to each other. *(to the volunteers)* David and Jonathan, can you pretend to talk to each other?

(to the audience) "Who likes to talk with their friends? Raise your hand! *(Pause.)* Me too!

"David and Jonathan encouraged each other.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 02)

(to the volunteers) "Give each other a high five, David and Jonathan! Yay!

"We can encourage our friends, too. Give a friend near you a high five. Great job!

"David and Jonathan helped each other. Do you like to help your friends? Raise your hand if you like to help your friends. *(Pause.)* Me too!

Hand gift bag to "Jonathan" and gesture for him to give it to "David."

(Option: Display Story Image W2 03)

"Jonathan even gave David some of his special things to show that they were such good friends! Jonathan gave David his robe, his sword, his bow, and his belt.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 04)

"What a good friend! *(to Jonathan)* Jonathan, let's help David put on the robe and belt.

Help "David" put on the robe and belt.

"What a good friend! And what good friends you are for helping me. Let's clap for our friends!

Help volunteers take off the robe, belt, and paper plate medals. Send volunteers back to their seats.

"David and Jonathan were good friends. Did God give us good friends too? Yes! What are some things we do with our friends? Do we play with our friends on the playground? If you do, say 'Oh yeah!'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Oh yeah!"



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STORYTELLER: "Yes! Do we share our toys with our friends? If you do, say, 'Yep, yep!'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Yep, yep!"

STORYTELLER: "Do we help our friends when they're feeling sad? If you do, say, 'Uh-huh!'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Uh-huh!"

STORYTELLER: "Do we laugh with our friends? If you do, say, 'Ha, ha, ha!'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Ha, ha, ha!"

STORYTELLER: "Let's say thank You (*ASL sign for thank you*), God, for our friends."

CHILDREN: (*with ASL sign for thank you*) "Thank You, God, for our friends."

STORYTELLER: "Hooray! (*ASL sign for Thank you*) Thank You, God, for our friends! Jonathan and David were thankful for each other. And we can thank God for our friends. We can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything?**"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**I can thank God for everything.**"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, **I can thank God for everything.** [Transition] Our story time is over (*pick up and close Bible*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"



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PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for the true story of David and Jonathan, two good, good friends! Thank You for all the amazing things You give us, including good friends! We know that we can thank you for everything. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen."

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jasmine" banner with added stickers

Host enters with the Jasmine banner with the added stickers.

HOST: "Wow! Jonathan and David were such good friends. God gives us friends, and we can thank God for our friends. **I can thank God for everything!**"

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: (*Hold up the banner.*) "Good! I can't wait to show my friend Jasmine all the decorations I've made! I think she's going to love it! **[Transition]** And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Host dismisses small groups and exits.