



WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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



4. EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Flat world map and a beanbag

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the flat world map on the floor of your activity area. Gather the children around the map on the floor.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out where you live on the map. Let the children take turns tossing the beanbag onto the map. Name the place where it lands and talk about how you can live for God and love Him in that place. Repeat until every child has a turn.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather here around our map! This is a map of the whole world!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We live right here. (*Point to the map.*) When it's your turn, I want you to toss the beanbag onto the map! I'll name the place where it lands. [*Child's name*], you go first. (*Pause.*) You landed on [*location*]! You can live for God in [*location*]! Great job! (*Continue with each child.*)"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wherever you go in the world, you can live for God! Wherever you go in the world, you can hear from God! Wherever you go in the world, you can pray to God! Wherever you go in the world, you can talk to others about God! And wherever you go in the world, you can LIVE for God! Because God loves you and **God loves me. Who loves you? God loves me!**"

BIBLE STORY

I can live for God.

**SHADRACH, MESHACH,
AND ABEDNEGO
DANIEL 3:10-28**

MEMORY VERSE

"I will always love you."

JEREMIAH 31:3, CEV

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

God loves me.

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



5. STORY CUPS
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Cups" Activity Page; copy paper; clear, plastic punch cups; washable markers; red, yellow, and orange tissue paper squares; glue sticks; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Story Cups" on copy paper one per child. Using a permanent marker, draw two vertical lines on each cup to divide it in half, one per child. Write each child's name on the bottom of two cups.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to color their picture of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and glue it to one of their cups. Encourage children to glue tissue paper to the inside of the other cup, but only on one side. Stack the fire cup inside the other and demonstrate how to twist the cups.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Come join me at the table. Do you remember the names of the people who were in our story today? (Pause.) Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Let's make a craft to help us remember the story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look! Here is a picture of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Use the markers to color your picture. (Pause.) Glue it to the cup with no lines. (Pause.) Now on this cup, glue the tissue paper on the inside of the cup from line to line like this. (Demonstrate.) The tissue paper looks like the fire in the furnace! Now put the fiery cup inside the other cup, and you can move the guys in and out of the fire. Give it a try."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, we learned that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego loved God and did NOT bow down and worship the king's statue. So the king threw them into the fiery furnace! Turn the guys so they are in the fire. (Pause.) God sent an angel to keep Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego safe! Turn the guys out of the fire. (Pause.) They knew that no matter what happened, God loved them. We can choose to live for God too, because God loves me, and God loves you! **Who loves you? God loves me!**"

BIBLE STORY

I can live for God.

**SHADRACH, MESHACH,
AND ABEDNEGO
DANIEL 3:10-28**

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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" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, a 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 Jeremiah 31:3.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Tell the children to do what you say as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Tell them to do things like, hop, skip, and wave their hands in the air. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions; then encourage the children to help you make a list of their friends in the journal.

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! I want you to do what I say while we go to our Small Group spot. Here we go! *(Tell the children to do fun things like, hop, skip, and wave their hands in the air as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)* You did it! You did what I said! Now it's time to sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!

DURING THE ACTIVITY: *(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)* "In our Bible Story today, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did what God said. They lived for God, and they did not bow to the king's statue. Doing what God says is how we show God that we love Him. And we can always trust that what God says is best because God loves us. **God loves me**, and God loves you! **Who loves you? God loves me!**

"The Bible verse we have been learning will help us remember that God says: 'I *(point up)* will always *(draw circles with finger pointing up)* love you!' *(cross arms over chest)* Jeremiah 31:3. *(Open hands like a book.)* That is such good news! God will always love us! Stand up with me and let's say God's words together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'I *(point up)* will always *(draw circles with finger pointing up)* love you!' *(cross arms over chest)* Jeremiah 31:3. *(Open hands like a book.)* Now who's ready to say that by yourself? I know you can do it! Let's sit down and we can take turns. I have my stickers ready! *(Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.)*

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your sticker! (*Say this with each child as they try and say the Bible verse.*) I am 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 to look.*) Yay! (*Clap.*)

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were friends. They helped each other live for God. When I say your name, I want you to tell me the name of one of your friends and I will write it in our journal. Then we can pray that our friends will live for God too." (*Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all our friends' names! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's pray for our friends now. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for always loving us. Thank You for teaching us that we can live for You. Please help (*say each child's name*) and our friends (*read the list you made*) do things like read the Bible, pray, talk about You to others, and love You so we can live for You. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."