

Today's Suggested Schedule—November 5, 2023, Week 1 Preschool

Today's Bible Story: I can thank God for family.

Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz • *Ruth 1–2*

Memory Verse: “Always give thanks to God.” Ephesians 5:20, NIV

Key Question: Who can you thank for everything?

Bottom Line: I can thank God for everything.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

Arrival: Free Play for about 20 minutes and include the Opening Social Activities:

Opening Activity:

Gather Grain*

**Pro-Tip - this kind of activity is best done with small groups of children. Highly recommend you engage a few children at a time during the drop off time (first 15 minutes)*

What You Need: Two shallow plastic containers, dry rice, and slotted serving spoons; tablecloth or sheet (to protect table and help with clean up)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cover table with table cloth. Fill one container with rice and place at one end of the table with slotted serving spoons. Place the empty container at the other end of the table.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to scoop the rice with their spoon and move it to the other container. Talk about how the rice is falling through the spoons and encourage children to help each other.

After the Activity: Introduce today's Bible story by talking about how Ruth gathered grain to help her family.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, join me at the table. Look at what I have for us to explore today. One container is full of rice and the other is empty.”

During the Activity: “Help me move the grains of rice from this full container to the empty one. Scoop up rice with your spoon, carry it to the empty container, and pour it in. Ready? Go! *(Pause.)* Wow, [child's name] you are working so hard, but some of your grain is falling to the ground! Can anyone help them? *(Pause.)* Great job, [child's name]! You are doing a great job helping your friends. *(Pause.)* Wow, we had fun gathering the grain! You did such a great job helping each other.”

After the Activity: “In today's Bible story, a woman named Ruth picks up grain to help feed her family.

Rug Time: Worship/Story/Memory Verse: (all preschool groups combine)

Leaders note: Remember the below is just a suggested script. You do not have to read this word for word, but generally you want a greeting, introduction, some way to connect to the kids (get them to answer a question), introduce the theme, say the bottom line, and set up the story and worship time.)

Intro of theme and of bottom line: “Good Morning, Friends. I’m SOOOOO happy to see all of you today. This is our first Sunday in a new month! Does anyone know what month it is? *(pause for responses)* That’s right, it’s November! What big holiday do we celebrate in November? *(pause for response.)* That’s right - Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving is all about being thankful for what we have and for all God has given us! So, this month at Kidsrock our theme is also about being thankful! It’s called Parade of Thanks!

Has anyone ever been to a parade? Are parades short (like with one thing?) or LOOOONG(like with many things?) *(pause for responses)* That’s right they are long - there are lots of fun things and people in parades. So, this month we want to have a long list of things we are thankful for, just like if expressing thanks was a parade! We’ll hear true stories from the Bible reminding us about what God has provided for us and many of the things we can be thankful for! Today we’ll start by hearing a story about being thankful for family! Who are some family members YOU are thankful for? *(pause for responses or call on 3 specific children to share.)* That’s awesome. I’m so thankful for family, too!

Since it’s a new month there is a new bottom line question and answer. I’ll teach it to you! I’ll ask **“Who can you thank for everything?”** And you’ll answer, **“I can thank God for everything!”**

So, friends, **“Who can you thank for everything?”** **“I can thank God for everything!”** Great! One more time, **“Who can you thank for everything?”** **“I can thank God for everything!”**

Worship - (led by worship leader/team)
11/5, 11/19 - [All I Wanna Do](#) and [Thankful](#)
11/12, 11/26 - [All I Wanna Do](#) and [Anything At All](#)

Story: via video

Story Wrap-Up: ‘Wow, Friends! Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz showed us that God gives us people we can call family. People that love us and that we love and that help us!’

(Insert a few sentences about how this story relates to you. How have you been blessed by family? Or, how has a family member really shown you love by helping you?)

Memory Verse: “Now we can learn our November memory verse! I’ll teach it to you first and then we’ll do some special animal voices, too. Let’s stand up!”

“‘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.)*

Optional: add in funny voices like squeaky voice, lion voice, whisper voice, etc.) (alternative idea - to engage the quieter children who don’t usually shout out ideas - place folded pieces of paper in a gift bag with pictures of some animals of your choice. Pre-select/ask quieter kids before the combined time

if they'd be willing to pull a paper from the bag. All they have to do once they pull the paper out is tell you what is on the paper and then you can do the Memory Verse with that "voice."

"All right, Friends. You can have a seat again. We're almost done. We're going to close our time together with a prayer and our blessing."

PRAYER: "God, thank You for the story of Naomi and Ruth and Boaz who helped each other! Thank You for the people we call family who help take care of us. We are so thankful for our families. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen."

Blessing (*Call and response*) (*consider asking a teen leader to do the blessing*)

God Loves You/God Loves Me

God is with You/God is with Me

God delights in you every day/God delights in me every day

Transition to Group Games/Activities: (preschool groups return to their own small group room)

1. Join the Family

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Scarves or bandanas in a variety of colors

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Help children to stand in a large circle. Give each child a scarf, spreading the colors out among the group.

During the Activity: Call out a color and have all the children holding that color scarf join you in a line by holding the end of the scarf of the friend in front of them. Move about the inside of the circle then stop and call out another color and ask them to come join you, joining at the end of the first color. Continue until all children have joined. Move throughout the room.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, join me over here and spread out into a big circle. (*Pause.*) Great job! We're going to play a game with these scarves. (*Pass out the scarves, naming the color as you hand it to the child.*) Everyone, hold your scarves up and give them a shake. (*Pause.*) Awesome!"

During the Activity: "I'd like everyone that has a [color] scarf to join me in the middle of the circle. Make a big line by holding onto each other's scarves. Now [child's name] is behind me, and they'll hold the other end of my scarf. The friend behind them will hold the other end of their scarf. (*Help all the children grab an end of a scarf.*) Keep holding on to the scarves, and let's walk in a line. (*Pause.*) Nice job [color]s! Thank you for joining my color family. Now all my [next color] scarves, come join us. (*Continue until all children have joined.*) All right! Now that all my friends are in my family, let's go! (*Walk around slowly with everyone attached.*) That was so much fun, working together!"

After the Activity: “Our activity reminds me of the Bible story we learned today about Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz. Ruth told Naomi that they were family, and she would go wherever she went and live wherever she lived. God gave Naomi family to help her. So Naomi and Ruth traveled together to the town Naomi grew up in. They were hungry when they got to the town so Ruth went to look for food. She found a field that belonged to a man named Boaz. The workers in the field would leave some food for people who needed it. Ruth saw the grain and gathered some to take home for her and Naomi to eat.

“When Boaz found out that Naomi was a part of his family, he decided to take care of Ruth and Naomi and make sure they had plenty of food to eat! God sent more family to help. Thank You, God. When Ruth went home to Naomi with food to eat, Naomi was so thankful! Thank You, God. God gives us people to call family. All families can take care of each other. Thank You, God, for giving us family! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything.**”

2. Parade Balloon

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

What You Need: “Parade Balloon” Activity Page,, washable markers or crayons, jumbo craft sticks, curling ribbon, masking tape, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their balloon shapes and tape them to a craft stick along with a piece of ribbon.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We heard a great story about people God gives us to call family. I’m so glad God gives us family. Let’s decorate these balloons to show we’re thankful for our family.”

During the Activity: “Color your balloon. You can even draw the people in your family. *(Pause.)* The words on your balloon say, ‘I can thank God for my family.’ Turn your balloon over and tape a piece of ribbon to the bottom. *(Pause.)* Now tape your craft stick to the back of your balloon near the ribbon. *(Pause.)* Great! Turn it over and hold it up in the air. Look at all these beautiful thankful balloons! Let’s parade around with them. Follow me! *(Pause.)* Great job, friends. Let’s sit back down at the table.”

After the Activity: “In our Bible story, we learned about a woman named Naomi. Naomi was sad because her husband and sons had died, and she was all alone. So Naomi decided to go back to the town where she grew up. But Ruth, who was married to Naomi’s son, said, ‘I’m your family, Naomi! Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live.’ God gave Naomi family to help her. Thank You, God!

“Naomi was so happy that she and Ruth were family and that she had someone to walk with her. When they got to the town where Naomi used to live, Ruth and Naomi took care of each other. They needed food because they were hungry, so Ruth went to look for food. Not far from where they lived, a man named Boaz had people working in his fields gathering the grain. As the workers picked the grain, they would leave some for people who needed food. Ruth saw the grain and gathered it to take home for her

and Naomi to eat. Boaz saw her collecting food. When he found out that Naomi was a part of his family, Boaz decided to take care of Ruth and Naomi and make sure they had plenty of food to eat! God sent more family to help.

“God gives us people to call family, and all families can take care of each other. Thank You, God, for giving us family! Thank You, God, for everything. **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything.**”

3. Family Brainstorm

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

**Note: this activity is designed for older preschoolers, however, the Threes groups are welcome to try it.*

What You Need: Butcher paper and a marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay a piece of butcher paper on the table. At the top, write “Families” in block letters. Draw three columns underneath the title. Label the three columns with one of the following titles: “Can Live In,” “Like To,” and “Eat.”

During the Activity: Introduce each of the categories to the children and give one example underneath each title and write it in the appropriate column. For example, families can live in a house, families like to play games, and families like to eat sandwiches. Call on the children to give examples for each category and write their answers on the paper.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, gather around the table with me! Do you see this paper? Let me read what it says! At the top, it says, ‘Families.’ I’m so thankful God gives us families.

During the Activity: “Do you see the columns on the page? This title says, ‘Can live in.’ Families can live in a house. I’ll write that answer right here. Where are some other places families can live? (*Write down all the answers.*) Good job! Families can live in all different places! This column title says, ‘Like to.’ Families like to read together. I’ll write that answer right here. What are some other things that families like to do? (*Write all the answers.*) This last column title says, ‘Eat.’ Families eat pasta together. I’ll write that answer right here. What are some other things that families eat? (*Write down all the answers.*) You gave some great answers! Families can live in (*read their answers*). They like to (*read their answers*). And families eat (*read their answers*).”

After the Activity: “We can thank God for our families! We can thank God for everything! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything.**”