

Today's Suggested Schedule—October 27, 2024, Week 4 Preschool

Today's Bible Story: God is with me wherever I go.

Jonah • *Jonah 1–3:3*

Memory Verse: “God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9, NLT

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (20 minutes) This part of the curriculum is at the beginning and includes drop off and free play. The activity below is a great way to engage all of the children and set up the story of the day. Allow about 20-25 minutes for the opening part before the combined Large Group.

This or That

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

What You Need: Painter's tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a line of tape on the floor in an open area of the room. Stand at one end of the line, and ask children to line up on the tape line facing you.

During the Activity: Ask children a this or that question, and show them how to move to one side of the tape line or the other to answer the question. Then, ask children to return to the tape line and ask another question. Repeat as long as time and interest allow.

Suggestions for this or that questions: pizza or spaghetti; blocks or cars; swings or slides; playing inside or outside; sunny or rainy; chocolate or vanilla; strawberries or bananas; climbing trees or climbing rocks; building pillow forts or building sandcastles; puzzles or games; etc. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come stand on this tape line and turn to face me. *(Pause.)* I have a fun game for us to play today!”

During the Activity: “I'm going to ask you some this or that questions! You'll move to one side or the other of the tape line you're standing on depending on your answer. Okay, the first this or that question is: pizza or spaghetti? If you like pizza more than spaghetti, move to this side of the line (*point to the left side of the tape line*) and if you like spaghetti more than pizza, move to this side of the line. (*Point to the right side of the tape line.*) Okay, everyone, back on the tape. Next question! Blocks (*point to the left side of the tape line*) or cars? (*Point to the right side of the tape line.*) Back on the tape. Next question! Swings (*point to the left side of the tape line*) or slides? (*Point to the right side of the tape line.*) Back on the tape. (*Continue as desired.*) Wow! That was really fun seeing you go this way or that way.”

After the Activity: “Today in our Bible Story, we’re going to hear about a man named Jonah and how God was with him when he went this way and that way. Let’s go hear all about Jonah!”

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

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 am ____ (*fill in with your name.*) and I’m SOOOOO happy to see all of you today. This is our fourth and final Sunday in October! I’ve loved our theme at Kidsrock this month - Let’s Fly (*reference graphic.*) It’s been about how God will be with us wherever we go. If we’re at Kidsrock, God is with us. If we’re at school, God is with us, if we’re at the park, God is with us. If we go on an airplane and fly to a different state or country, God is with us!

We’ve been able to hear some amazing true stories from the Bible to see how God has been with his people for a super long time. My favorite story this month was ____ (*fill in blank with your personal favorite or use the following script: ____ “about Joseph, that we heard last week. Joseph had a hard life at times, but God was always with him and God used Joseph to save many people, including his own family.”*)

Our last story this month is about a man named Jonah. Jonah found himself in a very, very unusual place. I can’t wait for you to hear where Jonah was! And, I wonder if God will be with him even there!

Before we hear the story though, let’s review our October question and bottom line. This month when I ask, “**Who is always with you?**” you’ll answer, “**God is always with me!**” Let’s say that three times. “**Who is always with you? God is always with me!**” (*repeat 3 times total*)

Yes He is friends. It’s now time to do our worship songs! So let’s stand and sing together! “

Worship - (led by worship leader/team)

All Weeks: [God Is Always With Me](#)

10/6 and 10/20 [Wherever He Goes](#)

10/13 and 10/27: [Wherever. Whatever](#)

Story: via video

Story Wrap-Up/Make It Personal: “Wow, friends. Jonah certainly found himself in a very strange place, a whale! Have any of you ever been in a whale?! (*pause*) Phew. I’m glad. I’ve never been in one either, but that didn’t matter to God, did it? God was with Jonah in the whale. God kept Jonah safe and Jonah prayed to God.

(*Make it personal - add in a sentence or two about what when you’ve felt that God was with you in a “hard to reach” place.*)

Memory Verse: “Now let’s practice our October memory verse!. Let’s do it a few times regularly first and then we’ll do some special animal voices, too. Let’s stand up!”

'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) is with you (*bring two fists together*) wherever you go,' (*march in place*) Joshua 1:9." (*Open hands like a book.*)

Optional: have one child from each group be preselected to come forward and pull an image of an animal out of the bag

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

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

Groups return to their own classrooms.

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

1. Small Group Time

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Small Group bin: "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: Lead the children to pretend to swim like fish while you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and the Memory Verse and Hand Motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of places they've been to.

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! Today we're going to pretend we're fish swimming in the deep blue sea. Come on, little fishes! Swim with me this way! (*Pretend to swim like a fish as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Great swimming, little fishes! 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, God told Jonah to go to Nineveh, but he didn't go—he got on a boat and went the other way! A big storm came, and Jonah told the people on the boat to help him into the water so the storm would stop. When he was in the water, there was a fish, but it wasn't a little fish, it was a BIG fish! What did the big fish do? (*Pause.*) Yes! God sent the big fish to swallow Jonah and keep him safe. What did Jonah do inside the big fish? (*Pause.*) You're right! Jonah prayed to God and said he would do what God told him to.

"God was with Jonah everywhere he went because God is always with us. **[Bottom Line] God is always with me**, and God is always with you! So, tell me: **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!** Yes! And the Bible verse we've been learning says, 'God (*flat hand with*

thumb to forehead, pull down) is with you (bring two fists together) wherever you go,' (march in place) Joshua 1:9. (Open hands like a book.) Just like with Jonah! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) is with you (bring two fists together) wherever you go,' (march in place) Joshua 1:9. (Open hands like a book.)

"You sound awesome! *(Give high fives.)* You also sound like you're ready to try and say that verse by yourself. I want everyone to sit down, and we'll take turns saying our Bible verse. Who's ready to try and say it by yourself? I have my stickers/handstamp ready! Everyone, give [child's name] two thumbs-up! Here is a sticker/stamp for you! *(Say and do 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/stamp. 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.)* Today, we're going to make a list of places you have been to. It can be anywhere! So, when I say your name, tell me one place you've been to, and I will write it by your name. *(Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

After the Activity: "Wow! Look at all of the places you've been to! *(Hold up journal.)* Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, You have the power to do anything. That's why You are with us wherever we go! You are with us when we go to *(read the list the children made)*. Thank You, God, for loving us and always being with us. You're the best! In Jesus' name. Amen."

2. There Goes Jonah!

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: "There Goes Jonah!" Activity Page, copy paper, scissors, clear packing tape, parachute, and ball pit ball

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "There Goes Jonah!" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per Small Group. Tape the cutout to a ball pit ball. Spread a parachute out on the floor. Ask children to stand around the parachute.

During the Activity: Show children the Jonah ball and put it on the parachute. Ask children on one side of the parachute to hold their hands up a little and the children on the other side to lower their hands a little. Repeat back and forth, like a seesaw, to make Jonah go this way and that way. Ask children to shake the parachute to create waves, making Jonah roll around like he's on the boat during a storm. Stop shaking and hold the parachute tightly. Encourage children to walk slowly towards the middle, covering Jonah in the parachute, like he's being swallowed by a big fish. Then, ask children to walk backward, making the parachute tight again. Make small waves, and then pop Jonah off—like the fish is spitting him out so he can go to Nineveh.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, everyone! Come stand around this parachute with me. Let’s retell today’s Bible Story with it.”

During the Activity: “Grab an edge of the parachute and hold it really still. (*Hold up the Jonah ball.*) Everyone, say, ‘hello’ to Jonah. ‘Hello, Jonah!’ (*Put “Jonah” on the parachute.*) God told Jonah to go to a city called Nineveh. Jonah did not do what God said. He went this way instead of that way. My friends on that side of the parachute, lift your side up and this side will go down. When the ball comes this way, we’ll go up and you’ll go down. Keep Jonah on the parachute. Good job!

“Well, Jonah got on a boat, and a big storm came! Shake the parachute to make big waves. (*Pause.*) Jonah told the men to put him in the water and the storm would stop. So, they did, and the storm stopped. Freeze the parachute. (*Pause.*) While Jonah was in the water, God sent a big fish to swallow Jonah and keep him safe. Walk to the center with the parachute. Jonah’s been swallowed by the big fish! Jonah prayed to God while in the fish. Slowly walk back to spread out the parachute. (*Pause.*) God made the fish spit Jonah out onto dry land. Okay friends, one, two, three, pop Jonah off the parachute. (*Pause.*) Jonah went straight to Nineveh, just like God told him to do.” (*Repeat as long as time and interest allow.*)

After the Activity: “God was with Jonah when he went the other way. God was with Jonah on the boat. God was with Jonah in the water. God was with Jonah in the belly of the big fish. And God was with Jonah in Nineveh. God was with Jonah wherever he went because **[Bottom Line] God is always with me** and God is always with you. **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!**”

3. Going Places

[Hear from God | Memory Verse 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: Butcher paper, painter’s tape, copy paper, crayons, washable markers, stickers, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Tape a large piece of butcher paper to the wall at child’s height. Write: “‘God is with you wherever you go.’ Joshua 1:9” at the top of the butcher paper. Place copy paper, stickers, crayons, and washable markers on the table. Review the Memory Verse and motions with the children.

During the Activity: Ask children to draw a place where they want to go, using markers, crayons, and stickers. Write each child’s name on their paper, and ask them to tape their drawing to the butcher paper. Move the butcher paper to the wall at the door.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come stand with me! Let’s do the motions as we say our Memory Verse. Ready? Here we go! ‘God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) is with you (*bring two fists together*) wherever you go,’ (*march in place*) Joshua 1:9. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job! Now find a seat at the table.” (*Give each child a piece of paper.*)

During the Activity: “Do you like to go places with your family? Like to the park or the store, or maybe to visit your grandparents? Or maybe you like to go to the beach? Let’s think of our favorite places to go and draw it! You can use the markers, crayons, and stickers to create a picture of your favorite place (*Encourage children to describe what they drew, then write their names and the place they drew on their picture.*) [Child’s name], God is with you when you are at [name the place they drew]. (*Repeat with each child.*) Now, go tape your drawing to the big paper on the wall! Later we’ll move it outside the room for everyone to see! Friends, you are such great artists and drew such beautiful places. I hope you all get to go to the special places you drew today.”

After the Activity: “Let’s say and do the motions to our Memory Verse one more time. The Bible tells us that, ‘God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) is with you (*bring two fists together*) wherever you go,’ (*march in place*) Joshua 1:9. (*Open hands like a book.*) **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!** One more time! **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!** Great job, friends!”