

November 12, 2017

Bible Focus: I am thankful I can pray.

The Lord's Prayer • *Matthew 6:9-13*

Memory Verse: "I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart." Psalm 111:1, ESV

Key Question: Who can you thank for everything?

Bottom Line: I can thank God for everything.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Here's what you'll be teaching in 3s–5s this week.

Social (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

- Color Ordering

10:15

- Following Directions

Bible (9:10, 10:25, 11:40)

All Service Times

- Bible History Presentation in the Sandbox

Journaling (9:30, 10:45, 12:00)

All Service Times

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups (9:35, 10:50, 12:05)

9:00 & 11:30

- Build a Sandwich

10:15

- How to Pray

All Service Times

- Dismiss–Parent CUE

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Social (Introductory Activities, 10 minutes)

Let one teacher lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

9:00 & 11:30

Color Ordering

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: Prepared muffin tin; "Color Order" Activity Page; and ball pit balls: 1 red, 1 yellow, 1 blue, 1 purple, 1 orange, and 1 green

What You Do:

During the Activity: Point out the color stickers in the muffin tins and the ball pit balls. Hold up the "Color Order" Activity Page with the same colors. Explain that you will follow the order of colors on the "Color Order" page to fill the muffin tin. Call out the first color on the page, encourage the children to find that color ball pit ball, and then place it in the corresponding color muffin tin. Repeat with the rest of the colors to fill up the muffin tin. Reinforce the idea of "following the order" that's on the Activity Page.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I have a fun color matching activity for us to do today!"

During the Activity: (Hold up one of the ball pit balls.) "Can someone raise their hand and tell me what color this is? (Pause for response.) That's right! (Hold up the muffin tin so the children can see the colored circle stickers.) Do you see the colors in this muffin tin? They match the colors of these balls. We're going to place the same color ball in each cup on the muffin tin, but we have to match the colors in a certain order.

(Hold up the "Color Order" Activity Page so the children can see it.) "What color do you see at the top of this page? (Point and pause for answers.) That's right! Let's use this page as our guide and follow the colors in order to fill our muffin tin!" (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "You did a great job following the order on the page and matching all the colors! In our Bible Truth today, you'll hear about a different kind of order to follow. I can't wait!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Bible by calling out different colors. If the color you call matches the handle the child is holding onto, “Wave your arms!” Continue calling out colors and different motions for each color until you arrive.

10:15

Following Directions

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

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Ask the children to listen carefully and follow the directions that you give them. First, direct them to jump. Then direct them to spin around. Lastly, direct the children to touch their toes.

After the Activity: Direct the children to do all three actions together.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Who has their listening ears on today? *(Pause.)* Awesome! I am going to give you some directions to follow. Are you ready to listen and follow directions?”

During the Activity: “First, please jump up and down. *(Pause.)* Great job! Your next direction is to spin around. *(Pause.)* You are all so good at following directions! The last direction is to touch your toes. *(Pause.)* Way to go!”

After the Activity: “Now do all three movements together. Jump, spin, and touch your toes. *(Pause.)* Awesome! Great job following directions. Our Bible Truth today has to do with directions. I can’t wait for you to hear it!”

Transition: Move to Worship and Bible by saying, “I have two more direction for you. Everyone grab a handle on our traveling rope. Now, MARCH to the Sandbox! It is time for our TRUTH from the Bible.”

Bible (Large Group, 20 minutes)

After children have participated in Social, gather them for a large group time that includes interactive worship, introductory sketch and Bible Truth. Place your “We are in The Sandbox” sign on the door as you leave. Travel to the Sandbox.

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Basic Truth: God made me.

Journaling (Small Groups, 5 minutes)

Journaling is designed to help preschoolers understand how the Bottom Line applies to them. They'll discuss real-life experiences and share prayer requests.

Give each child a cup of Chex cereal to snack on while you take them through the following exercise.

What you Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Psalm 111:1. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's small group time! I need all of my small group friends to walk like this to our special spot."

(Walk like a penguin or other favorite animal as you lead the children to your small group spot.)

"You did it! You walked just like this! *(Demonstrate.)* Which kind of reminds me of what Jesus did in our Bible Truth today. Let's sit down and talk about it.

"In our Bible Truth today, Jesus taught us how to pray. Jesus is the best friend we will ever have. He loves us and wants us to know that we can talk to God. I'm so glad we can talk to God. Aren't you? *(Pause.)* It's definitely something we should thank God for. After all, we can thank God for everything, right? *(Pause.)* Right! **Who can you thank for everything?"**

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] **"I can thank God for everything!"**

SGL: "You sure can! And I think the Bible verse we're learning this month will help us remember we can thank God for everything. Stand up with me and let's say it together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do!"

(Open Bible to verse and lay it down.)

CHILDREN and SGL: *"I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the Lord (both hands point up) with my whole heart (both hands over heart) Psalm 111:1." (Open hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)*

SGL: “Perfect! *(Give two-thumbs up.)* Let’s sit down again so we can write in our journal and pray.”

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Today were going to make a list of things we want to talk to God about. We can tell Him how wonderful and amazing He is. We can ask Him to help us do things His way. We can tell Him we’re sorry for something wrong we did. We can ask Him for something we need. We can ask Him to help us love others and be a good friend. And of course we can tell Him thank you for something. We can talk to Him about ANYTHING!

“So when I say your name, tell me what you want to say to God and I’ll write it in our journal.”

(Write each child’s name and what they say beside their name. Remember to print the words they say so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

“Thank you for doing that. This is such a sweet list of things we can say to God. Let’s close our eyes and put our hands together so we can pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend and to teach us how to pray. Thank You that we can talk to You anytime, anywhere, and about anything. We made a list of things we want to tell You today. *(Read the names of the children and what they said in the journal.)* I pray that we will remember to talk to You every day. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 25 minutes)

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today's Bible Truth and Bottom Line.

9:00 & 11:30

Build a Sandwich

Live for God | Application Activity

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

What You Need: "Sandwich Bread" and "Insides of a Sandwich" Activity Pages

What You Do:

During the Activity: Pass out two pieces of sandwich bread to each child along with a set of the "insides." Instruct the children to place a piece of bread in each hand. Then call out the order of items to go inside the sandwich and encourage the children to pick them up in order (lettuce, cheese, meat) with the bread still in their hands to make their sandwich.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Today I want us to build a sandwich!"

During the Activity: "Can someone raise your hand and tell me what goes on the OUTSIDE of a sandwich? It rhymes with Fred. (*Pause for answers.*) Yes, bread! I want each of you to pick up two slices of bread. Hold one slice in each hand. (*Pause.*) Great job. Now, I want you to put the rest of the items in front of you inside the bread to build your sandwich. But you must listen and put them order. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Okay, first comes the lettuce. See if you can pick up the lettuce with the bread still in your hands." (*Instruct children to finish by adding the cheese and meat.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! You listened and followed the order to build your sandwich. In our Bible Truth today, we learned about how Jesus gave us an order to follow when we talk to God. We can thank God when we pray, because we can thank God for everything. **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**"

10:15**How to Pray**

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

What You Need: “Pray” Activity Page, permanent marker, and crayons

What You Do:

During the Activity: Trace each child’s hand onto the middle of the Activity Page. Encourage the children to color their handprint. Write one of the following above each finger of the handprint:

1. Thank God
2. Tell God what we need
3. I am sorry
4. Help us do the right thing
5. Amen

(Option: If you so choose, use paint to make the handprint instead of the marker. Be sure the handprint is dry before writing the labels above the fingers.)

After the Activity: Retell today’s Bible Truth.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Our Bible Truth today told us how Jesus wants us to pray to God. He gave us directions on how to pray.”

During the Activity: “We are going to make an awesome craft to take home to tell our family how Jesus wants us to pray. *(Do activity.)* We are going to write the directions that Jesus gave us on how to pray above our fingers.”

After the Activity: “Let’s remember what we are supposed to do when we pray. First, we tell God how much we love Him and how thankful we are for what He does for us. Then we can tell God what we want or need. We can ask anything we want. God might not always give us what we ask for, but He is ALWAYS listening. Next, we need to ask for forgiveness for any bad choices that we have made. Then we ask God to help us do the right thing. The last thing that we do when we pray is to say, ‘AMEN.’ God does everything for us! And we need to thank Him for everything! **Who can you thank for everything? [Bottom Line] I can thank God for everything!**”

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**