

May 13, 2018

Bible Focus: I can trust God's plan even when it's hard.

Joseph in Jail • *Genesis 39-40*

Memory Verse: "The plans of the Lord stand firm forever." Psalm 33:11, NIV

Key Question: Who has a plan for you?

Bottom Line: God has a plan for me.

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

- Hard

10:15

- Work of Art

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 (9:45, 11:00, 12:15)

9:00 & 11:30

- Color by Number

10:15

- Going Places

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

Hard

What You Need: Beanbags (1 per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children line up in a single file line on one side of the activity area.

During the Activity: Hand a beanbag to the first child in line. Ask that child to walk to the other side of the activity area with the beanbag balanced on his/her elbow.

After the Activity: Continue the activity with the other children. Challenge the children to balance the beanbag on other parts of their bodies: knee, head, foot, back, etc.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are going to do something hard today."

During the Activity: "We are going to try to balance this bean bag (*hold up*) on different parts of our bodies. First let's try our elbow. (*Demonstrate.*) Now it is your turn to try!" (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Way to go! That was really hard! Today we are going to talk about someone who helps us and has a plan for us even when it is hard!"

Transition: Sing the "Clean Up" song while the children help you clean the activity area! Say, "Let's clean up the area so we can go to the story area."

10:15**Work of Art**

What You Need: Section 2 of the butcher paper heart project, wall tape, and a variety of art supplies

What You Do:

During the Activity: Lay the second section on the table along with the variety of art supplies. Encourage the children to decorate within the red line.

After the Activity: Hang the section with the first section in the hallway for parents to see. Make sure you hang them so that when all four sections are together they make one large heart.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I'm so glad you're here today! We are going to make the second piece of our very own work of art. When we're done with all four pieces, they will make something beautiful for everyone to see. See this red line? (*Point to the red heart outline.*) We can use any of the supplies in this bucket to decorate inside this red line."

During the Activity: (*Encourage each child by name as they create.*)

After the Activity: "This looks awesome! We make a great team. Let's go hang this with the first piece of our work of art. (*Hang the second piece.*) Looking good! During Bible time we will get to hear more about Joseph's life-story and how he trusted God's plan, even when it was hard. God even used the hard times to make Joseph's life-story into a work of art!"

Transition: Move to Large Group by chanting, "I'm a work of art!"

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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Journaling (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

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 33:11. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Lock arms with a friend like this.

(Lock arms with one of the children.)

"Does everyone have a friend? Yay! We're ready to go to our Small Group spot. Come and follow me!

(Make a sweeping motion with your hand for the children to follow you and lead them to your Small Group spot.)

"We made it with our friends. Yay! You can unlock arms now so we can sit down and talk. One, two, three, sit down with me!

"Can we trust God's plan even when it's hard too? *(Pause)* Yes we can! God loves us and His plans are always best. So when I ask you, '**Who has a plan for you?**' I want you to say in your loudest voice, **[Bottom Line]** '**God has a plan for me.**' Ready? **Who has a plan for you?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line]** "God has a plan for me."

SGL: "Again! **Who has a plan for you?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line]** "God has a plan for me."

SGL: "And God's plans are always best!

(Open Bible to verse.)

“Now let’s stand up and practice the Bible verse we are learning this month. I love this verse because it reminds us that nothing can mess up God’s plans. It says: *The plans of the LORD stand firm forever*, Psalm 33:11.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Let’s say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

CHILDREN and SGL: *“The plans (hold up fingers 1, 2, 3) of the Lord (both hands point up) stand firm forever (stomp feet with hands on hips), Psalm 33:11.” (Hold out hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

SGL: “You sound awesome!

(Give each child a fist bump.)

“We can sit back down now. It’s time to write in our prayer journal.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Today we’re going to make a list of hard things we have to do. Then, when we pray, we can ask God to help us trust His plans and be a good friend to others, even when it’s hard. So when I say your name tell me one hard thing you have to do.

(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 making this list with me. Let’s pray and ask God to help us trust His plan when it’s hard. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

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

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, sometimes it’s hard to trust Your plan and still be a good friend to the people around us. Help us remember that Your plans stand firm and no matter how hard things are we can trust Your plan for us. Help [child’s name] be a good friend, even when she has to *(name hard thing)*. *(Repeat for each child.)* You’re the best, God, and we love You! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 15 minutes)

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

9:00 & 11:30

Color by Number

What You Need: "Color by Number" Activity Page and crayons

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Give each child an activity page. Set the crayons in the center of the table.

During the Activity: Point out the key at the bottom of the page and show the children how match the color with the number they find to complete the page.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, I thought it would be fun to create our own works of art today."

During the Activity: "Do you see the numbers and colors at the bottom of the page? Who can tell me the color that is next to the number one? (*Pause for responses.*) That's right! Let's use that color to color in all the number ones on the page. Match the colors to the numbers to know which color goes where."

After the Activity: "Your pages look amazing! What beautiful works of art! YOU are a work of art. God made you so very special and He has a plan just for you. Tell me: **Who has a plan for you? [Bottom Line] God has a plan for me.** That's right, He does! That's why He made you in such a unique and beautiful way!"

10:15**Going Places**

What You Need: "Places" Activity Pages taped to the walls in different areas of the room

What You Do:

During the Activity: Have the children stand in the middle of the activity area. Call out one of the places in the pictures. Encourage the children to run to that picture. Continue the activity with the other three pictures.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "There are pictures of places all over the room. Listen super carefully to what I say!"

During the Activity: "I am going to call out a place in one of the pictures. When you hear me say a place in one of the pictures, run to that picture. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Grocery store! *(Have children run to the picture of the grocery store.)* Great job! God is with you and has a plan for you at the grocery store." *(Continue the activity.)*

After the Activity: "Fantastic! God is with us no matter where we go. He always has a plan for us. **Who has a plan for you? [Bottom Line] God has a plan for me!**"

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**