

August 12, 2018

Bible Focus: I can do what God says even when it's hard.

Naaman • *2 Kings 5:1-14*

Memory Verse: "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIV

Key Question: Whose way is perfect?

Bottom Line: God's way is perfect.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

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

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

9:00 & 11:30

- Counting to Seven

10:15

- Tunnel Fun

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

- Hard Spot

10:15

- "Spotting" Naaman

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

Counting to Seven

What You Need: "Numbers" Activity Pages, and 28 cotton balls

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Spread out the pages on the table and set the cotton balls in a pile next to them.

During the Activity: Point out the numbers of the pages. Identify each number. Then encourage the children to place the corresponding number of cotton balls on the dots on the top of each page. Help the children count out the cotton balls as they place them on the page.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a counting game!"

During the Activity: "Do you see these numbers? (*Point to each number.*) Here's a one, two, three, four, five, six, and seven. Do you see these dots at the top of each page? (*Point.*) Let's work together to count out the cotton balls and place them on the dots on each page."

After the Activity: "Great counting, friends! We counted to seven! In our Bible Truth today, we'll hear about someone who did something seven times. Let's go find out what it was!"

Transition: Move to Large Group by calling out a number from one to seven and counting to that number as a group.

10:15**Tunnel Fun****What You Need:** Toddler tunnel**What You Do:***Before the Activity:* Place the tunnel in the center of the activity area.*During the Activity:* Encourage the children to go in one side of the tunnel and come out the other end. Repeat several times.**What You Say:***Before the Activity:* "I see a tunnel! (*Point.*) This is going to be so much fun!"*During the Activity:* "Let's go in and out of the tunnel. Everyone go in this side (*point*) and come out of this side (*point*). (*Do activity.*) Great job! Let's do it again!" (*Finish activity.*)*After the Activity:* "You did a great job going in and out of the tunnel! Today in our Bible Truth we are going to hear about a man who goes in and out of the water. I cannot wait to find out why! I am so excited to hear our TRUTH from the Bible!"**Transition:** Move to Large Group by asking the children to touch their chest with both hands when you say "IN." Then ask the children to throw their hands outward when you say "OUT." Repeat as you walk to the Large Group area.**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)

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 2 Samuel 22:31. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Today we are going to do something really hard on our way to our Small Group spot. We are going to try and HOP on one foot all the way to our spot! It will be hard, but we can do it. Here we go! Follow me!"

(Hop on one foot as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"We made it! Whew! That WAS hard, but we did it. Yay! *(Clap for everyone.)* Let's sit down now and talk. I need a rest! One, two, three, sit down with me!"

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

SGL: "I want you to know that we can do what God says even when it's hard, because **[Bottom Line] God's way is perfect! Whose way is perfect?"**

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] "God's way is perfect."**

SGL: "One more time! **Whose way is perfect?"**

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] "God's way is perfect."**

SGL: "It sure is! And the Bible verse we are learning this month even says, **[Bottom Line] God's way is perfect.**

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"It says it right here: *God's way is perfect*, 2 Samuel 22:31.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN and SGL: "*God's way (point both hands up) is perfect (two thumbs up), 2 Samuel 22:31.*" *(Hold out hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

SGL: "You look and sound great!"

(Clap for the children.)

"I am so proud of you! *(Point to the children.)* Okay, let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"I want us to think about some of the hard things God tells us to do, like sharing. Sometimes it's hard to share our favorite toy or the last piece of candy. It can be hard to love someone who has been mean to us. It can also be hard to help others, especially when we have to stop doing what we want to do so we can help them. But God can help us do the hard things He tells us to do, right? *(Pause for response.)* Right!"

"When I say your name, tell me one thing God tells us to do that can be hard to do. I'll write down what you say. When we pray, we can use our list and ask God to help us do what He says even when it's hard.

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print so the children can recognize the letters.)

"This is a great list! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, we want to do what You say, because Your way is perfect. Sometimes it's hard, though. Will You please help us do things like *(read the list the children made)*? I know *(name each child)* can do what You say even when it's hard with Your help. We love You, God! 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

Hard Spot

What You Need: Red circle stickers (at least 1 per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a sticker on each child's nose.

During the Activity: Ask the children to keep their arms by their sides and to try to blow off the sticker.

After the Activity: Encourage the child to continue trying to blow the sticker off for a few minutes. If they do not blow it off, allow them to use their hands to take it off and place it on their shirt to keep. If they do blow off the sticker, give the child a fresh sticker to wear.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's do something hard!"

During the Activity: (Place a sticker on each child's nose.) "Place your hands by your sides and try to blow off your sticker. It will be hard, so blow super strong!" (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "WOW! That was hard. Now you can wear a sticker on your shirt to remind us that we should always do what God says even when it's hard—just like Naaman! **[Bottom Line] God's way is PERFECT! Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God's way is perfect!**"

10:15**“Spotting” Naaman**

What You Need: Foam people cutouts (1 per child), washable red dot markers, zip-top bags (1 per child), “Parent Note” Activity Page, and permanent markers

What You Do:

During the Activity: Give each child a foam person cutout. Encourage them to use the dot markers to dot their foam person with spots. As the children are working, have a volunteer write each child’s name on a zip-top bag with the permanent marker.

After the Activity: Place each child’s foam person cutout and a “Parent Note” into their labeled zip-top bags for pick up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “In our Bible Truth today, we learned about a man named Naaman who was covered in spots. Let’s use these dot markers to place dots on each foam person. When you’re finished, you can take these home and, with an adult’s help, I want you to wash these spots off in the bathtub or sink. Remember, make sure you get an adult to help you!”

After the Activity: “We placed a note in each bag to let your parents know how to wash these foam people this week. It will be a great reminder that just like Naaman went God’s way even when it was hard, we can too, because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect.**”

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**