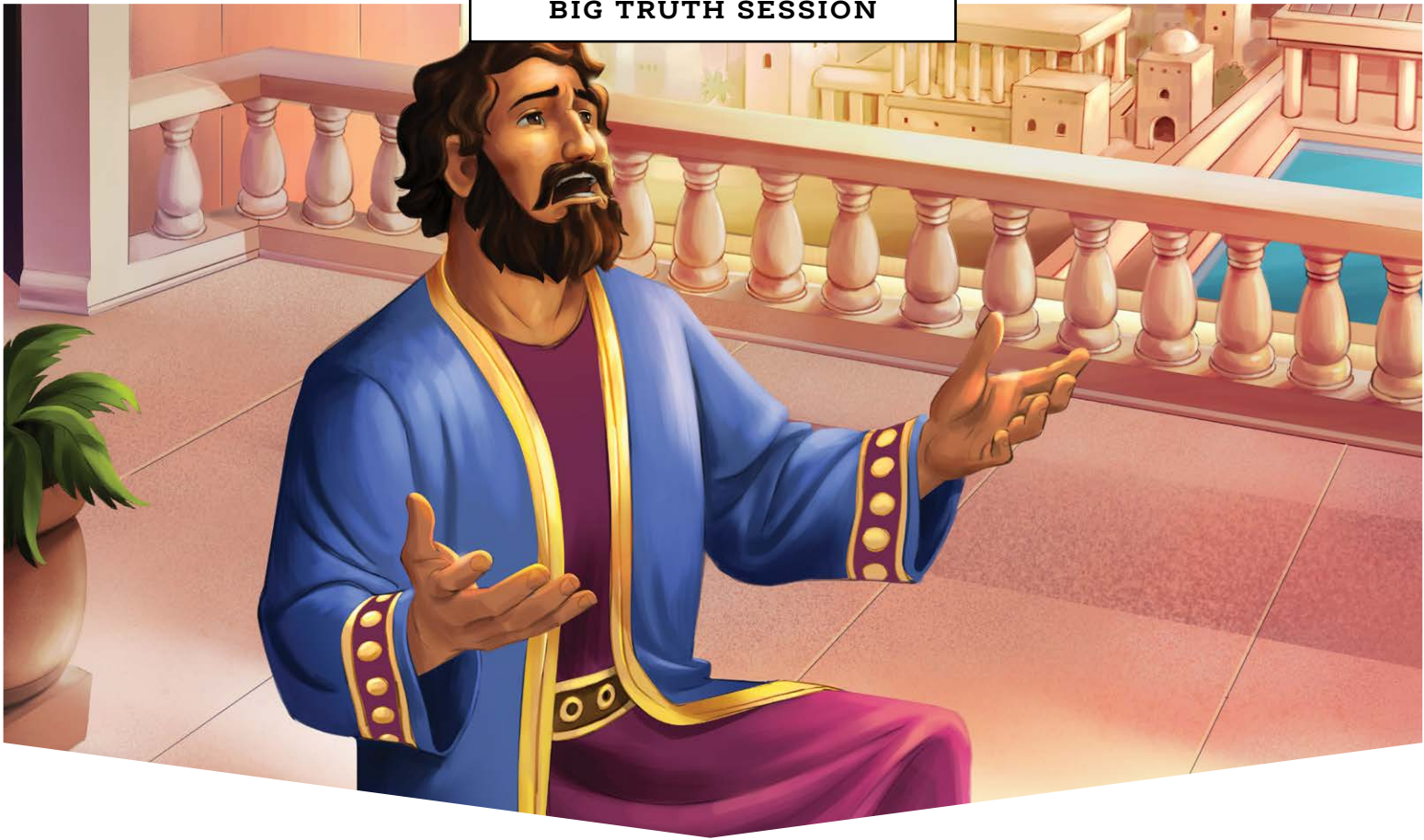




UNIT 11 | SESSION 5

GOD IS GOOD TO GIVE GRACE

PSALM 51

CHRIST CONNECTION: God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God forgives our wrong choices. Ephesians 1:7

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- David wrote a song to God.
- David wanted to love and obey God.
- David was sorry and God forgave him.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

David wrote a song, or psalm. He told God he was sorry for disobeying Him. This is what David prayed: “I know I made a wrong choice. I disobeyed You. You always do what is right. God, please help me know what is right.” David’s wrong choice made him feel very bad. He said, “God, I want to hear happy sounds again. God, help me to love and obey You. Help me do what You want. Please do not leave me. I will sing about You and praise You. I want to obey You.” David knew that God will not turn away from anyone who wants to obey Him.



BABIES ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to Psalm 51. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage phrase card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “Are You Sleeping (Brother John)?”

“God forgives us, God forgives us,

When we sin, when we sin.

God forgives wrong choices, God forgives wrong choices.

God is good. God is good.”

SAY “People make choices. Sometimes people make the wrong choice. I am so thankful that God is good. God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus.”

2 PLAY WITH A SENSORY BAG

Cut heart shapes from craft foam. Add the hearts and about 3 cups of water in a gallon-sized ziplock bag (one per baby). Press out the air and seal with duct tape along all edges to prevent leaks. Place the bag on a smooth surface in reach of babies. Tell the Bible story as babies play.

SAY “David wanted to love and obey God. He asked God to help him. We can ask God to help us love and obey Him too.”

3 MAKE MUSIC



Add a handful of rice and dry beans to a plastic bottle. Seal the bottle with duct tape. Gather a few rattles or toy instruments. Place the bottle and other instruments on the floor in reach of the baby. Talk about the sounds each instrument makes. Play music on an electronic device. Help the baby shake the bottle in tempo with the music.

SAY “David wrote a song to God. He told God he was sorry for making a wrong choice. We can tell God we are sorry when we make a wrong choice. God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus.”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the Christ connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



TODDLER ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible story picture as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to Psalm 51. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the key passage phrase card and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 WEAVING LOVE

Cut heart shapes (one per child) out of poster board. Print God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus on each heart. Punch holes 2 inches apart along the edge of the heart shape. Distribute lengths of red, pink, or white yarn with tape around one end for easy weaving. Demonstrate how to weave in and out of the holes. Allow toddlers to weave as you review the Bible story.

SAY “In his heart, David wanted to love and obey God. But sometimes David did not obey. He made wrong choices. David told God he was sorry. God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus.”

3 TAP ON POTS AND BOWLS

Place a few metal pots and bowls on the floor near the toddlers. Provide large craft sticks (one per child) for toddlers to tap along as you play music on an electronic device. Permit toddlers to play along as interest allows. Review the Bible story as toddlers play.

SAY “You are making happy sounds by making music. David wrote a song to God. You and I can sing songs to God. God is good. He forgives us when we make wrong choices.”

4 TRACE A HEART



Draw a heart shape on paper plates (one per child). Place puff snacks or O-shaped cereal on each plate. Challenge older toddlers to lay out their snack along their heart shapes. Encourage younger toddlers to place all of their snack inside their hearts. Tell the Bible story.

SAY “Hearts make me think about love. David wanted to love and obey God, but sometimes he made wrong choices. David asked God to help him. We can ask God to help us too.”

5 PLAY A GAME

Tape a line on the floor with painter's tape. Challenge toddlers to walk in different ways: along in a heel-to-toe line, with a beanbag on their heads, while holding a beach ball, or hopping along the line. Explain that obedience is hard, but God wants us to obey.

SAY “You did a great job! You tried to obey everything I said. David wanted to do everything God said. David asked God to help him obey. We can ask God to help us obey too.”

GOD IS GOOD TO GIVE GRACE

PSALM 51

CHRIST CONNECTION: God forgives everyone who trusts in Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God forgives our wrong choices. Ephesians 1:7

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: SORT HAPPY AND SAD FACES

Draw a happy face on one paper plate and on five sticky notes or round stickers. Repeat for a sad face. Tape the plates to a wall at toddlers' eye level. Randomly place sticky notes around each plate. Invite toddlers to sort the faces by sticking the notes to the matching plates. Tell the Bible story.

SAY “David made a wrong choice. He felt very sad. He told God he was sorry. David was very happy that God forgives people.”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “Are You Sleeping (Brother John)?”

“God forgives us, God forgives us,

When we sin, when we sin.

God forgives wrong choices, God forgives wrong choices.

God is good. God is good.”

3 WAVE SCARVES TO MUSIC

Distribute scarves. Explain that when the music is playing, the toddlers can wave the scarves. When the music stops, they are to hold the scarves still. Play an upbeat worship song on an electronic device. Start and stop the music. Wave a scarf along with the children to help them know when to start and stop. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY “I love to hear songs about Jesus. David wrote songs to God. David wanted to sing about God and praise Him. We praised God today with our music. Thank You, God, for Jesus.”

4 FIND HEARTS



Gather three gallon-size ziplock bags. Pour two cups of rice into each bag. Add a few drops of food color and seal with duct tape. Shake the bag to coat the rice. Assist the children in drawing different size hearts with washable markers on their papers (one sheet per child). Tape the papers to the table. Lay one of the bags over each child's hearts. Allow toddlers to take turns using their fingers to move the rice and find the hearts. Repeat for each child.

SAY “David wanted to love and obey God. I want to love and obey God too. We can ask God to help us love and obey God.”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.