

WEEK

ONE

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Family Fingerplay
2. Extra Coloring Pages

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

4. Memory Verse with Motions
5. Go With Me
6. Story in the Stalks

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)



Today's Bible Story

I can thank God for family.

Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz

Ruth 1-2

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalm 111:1 ESV

EveryChild Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

SOCIAL 2/3

Family Fingerplay

What You Need

→ No supplies needed

☐ Optional: Smiley face stickers

MADE TO
Play

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

EveryChild Tips



Provide a parallel activity (like placing stickers on hand outlines) for children with fine motor differences.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Invite children to sit at the table with you.
2. Optional: Place smiley face stickers on each child's fingers to represent family members.

During the Activity

1. Lead children to use their fingers as they play along with the song
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come sit at the table with me. (PAUSE.) Today we're going to learn about families while we play a game moving our fingers to a song!"

During the Activity

"Follow me and do what I do. Let's meet each member of this family... (LEAD THROUGH FINGERPLAY)."

"This is Mama, kind and dear (WIGGLE THUMB)
This is Papa, standing near (WIGGLE POINTER)
This is brother, see how tall (WIGGLE MIDDLE FINGER)
This is sister, not so small (WIGGLE RING FINGER)
This is baby, sweet and cute (WIGGLE PINKY)
These are the family, who love to help YOU! (WIGGLE ALL FINGERS.)"

"Great job! Families come in all shapes and sizes. Tell me some people in your family and we'll do our fingerplay again with them. (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Let's try it together! You were so good at following along!"

"This is Grandma, kind and dear (WIGGLE THUMB)
This is Uncle, standing near (WIGGLE POINTER)
This is auntie, see how tall (WIGGLE MIDDLE FINGER)
This is cousin, not so small (WIGGLE RING FINGER)
This is puppy, sweet and cute (WIGGLE PINKY)
These are the family, who love to help YOU!" (WIGGLE ALL FINGERS.)"

(CHANGE OUT THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN THE FAMILY AND REPEAT AS DESIRED.)

Continued on the next page →

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 1

SOCIAL 2/3

Family Fingerplay

What You Need

→ No supplies needed

☐ Optional: Smiley face stickers

MADE TO
Play

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

After the Activity

"Today's true story from the Bible is about a woman named Naomi. She went back to her hometown and had someone special go with her. That someone was family-and we're going to hear more about how they helped each other."

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by continuing the activity and saying "Let's continue to sing and play as we walk, sing the original or one of the adapted versions. This is Mama, kind and dear **(WIGGLE THUMB)** This is Papa, standing near **(WIGGLE POINTER)** This is brother, see how tall **(WIGGLE MIDDLE FINGER)** This is sister, not so small **(WIGGLE RING FINGER)** This is baby, sweet and cute **(WIGGLE PINKY)** These are the family, who love to help YOU!" **(WIGGLE ALL FINGERS.)**

EveryChild Tips



Provide a parallel activity (like placing stickers on hand outlines) for children with fine motor differences.

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 1

GROUPS 1/4

Memory Verse with Motions

USES MINIMAL SUPPLIES

MADE TO Move

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ VELCRO® Dots
- ☐ Scissors

EveryChild Tips



Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

① What You Do

Note → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

Before the Activity

1. Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity

1. Teach the Memory Verse motions.
2. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. 'I will give thanks **(MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN)** to the LORD **(POINT UP)** with my whole heart,' **(TAP HEART TWICE)** Psalm 111:1." **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)**

Continued on the next page →

GROUPS 1/4

Memory Verse with Motions

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ VELCRO® Dots
- ☐ Scissors

EveryChild Tips



Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.



② What You Say (cont.)

During the Activity

"Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'I will give thanks.' (**MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.**) Make your hand flat and put your fingertips on your chin like this. (**PLACE YOUR RIGHT HAND UP TO YOUR FACE WITH YOUR FINGERTIPS RESTING ON YOUR CHIN.**) Now bring your flat hand out from your face like this (**MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN**) and say, 'I will give thanks.' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'To the LORD.' (**POINT UP.**) Put one finger up and stretch it up over your head like this (**POINT UP**) and say 'to the LORD.' (**PAUSE.**) Now let's put that together. 'I will give thanks (**MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN**) to the LORD.' (**POINT UP.**) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: "With my whole heart.' (**TAP HEART TWICE.**) Cross your right hand over your chest and tap your heart two times like this (**REACH RIGHT HAND OVER CHEST AND TAP HEART TWICE**) and say 'with my whole heart.' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Nice job! Now let's put that together. 'I will give thanks (**MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN**) to the LORD (**POINT UP**) with my whole heart.' (**TAP HEART TWICE.**) Super!

"Now the last part is: Psalm 111:1. (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.**) Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK**) and say: Psalm 111:1. (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? 'I will give thanks (**MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN**) to the LORD (**POINT UP**) with my whole heart,' (**TAP HEART TWICE**) Psalm 111:1. (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.**) Nice job. Let's do it again!" (**REPEAT SEVERAL TIMES.**)

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that we can thank God for everything with our whole heart! That means family, friends, food, and people who help us! We can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything? [**BOTTOM LINE**] I can thank God for everything."

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 1

GROUPS 3/4

Go With Me

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Painter's tape



EveryChild Tips

Pair children up to do the activity.

Lead children at a pace that is suitable for all children to participate.

Assist children in wheelchairs or walkers so they may participate with their peers.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Put small pieces of tape, one per child, on the floor around the perimeter of your activity area.
2. Encourage children to stand on one of the pieces of tape.

During the Activity

1. Walk around the activity area, stopping at each tape piece to ask each child to join the train.
2. The first child will hold on to the leader's waist or hand and the other children added will hold the shoulders of the child in front of them.
3. The "train" proceeds to the next piece of tape and adds the next child to the train.
4. Continue until all children have joined the train and you've moved around your area a few times.
5. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page →

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 1

GROUPS 3/4

Go With Me

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Painter's tape



② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends! Chugga-chugga, choo-choo, it's great to see you! There are little pieces of tape on the floor around our activity area. Please find a piece of tape to stand on. One friend for each piece of tape."

During the Activity

"We're going to play the train game! I'm the engine, and I need to add all the train cars—that's you! I'll move around, and when I stop at your tape, I want you to join the train. Then we'll go add another friend until we've added all our friends to our train! Are you ready? Chugga-chugga, choo-choo, here I come! Who will go with me? **(STOP AT A PIECE OF TAPE.)** [CHILD'S NAME], will you go with me? Great! Hold on to my waist/hand, and let's chugga-chugga to another friend! [CHILD'S NAME], will you go with us? Great! Hold on to [CHILD'S NAME]'s shoulders and chugga-chugga! Here we go! **(CONTINUE UNTIL ALL CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ADDED.)** All right friends, it's time for our train to pull into the station. Everyone, have a seat right where you are."

After the Activity

"That was so much fun, pretending to be a train and chugga-chugging all around the room. Thank you for going with me on our journey! In today's true story from the Bible, we learned about a woman named Naomi. Naomi decided to go back to the town where she grew up and Ruth went with her. Ruth was married to Naomi's son, and she said, "I'm your family, Naomi! Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live." **(RUTH 1:16)** Naomi was so happy that she and Ruth were family, and she had someone to walk with her.

"When they got to town, they were hungry so Ruth found a field nearby and picked some grain so they would have food to eat. This field belonged to a man named Boaz; Naomi was part of his family! Boaz took care of Ruth and Naomi and made sure they had plenty of food to eat!

"God gives us people to call family and all families can take care of each other. Thank You, God, for giving us family and friends who are life family! Thank You, God, for everything. Who can you thank for everything? **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything."

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 1

GROUPS 4/4

Story in the Stalks

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story in the Stalks" Activity Page
- ☐ "Stalk Stickers" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels #22807 or equivalent
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. "Story in the Stalks" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Copy "Stalk Stickers" on label paper, one set per child.
3. Remove the border of each sticker sheet and discard, leaving the stickers intact on the backing paper.
4. Cut the stickers into sets, one for each child.
5. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color the stalks of grain then add each story sticker as you review the Bible Story.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page →

GROUPS 4/4

Story in the Stalks

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story in the Stalks" Activity Page
- ☐ "Stalk Stickers" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels # 22807 or equivalent
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come join me at the table and let's make some story art to help us remember we can thank God for everything!"

During the Activity

"On your paper are stalks of grain. Use the crayons to color the stalk and the grain. These big circles, leave them blank and we'll add to those in a bit. (PAUSE.) Okay! Look at this circle. (POINT TO THE FIRST CIRCLE.) It has one dot in it. Put this sticker of Naomi in it. (PAUSE.) Naomi was sad because her husband and sons had died, and she was all alone.

"This next circle has two dots in it. (POINT TO THE SECOND CIRCLE.) That's where the sticker of Naomi and Ruth goes. (PAUSE.) Naomi decided to go back to the town where she grew up and Ruth went with her. Ruth said, 'I'm your family, Naomi! Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live' (RUTH 1:16). Naomi was so happy that she and Ruth were family, and she had someone to walk with her. Ruth and Naomi took care of each other.

"This circle here has three dots on it. (POINT.) That's where the sticker of Ruth picking grain goes. (PAUSE.) Ruth and Naomi were hungry so Ruth found a field nearby and picked some grain for them to eat.

"This field belonged to a man named Boaz. And Naomi was part of his family! Boaz decided to take care of Ruth and Naomi and made sure they had plenty of food to eat! This sticker goes in the very last circle. (PAUSE.) Great job!"

After the Activity

"God gave Naomi family to help her. Then God sent more family to help. Thank You, God! God gives us people to call family too. All families can take care of each other. Thank You, God, for giving us family! Thank You, God for everything. Who can you thank for everything? [BOTTOM LINE] I can thank God for everything."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Social

Family Fingerplay

- ☐ No supplies needed
- ☐ Optional: Smiley face stickers

Groups

Memory Verse with Motions

→ No supplies needed

Go With Me

- ☐ Painter's tape
- 1. Put small pieces of tape, one per child, on the floor around the perimeter of your activity area.

Story in the Stalks

- ☐ "Story in the Stalks" Activity Page
- ☐ "Stalk Stickers" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels # 22807 or equivalent
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker
- 1. Copy "Story in the Stalks" on cardstock, one per child.
- 2. Copy "Stalk Stickers" on label paper, one set per child.
- 3. Remove the border of each sticker sheet and discard, leaving the stickers intact on the backing paper.
- 4. Cut the stickers into sets, one for each child.
- 5. Write each child's name on their paper.

Home

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue Card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App** and **ParentCue.org**.

WEEK

TWO

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Friends Can
2. Extra Coloring Sheets

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Story Puzzles
2. Thankful Table Topper

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- [Parent Cue App](#) and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

I can thank God for friends.

Daniel's Friends Pray

Daniel 2

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalm 111:1 ESV

EveryChild Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

SOCIAL 2/3

Friends Can

What You Need

- ☐ "Friends Can" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Small container or bag



EveryChild Tips

For a version with less movement, replace actions like jumping jacks with stationary movements like, clapping, cheering, giving a high-five.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Friends Can" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
2. Place the cards in a container or bag.

During the Activity

1. Invite one child at a time to draw a card from the container/bag.
2. Describe the action on the card aloud: "Friends can do...[action]! Encourage children to do the action together.
3. Continue taking turns drawing cards and performing actions together, reinforcing the idea of friendship and cooperation.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Today, we're going to play a game about the fun things friends do. We'll take turns pulling a card from this container/bag. I'm so glad we're friends and we get to learn and play together!"

During the Activity

"Okay, it's our friend [CHILD'S NAME]'s turn to pick a card. (PAUSE.) Look! These friends are dancing, 'Friends can dance together!' Let's all dance! Go, go, go! You all are amazing dancers! Let's see what else friends can do! (CONTINUE UNTIL EACH CHILD HAS A TURN. ACTIONS ARE READING, GIVING A HIGH-FIVE, PLAYING, RUNNING, AND SHARING A SNACK. REPEAT AS DESIRED.) You all did such a great job playing together and trying all those fun friend actions."

After the Activity

"Our Bible Story today is about something else that friends can do. Let's get ready to hear all about what a guy named Daniel and his friends did together."

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by walking like you are going to see a King!

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 2

GROUPS 2/4

Story Puzzles

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Puzzles" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors

MADE TO
Play

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Story Puzzles" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity

1. Invite children to help put together the four 2-piece puzzles.
2. Review the Bible Story as you put the puzzles together.
3. Talk about how God gave Daniel friends who prayed for him. God gives us friends too! We can thank God for our friends, because we can thank God for everything!

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"I need some friends to help me put these puzzles together. Can you help me?"

During the Activity

(START WITH THE KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR PUZZLE.) "Look! It's the king from our Bible Story. The king had a dream and needed help. He was angry because no one could help him.

(WORK THE DANIEL PUZZLE SECOND.) "This puzzle has Daniel on it. Daniel went to the king and said he could help him if he would give him some time, and the king said yes.

(WORK THE SHADRACH, MESHACH, ABEDNEGO, AND DANIEL PUZZLE NEXT.) "Aww...this one is of Daniel's friends! Daniel went to his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and asked them to pray for him. And they did!

(WORK THE KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND DANIEL PUZZLE LAST.) "This puzzle is the end of our story. Daniel thanked God for telling him how to help the king. Then Daniel went to the king and helped him understand what his dream meant.

"That was fun! Let's mix up the pieces and work the puzzles again!"

After the Activity

"Thank you for helping me put these puzzles together! You are such good friends. Daniel had good friends who helped him too. We can thank God for our friends, because we can thank God for everything. Who can thank God for everything? **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything!"

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 2

GROUPS 4/4

Thankful Table Topper

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Thankful Table Topper" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or crayons
- ☐ Self-inking heart and smiley face stamps
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. "Thankful Table Topper" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Fold each paper on the designated lines, then lay flat.
3. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to decorate their paper with crayons or markers and stamps.
2. Help each child fold their paper into a triangular table tent then rub glue across the tab to secure it.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page →

GROUPS 4/4

Thankful Table Topper


 Uses Minimal Supplies


 Made to Create

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Thankful Table Topper" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or crayons
- ☐ Self-inking heart and smiley face stamps
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed.

② What You Say (cont)

Before the Activity

"Friends! Come join me at the table. I have something for you to make that will help you remember today's true story from the Bible. You can place it on your table at home."

During the Activity

"Look at your paper and point to the section with Daniel and his friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. (PAUSE.) Daniel asked his friends to pray. The friends prayed and talked to God and asked God to help.

(DANIEL 2:17,18) Color that part of your paper. (PAUSE.)

"This part (POINT) says, 'I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.' Psalm 111:1. Decorate it with stamps and stickers. (PAUSE.) These are looking great! There is one more section and the words on this page say (BOTTOM LINE) I can thank God for everything. Draw a picture of you and a friend on this part. (PAUSE.) Wow, fantastic!

"Now we get to fold it to make it stand. (ASSIST EACH CHILD AS NEEDED.) Let's rub some glue along the tab and press it together to keep the ends together. (ASSIST EACH CHILD AS NEEDED.) See how it stands? Turn it around to see all the sides!"

After the Activity

"In today's true story from the Bible, we learned about a wise man named Daniel. He worked for King Nebuchadnezzar helping the king know what to do.

"When the king had a dream that worried him, he asked his wise men to help him understand it. But they didn't know what it meant, and this made the king angry. Daniel knew that only God could help. So he asked his friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to pray to God for help. God showed Daniel how to help the king! (DANIEL 2:19) Daniel told the king all about his dream and what it meant. (DANIEL 2:27-45) The king was so thankful to know what his dream meant.

"God gave Daniel really good friends. God gives us friends too. We can pray for our friends and ask them to pray for us too. We can thank God for our friends, and for everything! Who can you thank for everything? (BOTTOM LINE) I can thank God for everything."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Social

Friends Can

- ☐ "Friends Can" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Small container or bag

1. Copy "Friends Can" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
2. Place the cards in the container or bag.

Groups

Story Puzzles

- ☐ "Story Puzzles" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors

1. Copy "Story Puzzles" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

Thankful Table Topper

- ☐ "Thankful Table Topper" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or crayons,
- ☐ Self-inking heart and smiley face stamps
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Groups

Heart Jump

- ☐ Painter's tape

1. Create a large heart outline on the floor with tape.

Story Puzzles

- ☐ "Story Puzzles" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors

1. Copy "Story Puzzles" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

Wake Up

- ☐ Music player
- ☐ Soft, lullaby music
- ☐ Upbeat praise music

Thankful Table Topper

- ☐ "Thankful Table Topper" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or crayons,
- ☐ Self-inking heart and smiley face stamps
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

1. Copy "Thankful Table Topper" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Fold each paper on the designated lines, then lay flat.
3. Write each child's name on their paper.

Home

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue Card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App** and **ParentCue.org**.

WEEK

THREE

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Bowl and Spoon
2. Extra Coloring Sheets

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Manna Celebration
2. Basket of Thanks
3. Bread on the Ground
4. Thankful for Food

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- [Parent Cue App](#) and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

I can thank God for food.

Manna and Quail

Exodus 16

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalm 111:1 ESV

EveryChild Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

SOCIAL 2/3

Bowl and Spoon

What You Need

- ☐ "Bowl and Spoon" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #6450 or equivalent
- ☐ Paper bowls
- ☐ Plastic spoons



EveryChild Tips

Provide support for each step, offering gentle guidance as needed to ensure all children can participate.

Pair children up to do the activity together.

Allow children to point to the matching spoon and bowl.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Bowl and Spoon" on label paper, two sets per Small Group.
2. Attach one set of stickers on the bottom inside of each bowl, and the other set of stickers on the "bowl" of each spoon.
3. Spread out the bowls and spoons on the table.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to work together to match the images on the spoon to the bowl with the same image.
2. Celebrate when all matches are made.
3. Talk about each food item.
4. Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Who's ready to go on a picnic? Come to the table and we can play a game to get ready!"

During the Activity

"There are bowls and spoons on the table, they all have a food item on them. Will you help me match the food on these spoons to the food in the bowls? (PAUSE.) Great! Let's get matching! Look this spoon has a [FOOD] on it. Can you find the bowl with the [FOOD]? (PAUSE.) Yay! You found it! Put the spoon in that bowl. What other foods do you see? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Let's keep working together to match all the food. (PAUSE.) Hooray! We did it! (HOLD UP THE CORRESPONDING SPOON AS YOU NAME THE FOODS.) We matched the apples, the chicken leg, the fish crackers ... (CONTINUE WITH EACH FOOD.) These are all yummy foods and perfect for a picnic! Thank you for helping me make the matches."

After the Activity

"Today in our true story from the Bible, we are going to learn that we can thank God for food! Let's go hear all about it!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by pretending to eat each of the foods from the activity.

GROUPS 3/4

Bread on the Ground

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Parachute
- ☐ Yellow or brown pom-poms



EveryChild Tips

Children can sit in a chair or wheelchair and participate.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Spread the parachute out in an open space of the room.
2. Sprinkle pom-poms on the parachute.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to raise the parachute high in the air and watch the pom-poms (bread) fall from the sky to the ground.
2. Collect the "bread" and do it again.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Oh, look the parachute is out! I love playing with the parachute. Everyone come grab a handle and let's play!"

During the Activity

"Look at all those pom-poms on the parachute. Let's pretend they're bread. Now let's be really quick and pop the parachute up. One, two, three! (PAUSE.) Wow, look at all the bread falling to the ground. Everyone put the parachute down on the ground and help me collect the bread so we can play again. (PAUSE.) Great job! Toss all the pom-poms on the parachute and grab a handle. Ready? One, two, three! Pop the parachute in the air! Friends, that was so much fun!" (REPEAT AS DESIRED.)

After the Activity

"In our Bible Story today, we heard how God gave His people, the Israelites, meat to eat at night, and bread to eat in the morning. They were so happy to have food. Friends, you and I can thank God for food we eat because we can thank God for everything. Who can thank God for everything? [BOTTOM LINE] I can thank God for everything!"

GROUPS 4/4

Thankful for Food

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Thankful for Food" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Yellow and brown tissue paper
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Yellow and brown dot markers in place of tissue paper, scissors

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Use yellow and brown dot markers in place of tissue paper.

Offer adaptive scissors.

USES MINIMAL
SUPPLIES

MADE TO
↓
Create

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. "Thankful for Food" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Cut tissue paper into one-inch squares.
3. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to glue the tissue paper squares or confetti onto their picture

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come to the table and let's make some story art to help us remember God's people, the Israelites. They walked in a hot desert for a long time, they were unhappy and hungry."

During the Activity

"Look! This side (**POINT TO THE NIGHT SCENE**) shows the Israelites at nighttime, and this side (**POINT TO THE DAY SCENE**) shows Israelites in the daytime. Color your pictures. (**PAUSE.**) God loved His people and wanted to take care of them. God knew they needed food so He told their leader, Moses, that He would send meat at night and bread in the morning. Wow, God is so good! That night they had plenty of meat to eat for dinner! Everyone was so happy to have food. Scrunch up some brown tissue and glue it to the nighttime picture. (**PAUSE.**) The next morning, there were small pieces of bread all over the ground for the people to eat! Glue some yellow pieces of paper to the ground on the daytime side. (**PAUSE.**) Great job! Every day, God made sure the people had meat to eat at night and bread to eat in the morning. Wow, God gave the Israelites food to eat!"

After the Activity

"Friends, we can thank God for all kinds of food! We can thank God for everything! Let's thank God together. Thank You, God, for everything. (**WITH CHILDREN.**) Thank You, God, for everything. Who can you thank for everything? [**BOTTOM LINE**] I can thank God for everything."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Social

Bowl and Spoon

- ☐ "Bowl and Spoon" Activity Page
 - ☐ Avery® Labels #6450 or equivalent
 - ☐ Paper bowls
 - ☐ Plastic spoons
1. Copy "Bowl and Spoon" on label paper, two sets per Small Group.
 2. Attach one set of stickers on the bottom inside of each bowl, and the other set of stickers on the "bowl" of each spoon.
 3. Spread out the bowls and spoons on the table.

Groups

Bread on the Ground

- ☐ Parachute
 - ☐ Yellow or brown pom-poms
1. Spread the parachute out in an open space of the room.
 2. Sprinkle pom-poms on the parachute.

Thankful for Food

- ☐ Copy "Thankful for Food" on cardstock, one per child.
 - ☐ Cut tissue paper into half-inch squares.
 - ☐ Write each child's name on their paper.
1. Copy "Thankful for Food" on cardstock, one per child.
 2. Cut tissue paper into half-inch squares.
 3. Write each child's name on their paper.

Home

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue Card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App** and **ParentCue.org**.

WEEK

FOUR

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. **Let's Build a House**
2. **Extra Coloring Sheets**

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. **Travel Around**
2. **Thankful Picnic**

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- [Parent Cue App](#) and ParentCue.org



Today's Bible Story

I can thank God for people who help me.

Elisha's Room

2 Kings 4:8-17

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalm 111:1 ESV



EveryChild Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

SOCIAL 1/3

Let's Build a House

What You Need

- ☐ Building blocks

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Large, easy-to-grasp blocks



EveryChild Tips

If a child doesn't want to build, invite them to point out or describe the rooms others are building.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Set out a variety of blocks in a central place where the children can gather and build.

During the Activity

1. Invite children to work together to build a house using the blocks.
2. As they build, talk about the different rooms they might include: a kitchen, a bathroom, a place to eat, a bed to sleep in, or a place to sit.
3. Encourage children to describe what each room is for and how it helps people. Guide the children to build a special room.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Come join me over here at the blocks. Today we're going to use the blocks to build a house."

During the Activity

"Let's think about all the rooms a house might need. A house needs a kitchen to make food in. Can you build a kitchen? (PAUSE.) What other rooms? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Oh yes! A house needs a bedroom to sleep in. Can you build a bedroom? (PAUSE.) What about a bathroom to wash your hands or take a bath in? Can you build a bathroom? (PAUSE.) You're doing such a great job building! Can you add a bed to your bedroom to sleep in? (PAUSE.) What about a table to eat at in your kitchen? (PAUSE.) And maybe a chair in another room so you can sit and rest. (PAUSE.) Now can you build another room on top of your house? (PAUSE.) Great job friends!"

After the Activity

"You built a wonderful house and added a special room. Let's go hear how someone in our Bible Story today helped a man named Elisha by adding a room to their house for him to stay and rest."

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by pretending to build.

GROUPS 3/4

Travel Around

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Travel Around" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Heart-shaped sticky notes



EveryChild Tips

If you have a child that cannot physically move around the room, you can adapt this into a table activity for children to do with an adult or a few friends.

For a non-verbal option, teach children to use the ASL sign for "Thank you."

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Travel Around" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Tape the pictures on the wall around the room at child's height.
3. Give children several heart sticky notes.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to travel to different places and put a heart on each picture and say "thank you."

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, in our Bible Story, Elisha went from town to town telling people about God. People in each town helped him, we have people in our town who help us, too. Let's go around the room and see if we can find different places that have people who help. When we find them, we will put these hearts on the picture." **(GIVE EACH CHILD SEVERAL HEART STICKY NOTES.)**

During the Activity

"Let's travel. Let's go to the fire station! **(WALK TO THE FIRE STATION PICTURE.)** We know the firefighters work here and they help keep us safe. Say "thank you firefighters" and put a heart sticky note on the picture. **(PAUSE.)** Great job. Now let's go find the next place in town. **(CONTINUE TO EACH PLACE, SAYING THANK YOU AND ADDING A HEART STICKY NOTE.)** Hooray! We found all the places and thanked all the people. Great job!"

After the Activity

"We need people who help us, just like Elisha needed people to help him. We can thank God for people who help us because we can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything? **(BOTTOM LINE)** I can thank God for everything!"

GROUPS 4/4

Thankful Picnic

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Thankful Picnic" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Green cardstock or construction paper
- ☐ 5-inch people paper cutouts
- ☐ Washable markers
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Thankful Picnic" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their green paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color their picnic blanket then glue it to the middle of their green paper.
2. Encourage children to color and decorate their three people cutouts. One to look like themselves, and two like people who help them.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come to the table and let's create a picnic picture!"

During the Activity

"Have you ever gone on a picnic? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)** They are really fun! You pack a basket with all kinds of yummy food and drinks, spread a blanket out on the ground and sit with family or friends and eat and talk to each other.

"I have a picnic blanket with a picnic basket of food **(GIVE EACH CHILD A CUTOUT)** for you to decorate. **(PAUSE.)** Now glue your picnic blanket to the green paper. **(PAUSE.)** Wow! It looks like your picnic blanket is on a nice patch of grass! You can't have a picnic without people. Decorate one of these people cutouts to look like you. **(PAUSE.)** Now decorate the other two people to look like people who help you. People who help can be friends, family, a teacher, or even a police officer. Lots of people help us. **(PAUSE.)** Now let's glue all the people around the picnic blanket. **(YOU COULD LET CHILDREN GLUE THEM FLAT OR BEND THEM IN HALF AT THEIR "WAIST" AND LET THEM SIT ON THE BLANKET.)** Wow, look at the people who help you. That's a thankful picnic!"

After the Activity

"In today's true story from the Bible we learned that Elisha loved God, and he traveled all over, telling people about God. In one town, there was a woman who wanted to help Elisha. So, when Elisha was in their town, the woman and her husband would have Elisha eat at their house. Then they made a room on the roof of their house so Elisha would have a place to rest. The woman put a chair, a table, a lamp, and a bed in the room. Elisha was so thankful God gave him people to help him. God gives us people to help us too! We can thank God for the people who help us because we can thank God for everything! Who can you thank for everything? **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Social

Let's Build a House

☐ Building blocks

1. Set out a variety of blocks in a central place where the children can gather and build.

Groups

Travel Around

☐ "Travel Around" Activity Page

☐ Cardstock

☐ Painter's tape

☐ Heart-shaped sticky notes

1. Copy "Travel Around" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Tape the pictures on the wall around the room at child's height.

Thankful Picnic

☐ "Thankful Picnic" Activity Page

☐ Cardstock

☐ Green cardstock or construction paper

☐ 5-inch people paper cutouts

☐ Washable markers

☐ Scissors

☐ Glue sticks

☐ Permanent marker

1. Copy "Thankful Picnic" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their green paper.

WEEK

FIVE

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. **Band Together**
2. **Extra Coloring Sheets**

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Praise Dance Party
2. Dancing Ribbons

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- [Parent Cue App](#) and ParentCue.org



Today's Bible Story

I can praise God.

David Praises God

2 Samuel 6:12-15

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalms 111:1 ESV

EveryChild Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

SOCIAL 1/3

Band Together



What You Need

- ☐ Musical Instruments

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Noise cancelling headphones



EveryChild Tips

Provide noise-cancelling headphones for any child who might find this activity overwhelming

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Place the instruments out on a table or the floor.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to pick an instrument and play it as you move and dance around the room.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"I love to hear how all these instruments sound together. Would you like to play music with me?"

During the Activity

"Everyone, pick an instrument and let's start playing. You can walk around or dance while you play. **(PAUSE.)** Wow! We sound so great! You're doing such a good job playing those instruments!" **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)**

After the Activity

"Today in our true story from the Bible, we're going to learn about a man who loved to play instruments and praise God! I can't wait. Let's go!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by forming a line and pretending to play instruments in a marching band to the designated area.

GROUPS 1/4

Praise Dance Party

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent
- ☐ Painter's tape

EveryChild Tips

Pair children up to do the activity together.

For a version with less movement, encourage children to dance in place while standing or sitting.



① What You Do

Note → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child.
2. Tape two parallel lines on the floor about three feet apart and six feet long to create a pathway.
3. Ask the children to sit on the lines on either side of the path.
4. Review the Memory Verse with the motions together

During the Activity

1. Call on the children, one at a time, to walk down the path, dancing like David as you repeat the words of the verse together.
2. Give each child a sticker once they make it down the line.
3. Make sure each child has a turn as "David."

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, gather here and sit on either side of our pathway. Let's say our Memory Verse together with the motions. 'I will give thanks (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN) to the LORD (POINT UP) with my whole heart,' (TAP HEART TWICE) Psalm 111:1. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.) Great job everyone!"

During the Activity

"In our Bible Story today, we talked about how David danced and sang as a way to say thank you to God! When I call your name, I want you to dance all the way down this path as we say our Memory Verse together. [CHILD'S NAME], show us your dance down the path. Friends, say it with me. 'I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,' Psalm 111:1. Great dancing! Here is a sticker for you! (GIVE CHILD A STICKER.) Sit down on the tape line. [CHILD'S NAME], your turn! (CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD.) Wow! I saw some pretty awesome dance moves! Everyone, clap for yourself. (PAUSE.) Super-duper!"

After the Activity

"David showed God that he was thankful by dancing and singing, and we can too! There are lots of ways we can say 'Thank You, God,' anytime and anywhere. Who can thank God for everything? (BOTTOM LINE) I can thank God for everything."

GROUPS 2/4

Praise Parade

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Paper or toy crown
- ☐ Music player
- ☐ Praise music

EveryChild Tips

Move with a buddy so every one has an opportunity to participate.

If a child prefers, allow them to carry the crown or lead without the crown.



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Gather children in an open area of the room.

During the Activity

1. Take turns wearing the crown and leading everyone around the room in a praise parade.
2. Encourage children to dance, clap and make music with hand horns.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Let's have parade and praise God together!"

During the Activity

"In our Bible Story today, King David praised God! When we praise God, it's like a big THANK YOU to God!"

"Hey! Let's take turns pretending to be King David leading a praise parade! [CHILD'S NAME], you can be King David first and stand at the front of our parade. Everyone else can dance, clap, or toot a horn like this (DEMONSTRATE) while they follow King David!"

(START THE PRAISE MUSIC.) "Come on everyone! Let's have a praise parade and follow [CHILD'S NAME]! Woo-hoo! Now let's have a new king. [CHILD'S NAME] it's your turn to be King David and lead our praise parade! (CONTINUE AS TIME AND INTEREST ALLOW.) Great job friends!"

After the Activity

"I love praising God with you! We can praise God any time we want to thank Him for something like friends, a toy, people who help us, even for a bowl of cereal, because we can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything? [BOTTOM LINE] I can thank God for everything!"

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

November — Week 5

GROUPS 4/4

Dancing Ribbons

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Dancing Ribbons Label" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- ☐ Ribbons in a variety of colors and widths
- ☐ Rubber bands
- ☐ Craft sticks
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

EveryChild Tips



Create an example for children to see.



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Dancing Ribbons Label" on label paper, one label per child.
2. Cut ribbons into 16-inch lengths, five per child.
3. Write each child's name on a craft stick.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to pick five ribbons of any color and stack them together.
2. Thread the stack through the rubber band and knot.
3. Wrap each child's rubber band around one end of their craft stick until secure.
4. Encourage children to decorate their craft stick with their label and stickers.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hooray! I'm so glad you're here! Come join me at the table. I have something fun for you to make today! It's a ribbon dancer that you can wave and dance and praise God with!"

During the Activity

"Look at all these pretty colored ribbons! You can pick any five ribbons for your dancer. They can be all the same color or different. **(COUNT AS THE CHILDREN PICK THEIR RIBBONS TO MAKE SURE THEY GET FIVE.)** Great job! Now let's thread them through the rubber band like this **(DEMONSTRATE.)** Then we need to tie them in a knot. **(DEMONSTRATE. HELP AS NEEDED.)** Next, I'll wrap the rubber band around your craft stick several times, so the ribbons stay put. **(PAUSE.)** Ta-dah! **(SHAKE THE RIBBON DANCER.)** Put this sticker on your craft stick. It says, **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything. Finish decorating your stick with any of these other stickers. **(PAUSE.)** Great job! Hold them still and we'll use them after we review."

After the Activity

"Today we learned about a king named David. David loved God, and he wanted to praise God to show Him he was thankful for everything. David danced to praise God. David used his voice to praise God and David used instruments to praise God. You can praise God by playing an instrument, singing, or dancing too! There are all kinds of ways we can praise God and say, Thank You, God, for everything. Wave your rainbow dancer and say, Thank You, God, for everything. **(WITH CHILDREN.)** Thank You, God, for everything. Who can you thank for everything? **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic

Social

Band Together

- ☐ Musical Instruments – one per child
- 1. Place the instruments out on a table or the floor.

Groups

Praise Dance Party

- ☐ "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent
- ☐ Painter's tape
- 1. Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child.
- 2. Tape two parallel lines on the floor about three feet apart and six feet long to create a pathway.

Dancing Ribbons

- ☐ "Dancing Ribbons Label" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- ☐ Ribbons in a variety of colors and widths
- ☐ Rubber bands
- ☐ Craft sticks
- ☐ Stickers
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker
- 1. Copy "Dancing Ribbons Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- 2. Cut ribbons into 16-inch lengths, five per child.
- 3. Write each child's name on a craft stick.