



GOD LOVES ME.



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BASIC TRUTH

GOD LOVES ME.

KEY QUESTION

WHO CAN YOU TRUST?

BOTTOM LINE

I CAN TRUST GOD.

MEMORY VERSE

"Trust the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5, NCV

BIBLE STORY FOCUS

**I can trust God even when it's hard.
Naaman • 2 Kings 5:1-14**

MAKE IT FUN

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

- **7 Jumps**
- **Band-Aid Match**
- **Hard Times**

MAKE IT TRUE (LARGE GROUP)

- **Worship**
- **Introductory Sketch**
- **Bible Story**

MAKE IT STICK

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today's Bible story and Bottom Line. 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 kids to participate in each, then switch groups and repeat the activities.

- **Heart Verse**
- **Dive In Series**
- **Naaman Is Healed!**
- **Parachute**
- **All Better Naaman**

MAKE IT REAL

Make It Real is designed to help preschoolers understand how the Bottom Line applies to them. They'll discuss real-life experiences and share prayer requests. Divide kids into small groups of about five to eight children with each leader. Ideally, assign the same small group leader to the same group of preschoolers for the entire year.

- **Small Group Time**
- **Prayer**



MAKE IT FUN

Activities designed to draw children into the classroom and introduce vocabulary and concepts needed for the Bible story.



MOVEMENT

An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn and grow.

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7 JUMPS

"7 Jumps" is an activity that introduces the number seven as a key element to the upcoming Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: A blue sheet or butcher paper

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Place the sheet or paper in the middle of the play area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to jump onto the sheet seven times while counting out loud. Repeat as long as there is interest

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "This looks like water running though our classroom! (*Point to the sheet.*) Let's pretend to jump into the water!"

During the Activity: "Are you ready? Let's jump into the water seven times! Here we go!" (*Jump and count aloud.*)

After the Activity: "Whew! That was fun! Our Bible story today is about a man who jumped in the water seven times too! I wonder why. We'll find out!"



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GAME

An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts.

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BAND-AID MATCH

"Band-Aid Match" is an activity that uses number recognition and counting skills to introduce today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: 7 pieces of cardstock in any color, a box of BAND-AIDS®, and a marker

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Write the numbers 1-7 in large block print on each piece of cardstock. Laminate if possible.

During the Activity: Show the cards to the children and point out the numbers they see. Many children will not recognize the numbers yet. That's okay; just tell them what the numbers are. Shuffle the cards. Pull one out and say the number. Then help the children count out that many bandages and place them on the card. (*Keep the bandages in wrappers so they can be reused.*) Repeat with remaining cards. Remove bandages and play again.

WHAT YOU SAY:

During the Activity: "Hi, friends! I have a fun game to play today. Do you see these cards? Each card has a number from one to seven. Can you count to seven with me? Let's count. (*Pause to count.*) Great job! Let's say each of the numbers on our cards. (*Hold up a card and review its number.*) Now I want us to pull out a card, call out the number and put that many BAND-AIDS on the card. Ready? (*Repeat with all the cards, pull bandages off and play again as time/interest allows.*)

After the Activity: "Great job, everyone! You are super duper counters! Today we'll hear about a man who was hurt. He needed LOTS of BAND-AIDS. We'll also hear something about the number seven, so make sure you're listening!"



MAKE IT FUN

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INVESTIGATION/ROLE PLAY

An activity that channels either a preschooler's innate curiosity or desire to play dress up into a discussion of concepts crucial to the lesson.

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HARD TIMES

"Hard Times" is an activity that challenges the children to try new things while teaching them that it is okay if they cannot always do them.

WHAT YOU NEED: Several pieces of clothing with snaps, buttons, and zippers; and shoes with laces or buckles

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Lay all of the items in the activity area.

During the Activity: Have the children gather around and challenge them to attempt to manipulate the snaps, buttons, and zippers. Ask them to tie or buckle the shoes.

After the Activity: Ask the children what other things are hard for them to do. Talk about how sometimes we have to do hard things.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Look at all of the clothes! They have buttons, snaps, and zippers on them that need to be done. The shoes (*point*) need to be tied!"

During the Activity: "Will you help me put the clothes and shoes together? (*Pause.*) Can you tie shoelaces? (*Pause.*) Yes, you are very right, these snaps, buttons, and zippers can be hard to do! So can tying your shoes!"

After the Activity: Sometimes we are asked to do hard things. Sometimes it's even hard to TRY to do hard things. Can you think of other things that are hard to do? (*picking up toys, cleaning their room, etc.*) I am so glad that you shared things that are hard to do with me. Sometimes I even have to do things that are hard! The man in our story today had to do something hard. Let's hear our Bible story so we can find out what it was!"



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

An activity that encourages preschoolers to learn the monthly memory verse.

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HEART VERSE

"Heart Verse" is an activity that uses gross motor movement and repetition to review this month's memory verse.

WHAT YOU NEED: Several pieces of red or pink cardstock, scissors, and a marker

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Cut out eight hearts from the cardstock. On the front of each heart, write out the words of this month's memory verse, one word per heart including the reference. 'Trust the Lord with all your heart,' Proverbs 3:5. Lay the hearts on the floor in verse order to create a path.

During the Activity: Line up the children at the start of the verse path. Let them take turns walking along the path as you repeat the verse.

WHAT YOU SAY:

During the Activity: "Let's play a fun game to help us remember our memory verse. See these hearts on the floor? They are in a path! I want you to line up right here (*guide children to line up at the start of the verse path*) and we will take turns walking on the path and saying this month's memory verse. Let's go!"

After the Activity: "I LOVE this verse. You can trust God with all your heart. You can trust Him when you're happy, when you're sad, when it's easy and when it's hard. You can trust God ALWAYS! **Who can you trust? I can trust God.**"



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



BIBLE STORY REVIEW

An activity that reviews the entire Bible story in a fun and interactive way allowing preschoolers that repetition they crave.

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DIVE IN SERIES

"Dive In Series" is an activity that continues throughout the month that focuses on the Bible story concepts from each week.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Naaman," "River" and "Story Summary" from the Activity Pages on the Website, light blue cardstock, white cardstock, scissors, and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Naaman" Activity Page onto the white cardstock. Cut out each Naaman on the dotted lines. Copy the "Story Summary" Activity Page onto the white cardstock and cut on dotted lines. Copy the "River" Activity Page onto the light blue cardstock and cut on dotted lines.

During the Activity: Retell the Bible story. When you come to the part about Naaman dipping seven times, help the children attach the "River" to the "Story Summary" Activity Page by putting glue on only the right and left sides and the bottom. Then they can dip the Naaman cut out into the "River."

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Today in our story, poor Naaman was not feeling very well. He had sores all over his body. I bet that hurt!"

During the Activity: "Elijah's servant told Naaman that God would heal Naaman if he did something very special. Do you remember what that was? (Pause.) You are right! He told him to go to the water and dip himself SEVEN times! Naaman did not want to do that! He did not think that would make him feel better at all! It was hard for Naaman to make himself do something that was hard. But he did! He went to the water. (Hand out the supplies to each child.) You have a picture of Naaman at the water just like in our story. (Help the children complete the craft.) When Naaman got to the water, he dipped himself SEVEN times. You can do it with me with the Naaman on your page. (Encourage the children to move the Naaman in and out of the "river.") ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, SEVEN. Yes! Seven times."

After the Activity: "After he did what God wanted him to do, Naaman WAS HEALED! Naaman trusted God even though it was hard! We have to trust God too, even if it is hard sometimes! **Who can you trust? I can trust God!**"



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JUST FOR FIVES

An activity that calls on older preschoolers' more developed cognitive and fine motor skills while reviewing the Bible story, bottom line or memory verse.

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NAAMAN IS HEALED!

"Naaman Is Healed!" is an activity that uses art and fine motor skills to review today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: People sponges **OR** "Naaman Outline" from the Activity Pages on the Website, cardstock, and thin sponges; a plastic bin filled with 3-4 inches of water, red tempera paint, and a small paint brush

NOTE: If you have a large class, you may need to provide more than one sponge and bin of water. You will also need this same "Naaman Outline" for Activity #5.

You can see an example of this craft and some people sponge options on the September 2016 Pinterest board found at: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/>

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: If you choose to use the "Naaman Outline" Activity Page, copy it onto the cardstock and cut out. Then place the "Naaman" template on top of the sponge, trace, and cut out. Use the small paintbrush to dab several dots with the red paint all over the sponge(s). Fill the plastic bin(s) with about three inches of water.

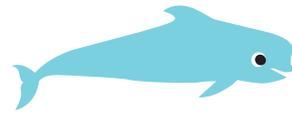
During the Activity: Show the children the Naaman sponge and point out all of his boo-boos. Carefully place the sponge in the water seven times. Count each time. Squeeze the water from the sponge and show the "healed" Naaman to the children.

NOTE: Never turn your back on the children when using water in the classroom.

WHAT YOU SAY:

During the Activity: "Today we talked about a man named Naaman who had a big problem! He was covered in painful boo-boos. Elisha's servant told him to bathe in the river SEVEN times. Do you see my sponge? It looks like Naaman! And what do you see here? His boo-boos! Let's help Naaman bathe in the river and count to seven to see what happens. Ready? (*Dunk the sponge in the water seven times, count out loud with the children each time, and then squeeze the water out of the sponge.*) Wow! Look, his boo-boos are gone!"

After the Activity: "Naaman didn't want to take seven baths, did he? But guess what? He decided to trust God and follow His directions even when it was hard. And he was healed! We can always trust God. His way is the best way. **Who can you trust? I can trust God.**"



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MOVEMENT

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PARACHUTE

"Parachute" is an activity that teaches counting skills to review the concept of the Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: Parachute or a blue sheet

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Have other Small Group Leaders help you hold the parachute up in the air while the children sit under it.

During the Activity: Bring the parachute down on top of the children seven times. Bring it down far enough where it touches their heads. Repeat several times.

After the Activity: Say the Bottom Line together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Everyone come and sit under the parachute."

During the Activity: "Naaman dipped himself seven times even though it was hard, because he trusted God. We are going to dip you seven times. Count with us!" (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great counting! We dipped the parachute on you seven times just like Naaman did. He trusted God! We can trust God too! Even when it is hard!
Who can you trust? I can trust God!"



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CRAFT

An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line or memory verse by creating a fun craft to take home.

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ALL BETTER NAAMAN

"All Better Naaman" is an activity that uses fine motor skills to review today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Naaman Outline" Activity Page, white cardstock, crayons, 3-4 clear page protectors, red, odor-free dry erase markers, and paper towels

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Make copies of the "Naaman Outline" onto white cardstock for each child. Place the crayons in the center of the table.

During the Activity: Pass out the "Naaman Outline" Activity Pages for the children to color. Let the children take turns putting their Naaman pages into the clear page protectors. Use the red dry-erase markers to draw several dots on the Naaman outline to create his boo-boos. Pass out the paper towels for the children to "wipe off" the boo-boos. Repeat so that every child has a chance to help Naaman get better.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Today our Bible story was about a man named Naaman. I want you to use the crayons to color Naaman." (*Pass out the Activity Pages.*)

During the Activity: "Great job, everyone! But in our Bible story today, something was wrong with Naaman. Does anyone remember what it was? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! He was covered in painful boo-boos. Let me show you his boo-boos. (*Follow directions from above and then let the children wipe off the boo-boos.*)

After the Activity: "Naaman could have walked away without listening to God, but he chose to obey God and take SEVEN baths that day! Can you imagine taking SEVEN baths? Whoa! But look what happened! Naaman was healed from all his boo-boos. Can you trust God? Absolutely! Can we trust God like Naaman did, even when it's hard? Yes! **Who can you trust? I can trust God.**"



MAKE IT REAL

A time for preschoolers to meet with a consistent small group leader, apply the lesson to their lives and pray together.

lead small.

Investing in a few to encourage their authentic faith.

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SMALL GROUP TIME

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" (from the Week One Activity Pages on the Website) in your Bible at Proverbs 3:5. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each Small Group. You will also need a red heart sticker for each child during journal time.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "Do you think it was hard for Naaman to let everyone see his boo-boos and go dip in the water seven times? I do! I think that would be really hard. I mean, what if the people laughed at him or looked at him and said he was gross? What if it didn't make his boo-boos better? That would be SO hard! But Naaman trusted God even when it was hard and God's way was best! Naaman's boo-boos went away! Naaman trusted God and you can too! **Who can you trust?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I can trust God!"

SGL: "You sure can! You can trust God with all your heart even when it's hard.

(Open Bible to memory verse card.)

SGL: "Okay, today is our last day to say our verse. We'll say it one time together and then I have a sticker/hand stamp for anyone who wants to try and say it all by yourself. Stand up and say what I say and do what I do."

(Lay Bible down.)

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'Trust the Lord (point both index fingers straight up in the air) with all (stretch your arms out wide) your heart' (bring both hands together over your heart), Proverbs 3:5." (Open your hands like a book.)

SGL: "Perfect! I think you're ready! Who wants to go first and try and say our verse by yourself?"

(Give each child the opportunity to say the verse on his own. Have your stickers/hand stamp ready to give when they say it.)



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"I am so proud of you! Now before we go I want us to sit together so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God.

(Open prayer journal and hold your fun pen.)

"Today I want us to make a list of hard things God wants us to do. *(Tell the truth, share, say I'm sorry, obey parents, pray for someone who hurts you, etc.)* When we pray we can ask God to help us trust Him even when it's hard.

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

"This is such a great list. Thank you for helping me make it. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?

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

"Now I will pray."

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, we want to trust You and do what You say, but sometime it's just hard. Please help us to trust You even when it's hard. Help *(name of child)* trust you and *(name action listed)*. *(Repeat for each child.)* We believe Your way is always best. Help us all to grow up loving You and trusting You with all our heart. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."