



# GOD LOVES ME.



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### BASIC TRUTH

**GOD LOVES ME.**

### KEY QUESTION

**WHOSE WAY IS PERFECT?**

### BOTTOM LINE

**GOD'S WAY IS PERFECT.**

### MEMORY VERSE

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

### BIBLE STORY FOCUS

**God can show me the right way.  
Pillars of Clouds and Fire  
• Exodus 13:21-22**

## 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.

- Follow the Noodle
- Stack the Pillars
- What Can You See?

## 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.

- Pillar Verse
- Clouds of Fire
- Who Follows God?
- God's Way Parachute Play
- Binoculars

## 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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## FOLLOW THE NOODLE

"Follow the Noodle" is an activity that teaches listening and following direction skills while introducing the concept of the story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Pool noodle (*any color*)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Have the children line up in a single file line behind you.

**During the Activity:** Hold the pool noodle up high as you walk around the room with the children behind you. Tell the children to look for the noodle and follow it wherever it goes.

**After the Activity:** Go to as many places as possible if time allows. Go around the room, in the hallway, and in different parts of the church if possible.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Let's go for a walk! Everyone line up behind me!"

**During the Activity:** "Look for the noodle (*hold up high*) to tell you where to go. Wherever the noodle goes, you go! Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Here we go!"

**After the Activity:** "Great job following the noodle. That was fun! Today in our story Moses has to follow something too! I cannot wait to find out what it is!"



## MAKE IT FUN

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## GAME

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

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## STACK THE PILLARS

"Stack the Pillars" is an activity that uses fine and gross motor movements to introduce today's Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Pillar Flames" from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, 3 red plastic cups, tape, scissors, and a clean white sock

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy the "Pillar Flames" Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut out the flames. Tape two flames to each cup. Stack the cups in a pyramid. Ball up the white sock.

Note: If you have a larger class, you may need another set of cups, flames, and an additional sock to play with two groups of children.

**During the Activity:** Show the children the cups and point out the flames. Demonstrate how they can use the "cloud" (sock) to knock over the "flames" (cups). Line up the children and let them take turns knocking down the cups with the sock.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** "What do you see on the sides of these cups? (Pause.) Flames! That's right. I also have this sock here. I think it kind of looks like a cloud. We're going to play a fun game today where we'll use our pillar of cloud (*hold up the sock*) to knock over our pillar of fire (*point to the cups*). Are you ready? (Pause.) Okay, let's get in a line so we can take turns!"

**After the Activity:** "Great job, everyone. That was a super fun game. I want you to put on your listening ears today during our Bible story, because you'll hear something really important about a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire!"



## MAKE IT FUN

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



## 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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## WHAT CAN YOU SEE?

"What Can You See?" is an activity that teaches the child to observe the world around them.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Several pairs of play binoculars

**NOTE:** If you do not have play binoculars you can make your own. You will need two empty toilet paper rolls and tape per pair. Simply tape the rolls together side by side.

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Lay out the binoculars in the activity area.

**During the Activity:** Encourage the children to pick up the binoculars and look through them.

**After the Activity:** Point out items in the room/activity area for the children to look at through their binoculars.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "God has made a beautiful world for us to live in. Let's REALLY look at our world through these binoculars!"

**During the Activity:** *(Hold up the binoculars.)* "We can use these to see things better. *(Do activity.)* Great job! Look at the *(name an item in the room)* over there across the room. *(Point.)* WOW! We can really see things with these binoculars!"

**After the Activity:** "If we take the time to really look around we can really see things. We do not even need binoculars. In our story today, Moses sees something AMAZING! Let's get ready to hear our TRUE Bible story to find out what it is!"



### 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.

### BASIC TRUTH

GOD LOVES ME.

### KEY QUESTION

WHOSE WAY IS PERFECT?

### BOTTOM LINE

GOD'S WAY IS PERFECT.

### MEMORY VERSE

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

### BIBLE STORY FOCUS

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## PILLAR VERSE

"Pillar Verse" is an activity that uses fine motor skills and problem solving to review this month's Memory Verse.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Cloud Pillar" and "Fire Pillar" Activity Pages, white cardstock, and scissors

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy the "Cloud Pillar" and "Fire Pillar" Activity Pages onto cardstock and cut apart.

**During the Activity:** Show the children the Activity Pages and encourage them to work together to complete the pillars, like putting together a puzzle. When both the fire and cloud pillars are put together, point out the words on the pages and review the memory verse together as a group.

**After the Activity:** Repeat the verse together several times as you point to the words on the Activity Pages.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** "Today we learned that God led Moses and the people by sending a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. Let's work together to put our pillars of cloud and fire together. (Pause to let the children work on the puzzles.) Great job! Now let's read and practice this month's verse together."

**After the Activity:** "Our Memory Verse this month says, 'God's way (point both hands up) is perfect' (two thumbs up), 2 Samuel 22:31. (Open hands like a book.) His way IS perfect. I love how he chose to lead Moses and people by sending a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire. God can show you the right way too because **God's way is perfect! Whose way is perfect? God's way is perfect.**"



### 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.

### BASIC TRUTH

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### KEY QUESTION

WHOSE WAY IS PERFECT?

### BOTTOM LINE

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## CLOUDS OR FIRE

"Clouds or Fire" is an activity that teaches critical thinking and retells the Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 2 empty paper towel tubes, cotton balls; glue; red, yellow, and orange tissue paper; and 2 SGLs to help

#### WHAT YOU DO:

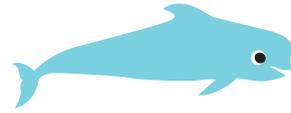
**Before the Activity:** On one of the tubes, glue cotton balls all over it. Be sure to cover the entire tube. Then tear the tissue paper into strips. Glue the strips all over the second tube.

**During the Activity:** Give each SGL who is helping one tube. Ask them to go to different parts of the room. Retell the story. (*If you do not have helpers to hold the pillars, you may hold one in each hand and have the children jump from side to side in front of the appropriate pillar.*) Tell the children that you are going to play a game. When you say "daytime," they will go the SGL with the cloud tube and when you say "nighttime," they go to the SGL with the fire pillar. Repeat several times.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "We heard a wonderful story today! Moses had done everything that God told him to do. He knew God's way was perfect! He rescued the Israelites and was leading them to the Promised Land, a wonderful place that God had promised to them! But there was one problem. They did not know which way to go! Moses knew that God would help them. AND HE DID! During the day God sent a cloud down from the sky and the cloud moved in the direction they were supposed to go. All they had to do was follow the cloud. That worked great until it was nighttime. At night the clouds go away. But God had a plan! He sent a pillar of FIRE to lead them at night. The fire showed them where to go and gave them light! WOW, God's way IS perfect!"

**During the Activity:** "God showed Moses the way to go with pillars of clouds and fire! I think we should play a game! Look at our helpers today. (*Point.*) [Leader's name] is holding the cloud pillar and [Leader's name] is holding the fire pillar. When I say 'daytime,' everyone go to the cloud pillar. When I say 'nighttime,' everyone go to the fire pillar. Are you ready?" (*Play game.*)



### MAKE IT STICK

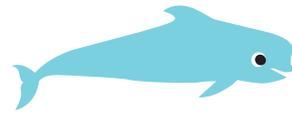
Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



### BIBLE STORY REVIEW

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

**After the Activity:** "Great job! God helped Moses and the Israelites find their way with these pillars of clouds and fire. God's way is perfect! We should always listen to Him just like Moses did! **Whose way is perfect? God's way is perfect!**"



### MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



### 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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### KEY QUESTION

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### BOTTOM LINE

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### MEMORY VERSE

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### BIBLE STORY FOCUS

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## WHO FOLLOWS GOD?

"Who Follows God?" is an activity that uses critical thinking skills to review today's Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 2-foot length of butcher paper, markers, and wall tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Use the tape to hang the butcher paper on the wall in an open area of the room at a child's eye level.

**During the Activity:** Talk about how God led the Israelites with a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire so they would know where to go, and that God gives us people in our lives to help us know where to go. Ask the children to name some people in their lives who guide them. Write down their answers on the butcher paper with the marker.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** "What did God use to lead Moses and the Israelites in the story today? (Pause for responses.) Just like God used the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire to show His people the right way, there are people we can look to, to find the right way. I'll give you an example. Your mom and dad lead you. I'll write their names here on our paper. Can you think of some other people in your life that help you know where to go and what to do?"

**After the Activity:** "This is a great list! Look at all these people like your mom and dad and your teacher and your grandparents that help you know where to go and what to do. I'm so glad God gave us all these important people to show us where to go. But the most important person to follow is God! Because **God's way is perfect.**

**Whose way is perfect? God's way is perfect."**



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### MOVEMENT

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

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## GOD'S WAY PARACHUTE PLAY

"God's Way Parachute Play" is an activity that teaches large motor skills and teamwork.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Parachute or large sheet, music player, "God's Way" song from AmberSkyRecords.com, and cotton balls

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Have the children stand around the parachute or sheet on the floor. Ask the children to each grab a piece of the parachute and pick it up. Everyone should be holding the parachute up. Place several cotton balls on to the parachute. Play the song "God's Way" while you are doing the activity.

**During the Activity:** Encourage the children to bounce the "clouds" up and down. Encourage the children to move their arms up and down to move the parachute. Challenge the children to move the parachute faster and faster.

**After the Activity:** Say the Bottom Line together.

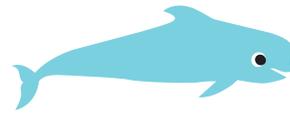
#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Let's bounce some clouds while we listen to a fun song!"  
(Play song.)

**During the Activity:** "Did you think I was silly when I said, 'Bounce some clouds'? (Hold up parachute.) Let's do it! (Set up parachute.) Perfect! Now let's add the clouds. (Place cotton balls on the parachute.) Now bounce! (Do activity.) Great job! Now let's bounce them FASTER!"

**After the Activity:** "Great job, everyone! The clouds sure did go high! The clouds made me think about the pillars of clouds we heard about in our story today. And the song that we heard told us that God's way is perfect! God's way IS perfect!"

**Whose way is perfect? God's way is perfect!"**



### MAKE IT STICK

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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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## BINOCULARS

"Binoculars" is an activity that uses fine motor skills and creativity to review today's Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Toilet paper rolls (2 per child) OR construction paper (1 piece for every 2 children), stapler, tape, "Story Labels" Activity Page, Avery® labels #5160 or equivalent, and markers or crayons

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy the "Story Labels" Activity Page onto the labels so each child will have one. Staple two toilet paper rolls together to create a pair of binoculars for each child. If you choose to use construction paper, cut each piece of construction paper into four pieces. Roll up each piece and attach with tape to form a tube. Tape two of the tubes together to create a pair of binoculars for each child.

**During the Activity:** Give each child a pair of binoculars and a label. Let them place the label on the binoculars and use the markers or crayons to decorate them.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** "Moses had to look for which way to go and God showed him the right way. We need to keep a look out and watch God so we can know the right way to go too. Why don't we make some binoculars to help us watch out for God so He can show us the right way to go?" (Allow kids to decorate their binoculars.)

**After the Activity:** "I LOVE your binoculars. We can watch God so we can know the right way to go, just like Moses and the Israelites did in our story today. We know He will show us the right way because **God's way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? God's way is perfect.**"



### 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 2 Samuel 22:31. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each Small Group. You will also need a red heart sticker for each child.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** "Do you remember the burning bush story and how God told Moses the right way? That was so cool! Well, in today's story, God didn't TELL Moses the right way. He SHOWED Moses the right way! How did God show Moses the right way? (Pause.) Yes! He used a big cloud in the day and fire at night.

"God has the power to tell us AND show us the right way, and His way is always perfect! **Whose way is perfect?**

**CHILDREN AND SGL:** "God's way is perfect."

(Open Bible to Memory Verse card.)

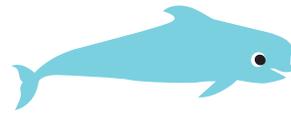
**SGL:** "Okay, friends, let's stand up and say our memory verse with the motions. I know you know it, so say it loud!

**CHILDREN AND SGL:** "'God's way (point both hands up) is perfect' (two thumbs up), 2 Samuel 22:31." (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with the motions several times together.)

**SGL:** "I love hearing you say that verse! I also love writing in our prayer journal together. Come sit with me so we can do that!

(Open your prayer journal and hold your fun pen. Have your red heart stickers ready.)

"Today I think we should tell God how much we love Him because He cares so much for us and shows us the right way. I'm going to write each of your names in our journal. When I say your name, I want you to put a red heart sticker by it in our



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journal and say, 'I love You, God.' That will be our prayer.

*(Write each child's name. Remember to print their names so the children can recognize their names and the letters. During the prayer, when you say each child's name, let them put a red heart sticker by it and prompt them to say, "I love You, God.")*

## PRAYER

**SGL:** "Dear God, You are amazing, and we all want to tell You how much we love You for telling us and showing us the right way. *(Name of child)* wants to say, 'I love You.' *(Give child a heart sticker and let him tell God he loves Him. Repeat for each child.)* And I love You too! We all love you, God! Thank You for showing us the way. In Jesus' name, amen."