



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

I can thank God!

OBJECTIVE:

In this lesson kids will learn that giving thanks to God is an important part of prayer.

KEY PASSAGE:

Luke 17:11-19, Jesus Heals Ten Men

MEMORY VERSE: *"Never stop praying." 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NirV)*

SUMMARY:

We can talk to God anytime we want. We have a special name for when we talk to God – prayer. Whenever we pray we have a chance to thank God for all the good things he has done.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear Jesus,

When we talk to you, we want to say thank you.

Amen



MEMORY VERSE

"Never stop praying." 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NirV)

LARGE GROUP MV ACTIVITY: Say the verse together several times. When you say "Never" have the children wave their hands in front of them and shake their heads no. On "stop" have them extend their hands in a stop position. For "praying" have them press their hands together in prayer.

SMALL GROUP MV ACTIVITY: Ask for little ones to raise their hands if they think they know the verse. Select several kids with raised hands to recite the verse.



SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

TITLE: Thanking God

ITEMS NEEDED: A distractingly ornate hat. (Create something crazy by taking a thrift store hat and wrapping it in tin foil, or gluing knick-knacks to it. Get creative.)

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M, 1F

CHARACTERS: Jim, Doris

Doris enters.

DORIS: I feel so good. I love my mommy and daddy. I have a great pet puppy. I even like my brother and sister sometimes. God has given me so much. I just want to give God thanks.

Doris puts her hands together to pray. Jim rushes in wearing his ridiculous hat. He bumps into Doris.

DORIS: Oh my.

JIM: Sorry Doris. I didn't see you there. I'm in a hurry to get to the top of that mountain.

Doris notices the hat for the first time.

DORIS: Oh my. That is quite a hat.

JIM: You like it? I made it myself.

DORIS: It's very. . . unique.

JIM: Thanks. Well, I better be going now.

Jim starts to leave.

DORIS: Wait Jim. Why are you going to the top of that mountain? And wearing that hat?

SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

JIM: To thank God.

DORIS: What?

JIM: I have so much to be thankful for.

DORIS: Me too.

JIM: I love my mommy and daddy.

DORIS: Me too.

JIM: I have a great pet puppy.

DORIS: Me too.

JIM: I even like my brother and sister sometimes.

DORIS: Me too.

JIM: I just want to give God thanks.

DORIS: Me too. But that still doesn't explain the hat.

JIM: I'm trying to get God to notice me. He's way up there in heaven and I'm so small. I have to climb that mountain and wear this hat to get his attention.

DORIS: Jim, God is God. He can hear you and see you wherever you are, no matter what.

JIM: Really?

DORIS: Really. You don't have to wear that silly hat to talk to God. *(She takes off his hat.)* You can talk to him right here. Do you know what it's called when we talk to God.

JIM: Prayer?

DORIS: That's right. Why don't we pray to God now and thank him for how great he is.

JIM: Sounds great.

Lights out as Jim and Doris put there hands together and bow their heads to pray.



SNACK

ITEMS NEEDED: 10 of something small, like goldfish crackers or animal crackers, for each child.

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Post a sign outside the preschool area that says: "Today's snack is (specify snack). Please let your child's teacher know if it is not ok for your child to have this snack."

CONNECTION: Say to your little ones: "In today's story only 1 of the 10 men Jesus healed went back to thank him. So I want you to only eat 1 of the 10 snacks in front of you. Can you do it? No, that's okay. We can eat all of the snack. And we can thank God for all of the things he has done for us."



CRAFT ACTIVITY

ITEMS NEEDED: Crayons, blank sheets of paper

ADVANCED PREPARATION: None

DIRECTIONS: Remind little ones that when we pray we can thank God for all the great things he has given us and all the great things he has done for us. Ask kids to name something they are thankful for. Invite them to create a picture of that thing.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

ITEMS NEEDED: Puzzles

ADVANCED PREPARATION: None

DIRECTIONS: Have the little ones put together some age-appropriate puzzles. Talk about how a puzzle is only good if we have all of the pieces. Let little ones know that everything good comes from God and God gives us all that we need and we can thank him for everything he has given us.



MAIN LESSON

BOTTOM LINE: I can thank God!

OBJECTIVE: In this lesson kids will learn that giving thanks to God is an important part of prayer.

KEY PASSAGE: Luke 17:11-19, Jesus Heals Ten Men

WORSHIP TIME:

Prior to the lesson, sing one or two songs with the kids. Use CDs or live lyrics of songs that the kids are familiar with.

LESSON:

Today's story comes to us from the Bible. (Hold up a Bible.) The Bible is God's Word to us, so we know that everything it says is true. (Open the Bible and set it down in front of you as you give the lesson.)

One day as Jesus was traveling, a group of 10 men approached him. These men were very sick. They had a disease called leprosy. No one wanted to be around them because they would get sick too.

These men called out to Jesus for help. Jesus told them to walk down to God's house, the temple. As they were walking they looked down and realized they were healed. They didn't have leprosy anymore. Jesus had healed them!

One of the men turned around right away and went back to Jesus. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him for making him all better. Jesus was very happy to see this man again and hear his thanks. Jesus wished the other nine men would have come back to thank him too.

We can talk to God anytime we want. We have a special name for when we talk to God – prayer. Whenever we pray we can think about all of the good things God has done for us and thank God for them.

(Suggested storytelling tool: You can use Lego men to illustrate the lesson as you tell it. Connect the 10 "lepers" to the same board, so that you can move them in unison. Then when it is time, simply remove one man from the board and have him return to the Lego "Jesus".)

MAIN LESSON

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear Jesus,

When we talk to you, we want to say thank you.

Amen



MAIN LESSON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WIGGLE TAMER: Sing a few rounds of an active song, like “Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes.” Remind kids that God made every part of us, and we can thank him for it.

SMALL GROUP MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: Ask for little ones to raise their hands if they think they know the verse. Select several kids with raised hands to recite the verse.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

From today’s story, how many men did Jesus meet on the road?

What happened to the sickness (leprosy) that these men had?

What is it called when we talk to God?

When we pray, what is something we can thank God for?

SMALL GROUP GAME OR ACTIVITY: Lead the kids in a recreation of today’s story. Encourage them to imagine what it would feel like to be sick, as you slowly trudge around the room together. Then imagine what it would feel like to suddenly realize that you are well again. Now celebrate, run around and thank God for his healing.



ONE PAGE LESSON FOR 1-2 YEAR OLDS

PLAY TIME: Spend the first 15 minutes on the floor playing with the kids. Cars, dolls, blocks, and simple puzzles are great for this time.

BIBLE TIME: Seat the kids in the place they will be having snack. Hold up a Bible or Illustrated Kids' Bible and say, "This is the Bible. God wrote the Bible. Everything in the Bible is true." Then allow each child to pat the Bible with his hand.

LESSON: When Jesus was on earth he did many great things. One day, he healed 10 men who were very sick. One of them came back to tell Jesus "Thank You". When we talk to God we can thank him for all of the great things he does for us.

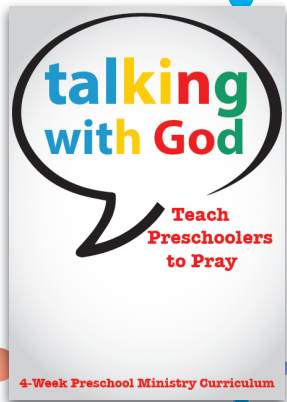
MAKE IT REAL: After the lesson say, "God loves you, and he wants you to love him too." Then point to each child and say, "God loves you (child's name)."

PRAYER TIME: Ask the children to fold their hands and bow their heads. Say, "Let's pray before our snack. Thank you God for our mommies and our daddies. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for this snack we get to eat. Amen."

SNACK TIME: Wash each child's hand with a wet wipe and then serve the snack. At this age crackers or goldfish with water are generally best, but you always want to be mindful of any food allergies.

POTTY BREAK: After snack is a great time to ask those who are potty trained if they need to use the bathroom, or change diapers of those who are not yet potty trained.

PLAY TIME: Finish the day with more playtime until it's time for dismissal.



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Talking with God Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: THANK GOD

Use these four common times in a preschooler's day to reinforce this week's lesson:



DRIVING:

Play some kid's praise and worship music during your drive times. As you sing the words together, explain to little ones that singing and playing music is another way that we can thank God for the great things he has done.



PLAYING:

Grab some action figures or Lego men and recreate the story of Jesus and the 10 men.



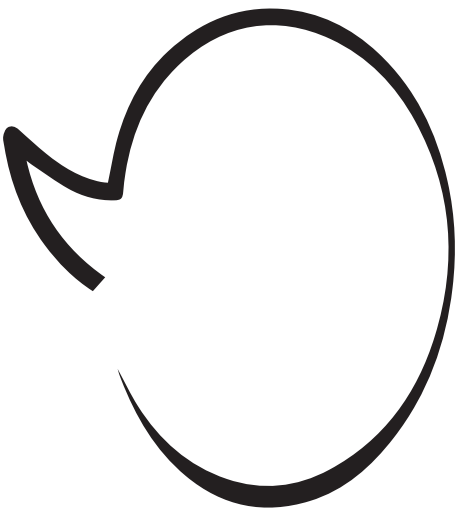
EATING:

Before mealtime, take a moment to pray together. Encourage your little ones to name things that they are thankful for.

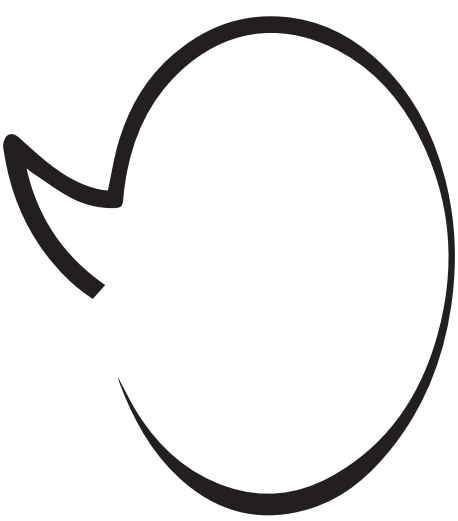


SNUGGLING:

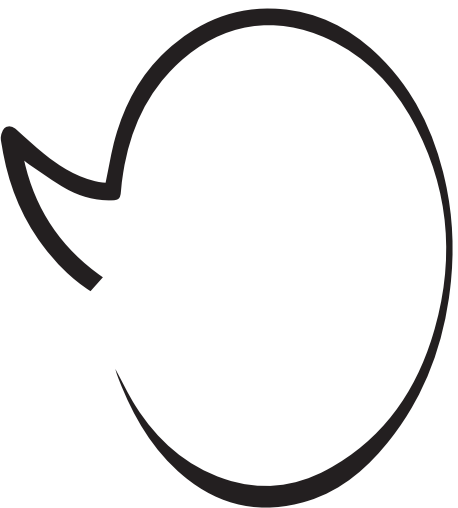
As you tuck your little ones in at night, thank them for any way they were helpful or obedient that day. Pray with them, encouraging them to give thanks to God.



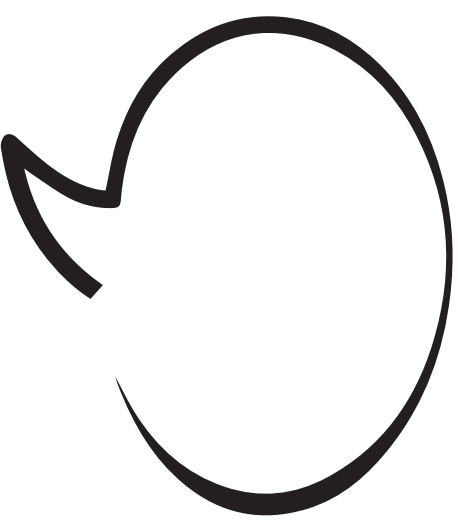
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