

AUGUST 24, 2025 – GRADE 4-5

WONDER TRUTH:

God is with us when we worship

GOD'S BIG STORY:

2 Chronicles 20, With a huge army coming to attack, King Jehoshaphat gathers the people of Judah to pray. The army worships God on their way to meet the enemy, and God answers their prayer, defeating the enemy for them.

WORD OF WONDER:

Worship the Lord with gladness. Come to him with songs of joy. —Psalm 100:2

- ❑ During the week, look over the lesson plan. Ensure you are familiar with the Bible story, the main theme of the lesson, and what we want the kids to take away this Sunday.

DID YOU KNOW?

WHO?

Jehoshaphat was a king of Judah during the time when Israel was divided into two kingdoms. He was the son of Asa. He is known for building up Judah's defenses, opposing idolatry in the land, and having the people instructed in God's law.

WHAT?

Hearing that a huge army was coming to attack, Jehoshaphat gathered the people of Judah to pray. God answered their prayer, promising to fight the battle for them. The army worshiped God on the way to meet the enemy, who they found already defeated.

WHERE?

Jehoshaphat set out from Jerusalem. The enemy army was using the Pass of Ziz, located on the western side of the Dead Sea. The army was found slain in the desert of Jeruel, between Jerusalem to the north and En Gedi to the south.

WHEN?

This story takes place during the time of Israel's divided kingdom, after the rule of King Asa. The following verses talk about the end of Jehoshaphat's reign, giving the impression that the story of the singing army happened near the end of his rule.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God is with those who trust in Him, fighting on their behalf. Jesus came as Immanuel—God with us. Through faith in Jesus, we have fellowship with God and His Spirit living within us, meaning God is always with us, no matter what we face.



LEADER GUIDE:

- ❑ Kid City Meeting (9:15/11:15)
- ❑ Classroom Team Meeting (9:30 AM / 11:30 AM)
 - If you are the lead teacher for that Sunday, please ensure that all tasks are assigned. You can find the job descriptions on your cart when you arrive.
 - If you are the helper for the Sunday, please choose one or two volunteer tasks to assist with. We are a team, and it is important that everyone shares the load to ensure things run smoothly.

REMINDERS: *When you're not engaged in one of your assigned roles for that morning, please assist in the following areas:*

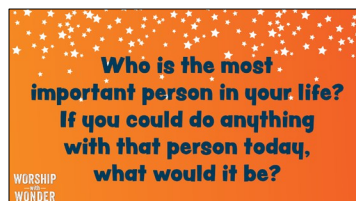
- Sit with the kids and help them engage in the lesson.
- Pay attention to the room:
 - Is the teacher having trouble getting the kids' attention?
Help by sitting with a child who might be disrupting the group.
 - Is the teacher giving out prizes?
Assist by taking the kids aside and helping them choose their prize.
 - Are there any children struggling to sit and participate in the lesson?
Help by guiding them to the calm corner and offering support. Ensure the child feels seen and heard, and check if there is an unmet need.
 - Is a child misbehaving or being disrespectful?
Use a "Fair," "Firm," and "Friendly" voice to remind them of the expectations. If the behaviour escalates and intervention is needed, notify the parents or let the Ministry Lead know so everyone can decide the next course of action.

9:30 AM / 11:30 AM – ATTENDANCE

- One volunteer at the door. Be sure to look over the job description for this task. (Attached to the cart)

9:30 AM / 11:30 AM – WELCOME AND RULES

- One volunteer to do the welcome and rules. Look over the job description for this task. (Attached to the cart)
- Consider putting this question on the whiteboard when the kids walk in.



9:35 AM / 11:35 AM – BIBLE STORY INTRO & VIDEO

Welcome each kid by name. Call on several kids to share their answers to the Welcome Question: **Who is the most important person in your life? If you could do anything with that person today, what would it be?**

You have some great people in your lives, and I hope you get to do fun things with them. Today we'll meet someone who did something with the most important person in his life ... and your life. He worshiped! We'll find out more, but first it's time to be curious.

Pose the following questions. Give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbour before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

I'm curious ...

- Who would you want beside you in a hard or scary situation? Why that person?
- If you had to choose, would you rather sing a song or take a hike?

When we are followers of Jesus, someone else is with us too: God. And today we will hear an amazing story from the Bible that demonstrates our Wonder Truth: **GOD IS WITH US WHEN WE WORSHIP.**

Before we watch our video for today, I want to introduce you to something new that we did at the beginning of the month and that we will be reciting each week. It's called a declaration. A Declaration is something we proudly saying to the Lord. We are Declaring God's promises aloud for all to hear.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

And I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

Thank You for letting me worship You; (Kids repeat.)

I want to worship You with my whole self! (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)

Though the kingdom of Israel was strong under King David, there came a time when Israel became weak and split into two kingdoms. The northern kingdom was still called *Israel*, and the southern kingdom was now called *Judah*. One of the kings of Judah was named Jehoshaphat (juh-HOSH-uh-fat). Let's start by reading part of God's big story directly from the Bible read 2 Chronicles 20:15–23 out loud. **Afterward, we will watch and experience more of the story!**

Leader Tip: God's people prayed and worshiped God, bowing with their faces close to the ground. Invite kids to place their Bibles on the ground, get on their knees, and bend low as they read.

PRAYER TIME

- Turn off the lights. Grade 2-5 Video View [Jehoshaphat and the Singing Army God's Big Story Video](#)
- Grade 1 Video - [Jehoshaphat and the Singing Army God's Big Story Video](#)



9:45 AM / 11:45 AM – BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Today's "WONDER TRUTH" is **GOD IS WITH US WHEN WE WORSHIP**. Where did you see how God was with Jehoshaphat in our story today? Allow kids to answer freely.

God is with those who trust in Him. He goes before them and helps them, like He did for Jehoshaphat's army. Many years after Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jesus came to the earth as Immanuel, which means "God with us." Through faith in Jesus, we get to live life with God, and He gives us His Spirit to live within us. Through the Holy Spirit, God is always with us!

When we worship God, we give Him the honor He deserves. We remember what He's done in the past and look with hope to what He'll do in the future. That's what Jehoshaphat did, and we can do it too.

What's something God has done in the past that causes you to worship Him? Give kids time to think before anyone shares aloud.

What's something you look forward to God doing in the future? After several seconds of quiet processing time, encourage kids to share their answers with a neighbour before you call on kids to share with the group.

Leader Tip: Your questions might be met with silence, and that's OK. Look closely and you'll see that wheels are turning in the minds of many kids. Give them time to think before responding.

9:50 AM / 11:50 AM – WORD OF WONDER

Write the Memory Verse on the White Board. **Our Word of Wonder today is Psalm 100:2. Today we're discovering God is with us when we worship, and worship is a time to be glad. Let's read the Word of Wonder together!**

Invite kids to open their Bibles to Psalm 100:2 so they can read it aloud with you. Tell kids that in this passage we see that coming to God in worship is a joyful experience, so they're to read aloud while wearing their happiest faces. Encourage them to grin from ear to ear as they read through the verse twice.

For an optional discussion, gather kids to talk about these questions:

- Why does worshiping God make you glad?
- What's a joyful song that you like to sing when you worship God?



9:55 AM / 11:55 AM – SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCOVER GOD'S WORD

Leader Tip: Younger kids might not be able to look it up themselves, consider you looking it up and reading it.

Help the Kids Find the Verse & Read it together: **2 Chronicles 20:21**

- **Today in God's big story, why was King Jehoshaphat** (*juh-HOSH-uh-fat*) **frightened?** (*A huge army was coming to attack Judah.*)
- **How did King Jehoshaphat get God's advice for dealing with the enemy army?** (*He and the people prayed to God; then the king listened as God answered through the words of a man named Jahaziel.*)
- **Why did Judah's army sing worship songs as they went into battle?** (*Because they knew God was with them and that "His faithful love continues forever" [2 Chronicles 20:21].*)
- **Judah's army was confident that God was with them and would help them. How confident do you feel that God is with you and will help you? Why?**
- **How do you hear God's answers to your prayers? When have you seen God answer your prayer? What is a prayer you haven't seen God answer (at least not yet)?**
- **In what ways do you worship God as you go through a typical day?**

King Jehoshaphat knew God was with him when he worshiped God and that God heard his prayers. God hears our prayers too, and He is with us when we worship Him. In fact, one way to worship God is to pray. So let's go to God in prayer now.

Leader Tip: Help kids understand that God can speak to us in many different ways. In the Bible, we see God speaking to His people through His Word (Bible verses and stories), through people's thoughts and imaginations, through other Jesus-followers, through dreams and special pictures from God called *visions*, and even out loud through His voice. God speaks to us in some of these ways too!

PRAYER TIME

Ask kids to share their prayer requests with the group. Prompt responses by suggesting they share requests for family, friends, people they know who are sick or lonely, your church and pastor, leaders, people experiencing loss, etc. Then say, "In Jesus' name, Amen." Explain that God heard all that was said because as followers of Jesus, He's with us when we worship Him!

Leader Tip Consider allowing a child to pray for the group, or you could ask everyone to say something. Use the following example prayer or consider using your own words.

Example Prayer: **God, thank You that You're here with us. We worship You, God, and through Your Holy Spirit, may we come to know You better today. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

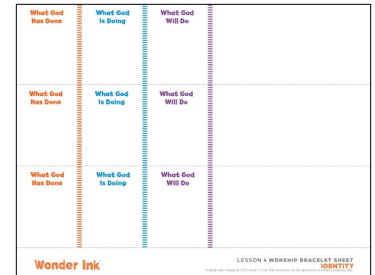
10:05 AM / 12:05 PM – ACTIVITY TIME

ACTIVITY ONE: Worship Bracelets

SUPPLIES: Markers, Coloured Pencils, clear tape (several rolls), scissors (prep only), cardstock (optional), kid safe scissors (optional), stickers (optional) **Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Worship Bracelet Sheet (1 per every 3 kids)

Ahead of time, make copies of the Worship Bracelet Sheet for all the kids, on cardstock if possible, and cut out the bracelets. (Don't have time to cut out all the bracelets? Have older kids cut out their own during the activity.)

Make It Inclusive! Have a variety of stickers available for kids who might struggle to write or draw. They can decorate their bracelets with stickers that remind them of what God has done, is doing, and will do in their lives!



Leader Tip: *For Older Kids.* If you have a lot of older kids in your group, consider providing bracelet-making supplies—such as elastic bracelet string, pony beads, and letter beads—so they can create their own unique bracelets. Encourage them to choose beads or other decorations that will help them remember that God is with them.

Gather kids together. **When King Jehoshaphat** (juh- HOSH-uh-fat) **gathered God's people together, they were in the courtyard of God's temple in Jerusalem—the place where God's presence dwelled. God was with them in that moment! There Jehoshaphat praised God for what He had done, what He was doing, and what He was going to do. Like Jehoshaphat, let's worship God for all three of these! And let's celebrate that God is with us when we worship.**

Invite kids to share some things God has done for them in the past, is doing now, and will do in the future. Consider sharing some examples to get them started, such as “God created me in a special way,” “God is with me when I'm scared,” and “One day I will live with God forever in heaven because of Jesus.” If your group is large, encourage kids to share their ideas with a neighbor first.

After several kids have shared, distribute precut worship bracelets (or Worship Bracelet Sheets and scissors) and markers or colored pencils. Ask kids to decorate their bracelets by showing what God has done for them, what He's doing for them, and what He will do for them in the future. They can write words or draw symbols, emojis, or sketches in each box. If you have stickers, set them out for kids to put on their bracelets.

When kids have finished decorating their bracelets, older kids or adults can help the kids wrap their bracelets around their wrists by starting with the blank space and then wrapping the remainder of the bracelet over the blank area. Secure the bracelet with tape. If a kid has thin wrists, a leader can trim off some of the excess blank space with kid-safe scissors before wrapping it around the kid's wrist and applying tape. Invite kids to show their bracelets to a neighbor, explaining the meaning of what they drew or wrote.



We have lots of reasons to worship God, and one of those is that He's with us when we worship. God is with us now through the Holy Spirit, so let's pause to worship Him together.

Invite kids to lift their bracelets over their heads by raising their hands. Then pray: **God, we worship You for all You've done in the past. You created the universe and set the stars in motion, yet You still know every detail of our lives. We worship You, God!**

Next invite kids to stretch their arms out to their sides as wide as possible. Then pray: **God, You are with us right now as we worship You together. We give You our love and invite You to direct our lives. We are Yours!**

Now invite kids to cup their hands in front of them as you pray: **God, we're ready to receive all You have for us in the future. May Your Holy Spirit guide us closer and closer to You, and may we see You as You work in and through us. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage kids to wear their bracelets home and show them to their families.

10:05 AM / 12:05 PM – ACTIVITY TIME

ACTIVITY TWO: SWAP SEATS

SUPPLIES: Chairs

In this game, kids race to find an open chair when they match the description called out.

Place chairs in a circle, enough for all kids minus one. **Let's play a game called Swap Seats. The kid without a chair is "It."** This person will say, "Swap seats if ____" and fill in the blank with something true about herself. For example, swap seats if you're wearing red. Or if you like eating popsicles. Or if you play soccer. If you fit that description, you'll scramble to find a new chair, and the person who is it will try to snag an empty chair. The kid left standing without a chair to sit in is now It. Select one kid to be It. Invite the rest of the kids to sit in a chair. Play several rounds. (If no one shares the characteristic It calls out, that's OK! Invite the child who is It to call out something else about herself. Or, if only one person stands up to move, he can simply swap spots with the kid who is It.)

In the Swap Seats game, you had to look around and scramble to get a seat. But King Jehoshaphat (juh-HOSH-uh-fat) didn't have to battle his enemies when they tried to gang up against him. Instead, Jehoshaphat looked to the Lord for help, and God fought the battle for him!

Leader Tip: *For Younger Kids.* Modify this game for younger kids or for kids with developmental disabilities by having the same number of chairs as kids and being the one who calls out the "Swap seats if ____" directions each time.



10:15 AM / 12:15 PM – FREE TIME

- Look over the job description for this task. (Attached to the cart)

CLEANING CHECKLIST

- Kids' Supply Bins: Ensure all used bins and supplies are neatly put away.
- Tables & Chairs: Clean and reset the tables and chairs.
- Floors: Vacuum if necessary (vacuum located in Kid City tech booth).
- Green Carts: Return any extra supplies, attendance records, and nametags to Kid City in the green carts.