

Lesson Plan

August 24th, 2025

This Month's Truth: I am Designed for a Purpose

Bible Story: Joseph and his brothers (Genesis 42–50)

Theme Verse: We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day! Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus!

Celebrate: Share a story of a way that God has answered a prayer for you.

Connect: What lessons have you learned from your past that have shaped who you are today? How can you see God at work through those lessons? (Share your own story, or invite volunteers to share.)

Read: Genesis 50:19-20

Share: Our Bible story today from Genesis 42–50 shows how Joseph responded when he reunited with his brothers who sold him into slavery. Joseph showed incredible forgiveness and trust in God's plan, despite everything that happened. (Read Genesis 50:19-20.) We will teach kids that God has a plan and purpose for them too. When we look back and see what He has done, we can be encouraged for both now and the future.

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, inviting God to help kids have strong and impactful discussions and learning today.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use either one of these options as kids arrive for the morning to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

Option # 1: Connection Questions

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- What was the best part of your week?
- What part of the day do you like best—morning, afternoon, or night? What do you like to do during that time?
- Would you rather eat chips and queso (cheese dip) or chips and salsa?
- If you could drive a boat or an airplane, which would you pick and why?
- What would you ask animals if they could talk?

Service

What To Do:

- **Teacher** Start 5-minute countdown **5 minutes prior to service start time**. The Countdown Video is meant to be played as a signal to transition to Large Group. The video is fun and interactive with opportunities for the kids to respond and cheer. Help kids engage and interact with the video by calling out what's happening, asking for their guesses, and cheering with them.

Teacher Opener: Hello, adventurers! My name is ____ (your name), and I am so glad to be on this adventure with you today. I cannot wait to see what amazing adventures God has in store for us! Say, "Adventure Awaits!" (Adventure Awaits!) One more time, "Adventure Awaits!" (Adventure Awaits!)

Adventure Pack

Game Rules:

1. Split your group into 2-4 teams. (There will be 10 rounds. Split the group for each kid to have a turn.)
2. Call on one player from each team to join you at the front of the room.
3. Display the name of an item on the screen.
4. Instruct team members in the audience to hold up the item, and their representative will hurry to grab the item. Whoever brings the item back to the front first wins a point.
5. Return the items back to their original owner after each round.
6. Play multiple rounds. At the end of 10 rounds, the team with the most points wins.

What You Say: Adventurers, say, "Adventure Pack!" (Adventure Pack) Today, we are going to play a game where we pack our adventure bag. To play this game, I need one friend from each team to join me at the front of the room and be your team's representative. (Choose one kid from each team to join you at the front of the room.) The object of this game is to get the

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on-screen items to your team representative first so that your team can “pack” your adventure bag. Anyone in the audience who has that item can hold it up in the air, then your team member will run to you, grab the item, and bring it back to the front. Your adult leaders can help!

The biggest rule—everyone, say, “Biggest rule!” (Biggest rule!) The biggest rule is that we cannot throw items—we must hand the items to our teammates, got it? The player who brings the item to the front first wins a point. The representative has to hold up the item and show it to me to win the point. After each round, all of the items go back to their original owner. At the end of 10 rounds, the team with the most points wins. Are you ready to pack our adventure bag?

All right! Let’s see what we need to pack first.

Leader Tip: Respond with, “Oh, man! I guess we’ll have to stop at the store on our way to our adventure!” if no kid has an item. Then move on to the next item.

Something soft! If you have something soft, hold it up for your teammate to grab. Great job, ____ (fastest team)! Take the items back to your teammates. Next item!

Something Red! Quick, find something red? ____ (fastest team), you won that round. Next!

A left shoe! Why just the left? Oh, way to go, ____ (fastest team)! Put your shoes back on your feet.

Now, who can bring us three writing tools? Who has pencils, highlighters, or pens? Good job, ____ (fastest team)! Next item!

Something smaller than your pinky! Fast, fast, fast! ____ (fastest team) won that round!

Next, we have an adult! Which team can bring an adult to the front the fastest? Wow, ____ (fastest team), great job!

Now, something that goes on your head! Who brought a hat, headband, or hair-tie? ____ (fastest team) did! Next item!

Something blue. Anyone have blue socks on? Great job, ____ (fastest team). Two rounds left!

The next item is something with words or letters on it! Does your hat say something? Is there a logo on your shoes? Man, ____ (fastest team), that was quick! Last round.

Who can bring us a Bible? Good job, ____ (fastest team)! And good job, ____ (winning team)! OK, everyone! Take the items, and head back to your seat.

You all did an amazing job packing for our adventure. I don't know about you, but I love packing my bag for adventures. When I pack my bag, I have to plan ahead for where I am going, what I am going to do, and what the weather is going to be like. I have to have a plan to prepare. Did you know that God has a plan for us? It's true! God designed us for a purpose, and He has a plan for all of us! Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (I am designed for a purpose!)

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: Let me hear you clap and say, "Let's go! Let's go! Let's GOOOOOOO!" (Let's go! Let's go! Let's GOOOOOOO!) When we clap and cheer like that, it shows we have spirit! Let's watch a video about a girl at camp named Kenzie, who has a lot of camp spirit! Get our video started by saying, "Let's go!" (Let's go!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: That is so cool that Kenzie could look back and celebrate the great things she got to do with her friends. We can also look back and celebrate the great things God has done in our lives. Say, "I can look back!" (I can look back!) Looking back and seeing what God has done reminds us that we are designed for a purpose and that God is always working in amazing ways. Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (I am designed for a purpose!)

Worship

What You Say: I'm so excited to worship with you this morning! Come on up front and let's praise God together!

What To Do:

- Turn lights off
- 2-3 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**

- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

Bible Story Video

Transition script Teachers please use this to set-up the Bible Story and to encourage the use of Bibles in the classroom with the Kids: (Open the Bible to Genesis 42–50.) Let's open the Bible and learn together. The Bible is God's true message to us about himself. Today, our Bible story comes from the book of Genesis in the Old Testament. Everyone, say, "Old Testament!" (Old Testament!) The Old Testament is the first section of the Bible, and Genesis is the first book in the Bible. Today, we will look at the story of a man named Joseph. As we will see, Joseph's life was one crazy adventure! Let's check it out.

What To Do:

- Play the Bible Story
- When it's over, turn lights back on and ask what the Bible story was about (as well as the questions below), have kids respond, take some answers from the **small group leaders** and share some yours as well, use the script below to help make the connection for the kids.

Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
 - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

Making The Connection Script: Joseph's life was full of adventure! From angry brothers and being sold into slavery, to becoming the man in charge of all the grain in Egypt. Joseph forgave his brothers for what they did to him in the past. He could look back and see that this was all part of God's design.

No matter what good or difficult things happen, we can look back and see God working in our lives. He created us and designed us for a purpose. Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (I am designed for a purpose!)

Offering

What To Do:

- Play video explaining offering to kids
- Play offering time video while kids pass the bucket
- Ask a student(s) to come up and pray over the offering

Theme Verse Review:

Choose between the Video-Led Theme Verse option or the Host-Led Theme Verse option.

Theme Verse Motions: We are his workmanship, (Make both your hands into fists. Hit one fist on top of the other, and then switch and hit the other fist.)

created in Christ Jesus for good works (Clasp your hands together in front of your body.)

which God prepared ahead of time (Place your arms at a 90-degree angle with your right arm pointing up, then lower and lay your right arm on your left.)

for us to do. (Point your thumbs toward your chest.)

Ephesians 2:10 (Hold your hands out like a book.)

Option #1: Put the memory verse slide on the screen.

What You Say: All right, adventurers, let's continue forward together. Our next adventure is learning our Theme verse. Off your seat, and on your feet as we use our motions and voices to learn the verse.

Repeat after me: (Use the motions above.)

We are his workmanship, (We are his workmanship,)

created in Christ Jesus for good works (created in Christ Jesus for good works)

which God prepared ahead of time (which God prepared ahead of time)

for us to do. (for us to do.)

Ephesians 2:10 (Ephesians 2:10)

Let's say it again while we walk in place, like we are walking on a hiking trail. Here we go!

We are his workmanship, (We are his workmanship,)

created in Christ Jesus for good works (created in Christ Jesus for good works)

which God prepared ahead of time (which God prepared ahead of time)

for us to do. (for us to do.)

Ephesians 2:10 (Ephesians 2:10)

That was great! Let's say it one more time, but this time we will run in place, like we are running down a hill! Ready?

We are his workmanship, (We are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works (created in Christ Jesus for good works)
which God prepared ahead of time (which God prepared ahead of time)
for us to do. (for us to do.)
Ephesians 2:10 (Ephesians 2:10)

This verse shows us that God designs us with a purpose. It tells us that we were created to do good works that are a part of God's plan. His plan is always there, even if we can't see it until we look back.

Option #2: Play Memory verse video

What You Say: All right, adventurers, let's continue forward together. Our next adventure is learning our Theme verse. Off your seat, and on your feet as we use our motions and voices to learn the verse.

Play Memory Verse Video

What You Say: This verse shows us that God designed us for a purpose. It tells us that we were created to do good works that are a part of God's plan. His plan is always there, even if we can't see it until we look back.

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: Every day is an adventure that God has designed and created for us. It is not always easy to see in the moment, but when we take a minute and look back, we can see the amazing plan God had for us all along. Say, "I can look back!" (I can look back!) Everyone, say, "And see God's plan!" (And see God's plan!) Let's pray, thanking God for how incredible He is.

Closing Prayer: God, You created everything for a purpose. You made trees to give food and provide shade, You made water to drink, You made the sun and stars, and You made each of us. You designed us to love You, follow You, and live our lives for You. Help us do that today. Remind us to look back and see the wonderful plans You have for us. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Transition to Small Group Time: Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

Small Group Time:

Option #1: Connection Questions

What You Say: Let's adventure forward to discover more together by answering some questions!

1. If you were going on a hike, what snacks would you want to pack to help you feel prepared? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
2. Like trail mix is made up of different ingredients, our lives are made up of relationships with different people. Think back on a time when a good or bad thing happened between you and a friend. How did God help you in that situation, and how is He helping you now? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
3. The Bible tells us when we look back, we can see that we are designed by God and made for His purpose! Let's open our Bibles to Genesis 50:19-20 and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) When people are mean to us, how should we respond instead of being mean back to them? How can we be more like Joseph in a similar situation? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
4. Joseph followed God and forgave his brothers instead of being mean and not forgiving them. How can following Jesus change us, like how following God helped Joseph forgive his brothers? Do you have any questions about how to become a follower of Jesus? (Allow responses.)
5. The Bible tells us that when we look back, we can see that we are designed by God and made for His purpose! Life is an adventure that we can always look back on and see God at work in even our biggest struggles. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Arms Open Wide

Leader Prep: Gather supplies. Cut several sheets of construction paper longways into approximately 2-inch-wide strips (enough to cut into strips and each kid have four or more strips). Write Designed for a Purpose in a visible place for all kids to see.

1. Fold a piece of copy paper in half with short sides together, and trace your hand.
2. Cut out your hand, making sure to cut both sides of the paper so that you end up with two hands.
3. Draw your head with hair, eyes, and a smile on your second piece of blank paper.
4. Glue two or more strips of construction paper to both sides of your “head.” (These will be the arms of your hug.)
5. Glue your “hands” to the end of the pieces of construction paper.
6. Write Designed for a Purpose on the arms.

What To Do: Everyone, say, “Arms open wide!” (Arms open wide!) Today, we are going to create a craft that represents our hug. The first step to creating our hug is to fold our piece of paper in half with short sides together. Then trace your hand. After you have traced your hand, cut it out, making sure to cut the edge of the paper so you have two hands. (Allow time.)

How many hands should you have? (Two!)

On your second paper, draw your head with hair, eyes, and a smile. (Allow time.) Now, glue two or more strips of construction paper to both sides of your “head.” These will be the arms opening wide. (Allow time.) Next, glue your “hands” to the end of the pieces of construction paper. Finally, write Designed for a Purpose on the “arms.” Now you have a representation of your arms open wide.

Loud And Clear: How does a big hug from a friend or someone you care about make you feel? (Allow kids to answer.) I love a big hug! It makes me feel special and important. When we know that God designed us all with a purpose, that should make us feel special. God designed all of us to be loved by Him!

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we’ve learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

Leader Tip: Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story, or remind them that like Joseph, we can't see everything God is doing. But we can trust God and know that He designed us with a purpose. We are all on an adventure together, and we can look around and trust God.

What You Say: Know and remember that God designed you for a purpose. He loves you, created you, and sent Jesus so you can have a relationship with Him. Loving, trusting, and following God is an incredible adventure that starts when you look around and see what all God has done for you!

Close out in prayer:

What To Do:

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

What You Say: God, thank You for always working in our lives even if we can't see it. Thank You for designing us for a purpose. Help us live up to that purpose by pointing people toward You with our words, thoughts, and actions. Guide us as we live our daily adventure for You. We love You. Amen.

Dismissal:

Leader Tip: Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.