

Lesson Plan

January 11th, 2026

This Month's Truth: I Am Secure—God is Always Powerful

Bible Story: Dorcas was healed (Acts 9:36-43)

Theme Verse: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

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!

Share: In this week's Bible story, God showed that He is powerful when He raised a woman named Tabitha (also called Dorcas) from the dead. (Read Acts 9:40-42.) Kids can know that God can do amazing and wonderful things because He is always powerful, and we can trust that His power can carry us through anything.

Pray: Invite God to show up in powerful and amazing ways today, helping kids know that He loves them and that they are secure in Him.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

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: Everybody, say, "Hello, ____ (your name)!" (Hello, ____!) Well, you all are so welcoming! Hello to you too! I am so glad to be with you today. You know, we do not always

have the same group of kids in this room, but one thing definitely stays the same—you are always wonderful to get to know!

Today, we are going to learn a lot about God and how He loves us. But no matter what we learn about God, one thing is always true. He is, repeat after me (hold up a thumb after each word), “Always awesome!” (Always awesome!) What is He? (Always awesome!)

Game: Head, Shoulders, Name, Cup

What You Say: We are going to play “Head, Shoulders, Name, Cup!” Head, Shoulders, What, Cup? (Name!) That is right! We are going to play this game but listen for my prompt to shout your name as well! (Invite kids to find a friend. Give each pair a cup. Encourage pairs to disperse around the space and place the cup on the ground between them.)

You have got to listen really well in this game! I will call out different commands. When I say, “Head,” put your hands on your head. When I say, “Shoulders,” put your hands on your shoulders. When I say, “Name,” say your name out loud. And when I say, “Cup,” you will try and grab the cup before your friend. Ready? Let’s go! (Call out different commands, occasionally calling, “Cup!”)

Keep It Going: Allow kids to play with a new friend and replay. Have kids who lose cheer on the other kids. Play as many times as time allows.

Connect It: Whew! You all are really fast! I think you know a lot of each other’s names by now, seeing as how you were shouting them at each other during the game! Let’s see if we can learn all our teammates’ names by the end of today!

Loud and Clear: It looks like the ____ is the winner! Let’s give them a cheer while our players return to their seats. (Allow time.) Wow, you guys do such a good job listening even without knowing if you’ll win or not. Sometimes in this world, we might not feel secure. We might try and try with as much power as we can, but things still seem to go wrong. Well, I am here to tell you that God is here, which means you can always count on and trust Him. The simple truth is that you are secure because God is God, and God is always (thumb up) awesome (thumb up)! Being secure in God means God knows what we need and is able to hold us fast no matter what we face. Point to yourself and say, “I am secure!” (I am secure!)

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: Think about this: if you could have any food delivered to you right now, what would it be? Let me hear the name of that food in 3-2-1!

(Allow responses.) That sounds so good! Well, we are not having actual food delivered right now, but we do get to see an awesome food delivery guy named Dominic! Say, "Delivery time!" in 3-2-1! (Delivery time!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: That was a crazy delivery Dominic had to make! He tried really hard to make his superfast delivery, but so many things kept happening! While we may not be speedy delivery people like Dominic, we can feel the same way sometimes. We try and try to make things happen using our own strength, power, and abilities, but we fall short. Today we get to learn that, while we are not always powerful, God is! Say, "God is always powerful!" (God is always powerful!) He is always strong, always capable, and He can make anything happen! We can know we are secure in God because He is always powerful.

Worship

What You Say: Who's excited for worship this morning? I know I am! Let's worship 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

What To Do:

- Have the kids **open up** a physical Bible and find the Bible story for that day.
- Use the Bibles provided in the classroom if a kid does not have their own Bible with them.

Transition Script to go into the Bible Story Video: (Open the Bible to Acts 9:36-43.) Today, we are going to learn from the Bible. Our Bible story is in the book of Acts. What book is it in? (Acts!) The Bible is God's true message about Himself. This story is just one way that shows how God is always powerful. Say, "God is always powerful!" (God is always powerful!) That's right!

Because He is, repeat after me (hold up a thumb after each word), “Always awesome!” (Always awesome!)

Play Bible Story Video

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: Wow, what a powerful God! I cannot imagine what Dorcas’ friends were feeling when she died. I am sure they were feeling very sad. Sometimes when a loved one dies, people might also feel angry or mad. People might even feel confused and bad. Dorcas’ friends may have felt all those things after she died.

Peter could see how sad, mad, and bad all of Dorcas’ friends felt. But Peter also knew that no matter what, God is always powerful. What did Peter know? (God is always powerful!) When Dorcas died, God showed His power by raising her from the dead.

Use the Three Circle Graphics on the Playlist

(Circle 1) God was powerful in Peter’s time, and He is still powerful today. Everyone, ask, “Why?” (Why?) Because He has been powerful from the very beginning!

You see, God created our world and everything in it. He made everything, and He made it good! That included human beings, like you and me. He created us to have a relationship with Him.

(Circle 2) But the first people God created turned away from Him, choosing to follow what they thought was best rather than what God said was best. God calls that sin. Everyone, say, “Sin.” (Sin.) All people sin, including us. Sin breaks our relationship with God. We might try to fix this sin problem ourselves, but we cannot. In fact, the Bible says that the consequence for our sin is death and separation from God forever. No matter how hard we try, we do not have the power to fix our sin problem.

(Circle 3) But God loves us, so He sent Jesus, His Son, to forgive our sin and repair our relationship with Him. Jesus lived a perfect life, and He took our punishment for sin by dying on

the cross in our place. But God the Father brought Jesus back to life on the third day! Jesus defeated sin and death! God showed His power when, after Jesus died for our sins, God brought Jesus back to life! When we trust in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins, He forgives us and restores our relationship with God. When we trust in Jesus, we get a forever relationship with the always-powerful God! God alone has the power to save us and give us new identities. He calls us children of God!

God is always powerful, and we can turn to Him and trust Him with any of our problems. When sin brings feelings of guilt and shame that feel powerful, we can know that God is even more powerful. And when we trust in God, He shows us His power, working in incredible ways in our lives. When we trust in God, He shows us His what? (Power!) If you want to learn more about how Jesus can forgive you and restore your relationship with God, please come talk to me or one of your leaders! I would love to share how our always-powerful God loves you! Say, "God is always powerful!" (God is always powerful!)

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: Jesus Christ is the same (Point your right hand up to the sky with an open palm.)

yesterday, today, and forever. (Bring your hand down and pretend to slice something. Slice something in the middle with your left hand. Slice something to your left with your right hand.)

Hebrews 13:8 (Hold your hands out like a book.)

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

What You Say: Say, "God is always powerful!" (God is always powerful!) Our Theme verse reminds us that we are secure because God is powerful yesterday, today, and forever! Let's stand up and learn our verse!

Repeat after me: (Use the motions above.)

Jesus Christ is the same (Jesus Christ is the same)

yesterday, today, and forever. (yesterday, today, and forever.)

Hebrews 13:8 (Hebrews 13:8)

Totally awesome, everyone! Now let's say our verse while hopping on one foot!

Jesus Christ is the same (Jesus Christ is the same)

yesterday, today, and forever. (yesterday, today, and forever.)

Hebrews 13:8 (Hebrews 13:8)

Let us say it together one last time, but this time hop on your other foot!

Jesus Christ is the same (Jesus Christ is the same)

yesterday, today, and forever. (yesterday, today, and forever.)

Hebrews 13:8 (Hebrews 13:8)

We can know we are secure because God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That means He was powerful in the past, He is powerful in your life right now, and He will be powerful in your future! God is always powerful! Say, "I am secure!" (I am secure!) Say, "Because God is always powerful!" (Because God is always powerful!) That is right! Because He is, repeat after me (hold up a thumb after each word), "Always awesome!" (Always awesome!)

Option #2: Play Memory verse video

What You Say: God is always powerful! God is always what? (Powerful!) Our Theme verse reminds us that we are secure because God is powerful yesterday, today, and forever! Let's learn our verse together!

Play Memory Verse Video

What You Say: We can know we are secure because God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That means He was powerful in the past, He is powerful in your life right now, and He will be powerful in your future! God is always powerful! Say, "God is always powerful!" (God is always powerful!) That is right! Because He is, repeat after me (hold up a thumb after each word), "Always awesome!" (Always awesome!)

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: Even in uncertain situations, we can know we are secure because God is always powerful. What is He? (Always powerful!) When I point to you, say, “God is always powerful!” Ready? When unexpected trials happen _____. (Point.) (God is always powerful!) When something unfortunate happens _____. (Point.) (God is always powerful!) No matter what is happening or what we are feeling _____. (Point.) (God is always powerful!) His power does not run out, like a battery. He was powerful yesterday, is powerful today, and will be powerful tomorrow!

We can know we are secure because our all-powerful God is with us. Point to your neighbor and say, “You are secure!” (You are secure!) Point to yourself and say, “I am secure!” (I am secure!) Let’s talk to our powerful God as we pray in 3-2-1.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You for being powerful in every situation in our lives. Your power never runs out. It is the same yesterday, today, and forever! Help us follow You, trust Your power, and always know we are secure in You. We love You! 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 To Do: Let’s keep learning about our awesome God and how His power is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

1. What are some powerful machines or other objects you know? What makes them powerful? (Allow answers.)
2. What is the difference between the power in a battery and God’s power? (Allow answers, which might include a battery’s power is limited, God is more powerful than any battery, and so forth.)
3. The Bible tells us that we are secure because God is always powerful. Let’s open our Bibles to Acts 9:40-42 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.) God showed His power through Peter to bring Dorcas (also called

Tabitha) back to life. And by bringing her back to life, God showed His power to bring comfort and joy to the lives of her friends. How could God show His power through you to help others like God helped Tabitha's friends?(Allow answers, which might include God could use me to encourage someone who is sad, God could use me to tell my friends about Jesus, and so forth.)

4. Because God is always powerful, He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sins on the cross and restore our relationship with God the Father! Where do you see the power of God in our world? (Allow answers.) If you want to know more about having a relationship with God, please come and talk to me! I would love to tell you more about what Jesus did for you on the cross.
5. The Bible tells us that we are secure because God is always powerful. And He is always powerful because He is always (thumb up) awesome (thumb up)! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Dorcas' Helping Hands

What To Do: Today we are going to make a craft to help us remember our Bible Story. Dorcas in our Bible Story today was such a kind and generous person. She helped people.

For our craft today we are going to make outlines of our hands. Then on each finger we are going to list ways that we can help people in our lives. What is something that you could do at home that would be helpful to your parents or your siblings? What is something that you could do at school that would be helpful to your teacher or classmates? Let's work together to think of different ideas.

Leader Tip: Help the kids think of ways that they can be helpful to people around them.

Loud And Clear: God is always powerful and always awesome. We can remember that we are secure because He was powerful yesterday, is powerful today, and will be powerful tomorrow! God showed His power when He raised Dorcas from the dead and when He raised Jesus from the dead! He has the power to take care of us, no matter what. Point to yourself and say, "I am secure!" (*I am secure!*)

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we have 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: Use this time to get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story or remind them how God's power raised Dorcas back to life because God is always powerful. We are secure because God is always awesome!

Loud And Clear: God is still powerful today because He is always powerful! God showed His power when He brought Dorcas back to life and when He raised Jesus from the dead. We can trust and follow God and know that He is powerful enough to handle anything. We are secure because God is always powerful, no matter what!

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, we know Your power is always awesome! You brought Dorcas back to life, and You brought Jesus back to life. You saved us from our sin through Your Son, Jesus. No matter what, help us to trust You, Your power, and Your love. Thank You that we are secure in 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.

Option #2: Serving Hands

What To Do: Give each kid a paper and have them trace their hands on the paper