**Prek**

**Lesson Plan**

October 12, 2025

### God Forgives Me— God Gives Me a New Heart

**Bible Story:** Jeremiah Told of a New Promise (Jeremiah 11:1-10; 17:1-10; 31–33)

**Theme Verse:** “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17a)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be equipped and encouraged in your ministry.

Read: Mark 2:14,17

Share: This October we are teaching preschoolers that God forgives me and you. Preschoolers will learn that God will forgive all our wrong choices and provide a new way to have a relationship with Him through Jesus. This week we are teaching the story of Jesus calling Matthew, the tax collector, to follow Him. Jesus gave Matthew a new start when He forgave Matthew and welcomed him into a relationship with Him. (Read Mark 2:14,17.) Preschoolers will learn that God gives them a new start too!

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, asking God to help preschoolers understand their need for forgiveness and recognize that God has provided the way to be forgiven through Jesus.

**Pre-Service:** TeachersChoose Playlister and start the preservice slide with music

**Co-Teacher/Volunteers: 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:** Preschoolers will decorate paper leaves and glue them on a tree.

**Big Goal:**Remove barriers to belonging.

**Leader Prep:**Print and cut out “Fill The Tree” printables, one leaf per child. Draw a large tree trunk and branches on a piece of butcher paper.

**What To Do:**Hey, friends! In the fall, many trees have leaves that change color and then fall to the ground. (Take your hands and bring them down in front of you like they are leaves falling.) Can you all take your hands and bring them down like falling leaves? Let’s try. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! (Allow responses.) Good! Today we are going to work together to create a scene with fall leaves. We will start by decorating leaves with crayons. I can’t wait to see how special these will be. When you finish, you can glue your leaf on the tree. Leaves usually start out on the branches of the tree, but after they change color, they fall to the ground. Everyone can choose where to glue their leaves. They can be on the branches, on the ground, or somewhere in between.

**Connect It:**Our tree looks great! We decorated our own leaves and then added them to the tree. We created a beautiful fall scene by adding our leaves to the tree. Way to go, team!

**Option 2:** Preschoolers will cheer on their friends as they play a game of limbo.

**Big Goal:**Be part of a team.

Supplies

##### **Jump rope**

##### **Pool noodle**

**What To Do:**Welcome, friends! My name is \_\_\_\_, and I am so glad you are all here. Today we are going to play a game called “How Low Can You Go?” What is it called? (How Low Can You Go?) Great job! \_\_\_\_ (name of other leader) and I will hold the ends of this jump rope. We are going to start holding the jump rope up high. (Hold jump rope at shoulder height.) Everyone will have a turn to try to go under the jump rope without touching it. The fun part is we are working as a team, and as each friend has a turn, we will cheer them on. When everyone has gone under, we will lower the rope. As a team, everyone will take a turn to go under the jump rope. We will keep lowering the rope to see how low we can make the rope and still have people able to go under. Are we ready to try it? Let’s go!

**Loud And Clear:**Wow! We had so much fun cheering each other on while we were playing our game. We make such a great team. Way to go!

##### **Leader Tip: Announce a 2-to-3-minute signal before asking them to clean up their toys. Giving your group a mental head start will begin to cue their minds for what is next.**

##### **Clean-up time:**

##### **What to do:** Teacher play clean- up song, encouraging all kids to help get things put away and ready for service.

##### **Service**

**Teacher Opener:** Hello, everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_, and I am so glad to see you! Do you know what season we are in? (Allow responses.) Yes! Fall is the season we are in. In some places this time of year, leaves fall from the trees. Let’s pretend to be trees full of fall leaves. Everyone, stand up and stretch your arms up, up, up. (Allow time for movement.) Your arms look like tree branches when you raise them up high. (Demonstrate by raising your arms above your head. Keep them raised.) Now let’s pretend like our hands are leaves. Can you wiggle your fingers? (Demonstrate wiggling your fingers.) Oh! I feel a little bit of wind. Can you make your branches and your leaves blow in the wind? (Demonstrate gently swaying your arms.) The wind is getting a little bit stronger. Can you make your leaves fall all the way to the ground? I will count to three, and we can pretend our leaves are falling to the ground. 1-2-3! (Lower your hands gently, like they are leaves falling to the ground.) Fantastic! You made great fall trees! Now, everyone, sit back down. When a leaf falls off a tree branch, it does not get a redo. It cannot float back up onto the branch, can it? But you and I get redo’s all the time! We get to try again. When we make wrong choices, we need God’s help to give us a redo because we need God to forgive us. Today we are learning that God forgives me and you. Let’s say that together. “God forgives me and you!” Great job!

**Worship song #1:** Teachers, Co-Teachers, and volunteers 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.

**Bible Story Video**

What to do

* Play the Bible Story use the script below after video to help make the connection for the kids.

**Making the connection script: T**oday’s Super Clue is new batteries. When you put new batteries in a toy, the toy works like new again. When God forgives us, He changes our hearts and makes us new. Only God can change our hearts to know and love Him. Hearing the word forgive reminds me of our Big Deal, “Redo! God Forgives Me anTd You!”

Let's all stand and sing one last song to God together today!

**Worship song #2:** Teachers, Co-Teachers, and volunteers 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.

**Memory Verse Video:**

Let's stand up together and learn our Theme Verse!

##### **Leader Tip**: Choose between the Host-Led or the Video-Led option. Watch the Theme Verse Video to learn the motions. Use the Big Deal motions provided.

**Theme Verse Motions:**

If anyone is in Christ, (Point to the sky.)
he is a new creation. (Cross open palms in front of body moving upward.)
2 Corinthians 5:17a (Hold hands out like a book.)

**Small Group Time:**

**Option #1:** Preschoolers will create a scroll with a special message.

**Big Goal:**Remember the Bible story.

**Leader Prep:**Print “Special Message Scroll” printables, one per child. Cut yarn into 6-inch lengths, one per child. Make a craft sample.

**Craft Instructions:**

1. **Before the session, print “Special Message Scroll” printables, one per child. Cut yarn into 6-inch lengths, one per child. Make a craft sample.**
2. **Give each child a “Special Message Scroll” printable and crayons.**
3. **Invite preschoolers to decorate their pictures.**
4. **Assist preschoolers in rolling up their papers like a scroll and tying them with yarn.**

**What To Do:** In today’s Bible story, God used a special messenger named Jeremiah to give a very important message to His people. What was his name? (Jeremiah!) That’s right! Great job! Jeremiah listened to God and told the people what He said. He wrote God’s words down on something called a scroll. A scroll is a rolled-up paper that looks something like this. (Hold up sample scroll.) Today we are going to make scrolls with a special message, just like Jeremiah gave God’s people. Are you ready? First, we are going to decorate our papers with crayons. The page has a special message that says God gives me a new heart. When you finish decorating your paper, I will help you roll it up and tie it with a piece of yarn.

**Loud And Clear:**The scrolls we just made have part of God’s message on them that Jeremiah gave to God’s people. God’s people were making wrong choices and turning away from Him. We all make wrong choices. When we make wrong choices, it is called sin. But God had good news for Jeremiah to tell the people—there was a new promise. This good news is also for us. The promise is that God has a plan to forgive us of our wrong choices—He gives us new hearts! This is something no one can do on their own. Only God can change our hearts. God said He would forgive our wrong choices and change our hearts to know and love Him. We can take these scrolls and share this news with a friend or family member.

**Option 2:** Preschoolers will play a game pretending to be powered up and down.

**Big Goal:**Remember the Main Idea, **“God Gives Me a New Heart.”**

**What To Do:**I have a fun game for us to play. It is called “Power Up, Power Down.” What is it called? (Power Up, Power Down!) Great job! In this game we will use our walking feet to move carefully through our room. When I call out, “Power down,” I want everyone to melt down to the ground like a toy that is fading and not working like it is supposed to. (Demonstrate by slinking slowly to the ground.) Everyone will stay frozen in this position until I call out, “Power up!” When you hear that, you can stand up and start moving again. Keep moving carefully around until I call out, “Power down!” When I do that, you can melt down to the ground like a fading toy again. We will do this a couple of times and then mix up the way we are moving around. Are you all ready? Let’s begin when I say, “Go!” Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

**Loud And Clear:**In this game we saw the difference between powering up and powering down. When you put new batteries in a toy to power it up, the toy works the way it is meant to work. This makes me think about what we have learned today—God gives us a new heart. Everyone, put your hand on your chest. (Demonstrate putting your hand on your chest.) Everyone has a heart that beats inside their chest. When we talk about a new heart, we are not talking about the heart inside of you that is beating. We are talking about the part of you that wants to do things and make choices. We can want to do things that are wrong and not in God’s best plan for us. When we make wrong choices, that is called sin, and sin always needs to be forgiven. When God forgives us, He gives us a new heart. This means He forgives us and helps us want things that are His best for us. This is something only God can do. God will forgive our wrong choices and change our hearts to know and love Him when we ask. **God gives me a new heart.**Let’s say that together. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! **“God gives me a new heart.”**Great job!

**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, You are so powerful and forgiving. We are thankful You forgive us when we ask and change our hearts to know and love You. Thank You for sending Jesus. Amen.

**End of service Activity:**

Have all kids come back together and have a seat and lead kids in the following discussions below. This is a time for side-by-side learning, where all kids have the opportunity to connect and participate.

**Closing: Leader Tip:** Work with your Teacher 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.