**Prek**

**Lesson Plan**

October 26, 2025

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

**Bible Story:** Joel, the Messenger to Judah (Joel 1–3)

**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: Joel 2:26-27,32

Share: Today we are teaching the story of when Joel received a special message from God. God punished the people because of their wrong choices. Locusts overtook the land, and there was no food. But when the people listened to Joel and turned away from their sin, God showed them mercy and forgave them. He made their land new again and sent their enemies away. (Read Joel 2:26-27,32.) Preschoolers will learn that God loves them and is ready to forgive them when they ask and give them a new hope.

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, thanking God for the team and asking Him to help preschoolers see how much they’ve been forgiven.

**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 get to know each other by name as they pass a leaf around the circle.

**Big Goal:**Be seen and heard by my team.

**What To Do:**Friends, I am so glad you are here today. We are going to do an activity called “Falling Introductions.” What is it called? (Falling Introductions!) Super! An introduction is when you say your name and meet new friends. Let’s stand up in a circle and pass this leaf around. If more friends come, we can scoot back and make room for them. When the leaf is passed to you, I will count to three, and you can say your name and do a special move. Your special move could be a wave, a big smile, a spin around, or you could make the leaf fall to the ground. We will all clap our hands three times when we are finished, and you can pass the leaf to the next person. I can’t wait to see your special moves. I think we’re ready! (Pass the leaf to the person on your right and count to three.)

**Connect It:**It was so much fun introducing ourselves to our team. We all had special moves that we did, and then we clapped together as a team. Great job!

**Option 2:** Coloring sheets

**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 you are here today. Let’s stand up and do a little warm-up exercise. (Lead preschoolers to stand.) Now that we are all standing, let’s warm up our feet. Stomp your feet with me. (Model stomping. Allow responses.) Excellent! Now let’s see how fast we can stomp our feet. (Model stomping quickly. Allow responses.) You all have some very fast feet! Next let’s see how slow we can stomp our feet. (Slow your voice and model stomping slowly. Allow responses.) Great job! I wonder if we could stomp even more slowly? Let’s redo that and try to go in super-slow motion. When we redo something, we try it again and start over. If you are ready to try again, say, “Redo!” (Redo!) Good! Let’s try stomping slowly again, but this time in super-slow motion. (Slow your voice and model stomping slowly. Allow responses.) Way to go! That was very slow! We had a redo and tried stomping slowly again. Sometimes in life we mess up, make wrong choices, and need a redo, which means we need to try again.

**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:**

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 decorate the Main Idea with dot markers.

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

**Leader Prep:**Print “Dot The New Hope” printables on cardstock, one per child.

**Craft Instructions**:

1. **Before the session, print “Dot The New Hope” printables on cardstock, one per child.**
2. **Give each child a printable and dot markers.**
3. **Invite preschoolers to decorate the word hope using dot markers. If preschoolers prefer to color the letters, provide markers or crayons instead.**

**What To Do:** Let’s make a craft called “Dot the New Hope.” What is it called? (Dot the New Hope!) Great job! We have been learning how God forgives us when we ask—and that gives us hope! Even when we make wrong choices, God wants to forgive us and help us make the right choice. In this activity, we are going to create something to take home that will help us remember this truth. We are going to decorate this paper with dot markers. The words on the page are ***God Gives Me a New Hope!*** Let’s get started!

**Loud And Clear:** Awesome! Everyone will have something to take home as a reminder of the new hope that God gives when He forgives us. In our Bible story today, God’s people were suffering because they had made wrong choices. But God gave the people hope! God forgave them and invited them to choose a different way and follow Him. God gives us the chance to turn from our wrong choices and turn to go a different way. This is such fantastic news!

**Option 2:** Preschoolers will play a game identifying different traffic signs.

**Big Goal:**Remember the Super Clue.

**Leader Prep:**Print and cut out “Ready, Set, U-Turn” printables, one set per group.

**What To Do:**Let’s play a fun movement game with our Super Clue. Our Super Clue today is a U-turn sign. What is it? (A U-turn sign!) Good work! In our game we will line up shoulder to shoulder. Let’s line up now. (Assist preschoolers in forming a line.) I am going to stand over here. (Stand a few yards away.) I have these cards with different traffic signs on them. I am going to show you one of the cards and tell you the way I would like you to move as you come toward me. When I say, “Freeze,” you will stop and freeze. I will show you a new card and tell you how to move again. One of the cards in the stack matches today’s Super Clue. (Show U-turn sign.) If I show the U-turn card, I want you to make a U-turn by turning around and going back to the starting line. When everyone is back at the starting line, we will begin again. Let’s take a look at each card so we all know what to do. (Show caution sign card.) If you see a caution sign, walk carefully. (Show a speed limit sign.) If you see a speed limit sign, speed up just a little. (Show the yield sign.) If you see the yield sign, walk, then pause and keep walking. (Show stop sign.) If you see the stop sign, then stop. Let’s try a couple of rounds! Are you ready? Let’s go!

**Loud And Clear:**Awesome! You all did great at watching for the U-turn sign. When you saw the U-turn sign, you turned around and went back to the starting line. When I see a U-turn sign, I am reminded of how God gives us the chance to turn from our wrong choices and go a different way. The next time we see a U-turn sign, we can remember that God gives us hope to turn around and follow Him because He forgives us when we ask Him.

**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 forgiving us when we ask You. Thank You for giving us a new way to go. Help us know when we make a wrong choice and need to ask You to forgive us. 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.