

2-4 Year-olds

Small Group

October-Week1

October — Week 1

Small Group Leader Guide

Preschool Timetable



10 Minutes

FREE PLAY

SOMETHING THEY CAN DO ON THEIR OWN! LIKE PUZZLES, TOYS, AND SO ON.

5 Minutes

PRAISE & WORSHIP

LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH ALL OUR HEART!

5 Minutes

MOVE ACTIVITY

LET'S GET MOVING!

15 Minutes

BIBLE STORY

IT'S BIBLE STORY TIME--LET'S LISTEN TO THE TRUE STORY!

5 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

ALL TOGETHER NOW!

5 minutes

CREATE ACTIVITY

CRAFT TIME!

5 minutes

SNACK TIME

PLEASE SAY GRACE FOR THE SNACK AND CHECK ALLERGIES.

5 minutes

HOME TIME

PLEASE MAKE SURE KIDS TAKE THEIR CRAFT HOME.

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

I can pray and be brave.

Esther

Esther 2:2-8:17

Key Question

Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line

God can help me be brave.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV

Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

MOVE ACTIVITY

In the Cards

What You Need

- ☐
- Deck of Cards



Inclusive Pro Tips

For a version with less movement, seat children in a circle. Call out simple movements that your children can do while seated.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Remove the Ace, Joker, and instruction cards and set aside.
2. Shuffle the remaining cards.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to draw a card. If child pulls a King or Queen card say "King/Queen, you're invited!"
2. Ask them to stand with you.
3. If child pulls a number card, say the number out loud and ask all the children to do a motion (jump, clap, wiggle, stomp, etc.) that number of times.
4. Call one child at a time.
5. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity "Hello, hello friends! It's great to see you today! I have a card game for us to play today!"

During the Activity

"When I call your name, I want you to come draw one card and then you'll either stand with me or we'll all do a motion together. Let's play! [CHILD'S NAME] come draw a card. (PAUSE.) You drew the [NUMBER] card. Everyone jump [NUMBER] times while I count. (PAUSE.) Great job! [CHILD'S NAME] come draw a card. (PAUSE.) You drew the king/queen card! King/Queen [CHILD'S NAME], you're invited! Come stand with me and draw another card. (PAUSE.) You drew the [NUMBER] card. Everyone clap [NUMBER] times while I count. (PAUSE.) Great job! Go back and stand in your spot. (CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD.) That was fun playing the card game with you today!"

After the Activity

"Today we are going to hear a Bible Story about a queen named Esther. She prayed and God helped her be brave! Let's go hear all about Queen Esther!"

Transition -> Move to Worship and Story by calling out different numbers and movements. "Let's hop two times. (PAUSE.) Now let's wiggle four times." Continue with different numbered movements all the way to your designated area.

2-4 Year-olds

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October-Week1

Memory Verse with Motions

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ No Supplies Needed



Inclusive Pro Tips

Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

If using this version, adjust wording in What You Say section accordingly.



3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 1

CREATE ACTIVITY

Story Crown

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Crowns
- ☐ "Story Crown Stickers" Activity page
- ☐ Heart Stickers
- ☐ Stickers



Inclusive Pro Tips

Create an example for children to follow.

①

What You Do

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to decorate their crown with dot stickers.
2. As you review the Bible Story, add the sticker that goes along with that part of the story.
3. Ask children to add a heart sticker on the crown.
4. Encourage children to wear their crowns home.

②

What You Say

Before the Activity

"Super friends! Come join me at the table, I have a super creative way for us to review today's Bible Story about Queen Esther!"

During the Activity

"I have this crown for you to decorate with dot stickers, then we'll add story stickers to each one of these circles stickers to our crown. **(POINT.)** Let's get started. Our true story from the Bible begins with a beautiful queen named Esther, who was a part of God's people.

That's our very first story sticker to add to the crown.

(HAND EACH CHILD AN ESTHER STICKER AND POINT TO THE FIRST CIRCLE.)

"Esther was married to a very powerful king. He was tricked and made a decision that would hurt God's people. But he didn't know that Esther was a part of God's people, oh no! Esther knew she needed to talk to the king, but the king had a rule that you couldn't talk to him unless you were invited. Esther asked God's people to pray and talk to God with her. That's our next story sticker and our second sticker to add to the crown. **(HAND**

EACH CHILD A PRAYING STICKER AND POINT TO THE MIDDLE CIRCLE.)

They prayed together for three days. Esther trusted that God could help her be brave, so she asked the king to keep God's people safe. The king said yes, and everyone celebrated! That's our very last story sticker to add to the crown.

(HAND EACH CHILD A QUEEN AND KING CELEBRATING STICKER AND POINT TO THE LAST CIRCLE.)

"Let's add heart stickers on your crown and wear it."

After the Activity

"Esther prayed, and God helped her be brave. You can pray and God can help you be brave too! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

Prayer



What You Say

“Dear God, no one is more powerful than You! We pray to You because only You can help us be brave. Please help [CHILD’S NAME] be brave and (SAY WHAT THEY LISTED). You are the best, God, and we love You! In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

