

WEEK 4 ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

Step four, leave the results to God.

THE BIBLE

God Promises a Savior: Jeremiah 33:14-16;
Luke 21:29-33

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Your Power Will Pull Us Through" (Group Publishing)
 - "Pray" (Vineyard Kids)
 - "Echo" (Elevation Worship)
 - "Something Good" (Gateway Kids Worship)

ACTIVITY | Nailed It! Tough Cookie

- Hey, kids! Welcome back to The Plate It Cooking Show! This is our last week of learning about the prophets in the Bible and how we can prep ourselves for doing life with God. Let's *jiffy* right into our "Nailed It!" segment of the show! I will do my best to make my food look as close to the model as possible. You all have been *pudding* up with all these failed Nailed It moments, and this is my last chance to try to nail it for you guys!
- **What course of a meal comes after the entree?** The dessert — also known as the best part of a meal! Muffin can compare to a sweet dessert. Let's see what dessert I'll be plating today.
- *[Carefully lift the decorated box to reveal the model cookie.]*
- Decorating these cookies should be a piece of cake, right?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, place the prepared cookie or picture model on the table and cover it with the decorative box. Place the ingredients box on the table. Decorate your cookie behind the ingredients box to build suspense. Have kids only see you choosing the decorating supplies, squeezing the icing, etc. Have fun, and purposefully don't "nail it!" For example, use the wrong colors or make it look sloppy.
- **What do you think? Do you think we nailed it?**
- The right dessert perfectly completes a meal, right?
- So far, we said that when it comes to living for God, we need to trust God, talk to God, and listen to God. Today we're going to talk about one more thing we can do to strengthen our relationship with God!

ACTIVITY | Piece of the Pie

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select eight volunteers, or split into groups of eight. Hand each person a piece of the printable, which is just a small section of a larger image. Have them copy what they see on their piece onto a corresponding section on the large poster board you have prepared. Once everyone has drawn their section, the kids should be able to (roughly) tell what the image is!
- The finished puzzle is absolutely *flan*-tastic! I love how everyone prepared a beautiful piece of the puzzle, and when we put all the pieces together, it resulted in a unique, one-of-a-kind picture!
- Today we're talking about how even when we can't figure out how something will turn out, we can be sure that God already knows the outcome!

POLL | Kitchen Crew

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show [this clip](#) from "Ratatouille" (play until 0:50). Afterward, ask kids which job they would most like to have in the kitchen by answering, "Oui!" Then group kids together with others who answered like they did (consider combining categories if needed).
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Pause the video as each of the kitchen staff members are introduced so kids can point them out better. Pair a prop (or image) for each category to help them remember what each person does (e.g., chef hat for head chef, apron for sous chef, sauce bottle for saucier, plate for chef de partie, smaller plate for commis, rubber gloves for plongeur).
- Let's pretend that we are all hired to be on the kitchen staff of a French restaurant.
 - **Who would want to be the *head chef*?**
 - **Who would rather be the *sous chef*, or second in command?**
 - **What about a *saucier*, the chef in charge of all the sauces?**
 - **Who wants to be a *chef de partie*, or a station leader? That means you're in charge of a specific dish and that dish only.**
 - **Who would want to be a *commis*, who would help out a chef de partie?**
 - **Anyone want to be the *plongeur*?**
- **Why did you choose the way you did?**
- No matter what you might think, every single person on a kitchen crew is very important — even the plongeur! When everyone does their part, then we can be sure the results will be exactly what they need to be.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

BIBLE STORY | God Promises a Savior

- Get *plumped* because it's time to tune in to the Bible story segment of The Plate It Cooking Show! Shall we get some more cooks in the kitchen? I need three sous chefs to help me with the "ingredients" for this Bible story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare the Bible story scrolls by printing out the printable and rolling them up. Hide each scroll around the room before kids arrive. With the three sous chefs you picked, have each one find a scroll by playing "I Spy" (e.g., "The first ingredient I need is hidden behind something yellow."). Once all scrolls are found, tell today's story from Jeremiah 33:14–16 by having them each read from the scroll they found in order (if your volunteers are not readers, have them hold up the scroll while you read it for them).
- Jeremiah was one of God's prophets, like Elijah and Samuel, who spoke for God to the people who needed to hear God's message.
- Earlier in Jeremiah's career, God's people, the Israelites, were disobeying God big time! Jeremiah was sent by God to warn them that God would destroy their nation. Did they listen? *Salad-ly*, they chose not to listen to God's warning, so in the end, they were taken over by another kingdom.
- In this Bible story, God's people are still being held captive, but now, Jeremiah has a hopeful message from God!
- *[Read verse 14 from the first scroll.]*
 - De-Sprite the many times that the Israelites had messed up and disobeyed God, God loved them very much. God was going to enact the plan to save everyone.
- *[Read verse 15 from the second scroll.]*
 - A long time ago, God had promised to send someone to save them. The first clue of this Savior's identity is that they would come from the family of King David. And he would do only what is right. You might already know who God is telling Jeremiah about, but let's read on.
- *[Read verse 16 from the third scroll.]*
 - The prophet was also told that this person would save all the people! **Do you know who this is, this "Lord, our Righteous Savior?"** Yes, Jesus!
- God promised to send a Savior to save them from what was keeping them captive. No, he wouldn't just rescue them from a ruler from another land. He would rescue the people from sin. We can sin by doing something we shouldn't, or by not doing something we should.
- But no matter the type of sin, Jesus put an end to ALL sin and made it possible for us to have a direct relationship with God. The people didn't know it yet at the time, but God was already in the process of sending everyone the Savior we all need!

BIG IDEA | Step four, leave the results to God.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare the Big Idea "plate" according to the instructions in your Shop & Prep list. Hold the "plate" as a server would hold a platter with one hand. With your other hand, remove the tablecloth by pinching it in the center and lifting it up quickly and dramatically.

- It isn't just the Israelites who continuously disobeyed God. Humans, in general, mess up all the time! Thankfully, God had the end result in mind when God promised us a Savior. Let's say our Big Idea together. **Step four, leave the results to God.**

VIDEO | Plate It, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).

STORY | Chef Knows Best

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Share about a time when you watched someone you love, or a chef, make a meal that ended up tasting amazing. Talk about all the ingredients and how they prepared each one. Perhaps you got to help prepare the ingredients!
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Set up a blender and a few random ingredients (e.g., fruits, vegetables, pastries, etc.) then have two volunteers come to the front. Ask either trivia questions or review questions about what they've been learning so far. Each time someone gets an answer wrong, have them blend in one of the items you've laid out. The person with the most incorrect answers has to take a sip of the final "smoothie" (or not, if they don't want to!). Talk about how this is the opposite of the way God does things!
- It was so cool seeing all the different ingredients that went into this dish and how it was prepared. I would have never thought that putting all those foods and spices together would create something that tasted so good!
- That's how it is with God, too. God already knows how everything fits together. The results are set! Jesus is our Savior, and Jesus has already defeated sin and death. It's because of this that, one day, we'll get to be with God forever. It's the sweetest dessert!

OBJECT LESSON | Seeds the Day

- **Have you ever tried to grow food from a seed?** It's not the easiest thing. You might think that you can just put the seed in some soil, then watch and see if it grows.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put the seed in the soil. Pause and look intensely at the soil, like you're just waiting for something to happen.
- While that might sometimes work, a lot of times, we have to do a little more than that! **What are some things that plants need?** They need water and sunlight!
- *[Pour some water over the soil and expose it to sunlight if possible.]*
- We need to do our part to give it as much water and sunlight as it requires, but the results are still up in the air — it could end up growing into a large plant that provides lots of food for you, or maybe not.
- This is like how it is when we live life for God, except that the results are never up in the air. God already knows how things will end.
- We need to do our best to prepare ourselves for God and the things God has planned for us to do. As we trust God, talk to God, and listen to God, God shows us ways we can serve. We put our best food forward as we serve God, then we need to do **step four, leave the results to God!**

BIBLE | Luke 21:29–33

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Luke 21:29–33 aloud for the kids.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have kids come up with a list of things that might be considered “now,” or having happened already, and a list of things that might be considered “not yet,” or hasn’t happened yet. Talk with preteens about we are waiting for the Savior even when the Savior had already come.
- The prophets lived before Jesus came to earth, and an important role they had was helping people prepare for the promised Savior.
- We live in a time after Jesus came and died for our sins. These verses talk about the Kingdom of God — a promised time when Jesus will return, and we’ll get to spend forever with God.
- The beauty of the Kingdom of God is that it is both now and not yet. How can something be both now and not yet? That’s pretty amazing that we can have something in front of us but also be waiting at the same time!
- Kind of like waiting for the next course of a meal. You can be eating and also waiting for the full course to complete at the same time.
- When Jesus defeated sin and death, Jesus brought us a relationship with God that we get to have now, and God promised a forever that we are still waiting to experience.
- So, like how the prophets prepared people for the coming of Jesus as Savior, we get to live our lives preparing ourselves and those around us for Jesus to come back!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Recipe Card, Step Four

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the recipe card aloud for the kids. Review the Big Idea and have the kids fill in the blanks on their recipe cards. Then invite them to have a time of reflection and write down their responses to the prompt.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Have the kids work together to complete their recipe cards. Add the option to use stickers of food and emotions for non-verbal students to participate.
- **Step four, leave the results to God.** Only God can bring about the results that God has promised. Take a moment to think about what this means. Then write one way you can also leave a result to God.

RESPONSE | Planting Seeds

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hand out one seed packet, one card, and one envelope per kid. Have them think of one person who they can give their seed packet to, then write that person’s name on the envelope. For younger kids, invite them to draw an encouraging picture on the card. Talk through how their picture can give someone hope, joy, or encouragement. For older kids, invite them to write an encouraging note, like a verse, how they’re praying for them, how good God is, etc. Talk through how they can be prepared to talk with the recipient of the seeds about God’s good promise and how a relationship with God has impacted their life.

- Part of living life for God is helping others be prepared for Jesus's return. You could say that you're planting seeds in their heart in hopes that they will grow in their relationship with God! Then, **step four, leave the results to God.** God is the one who makes the seeds grow!

MEMORY VERSE | Spoonful of God's Word

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids sit in a circle. In the middle, place as many spoons as there are kids. Choose a kid to place a small sticker on the concave part of one spoon. Place all the spoons in a cup. Pass the cup around and have each kid close their eyes and choose a spoon. The person who chooses the spoon with the sticker gets to read the verse aloud for the group and doesn't have to choose a spoon again. Remove one spoon, then pass the cup around again. The next person who gets the spoon with the sticker joins the previous kid in reading the verse aloud until everyone is reading the verse together.*

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Give kids paper with the memory verse on it. Have different cookie cutters on each table. Have them trace the cookie cutters over the verse then decorate with different cookie sprinkles.*

PRAYER

- Wow, God! You love us so much. Thank you for sending Jesus to be our ultimate Savior. Help us to not forget the ways that we can prepare ourselves to serve you. We can trust that everything is in your hands no matter what!

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What message did Jeremiah give to God's people?
- Did God's people listen? What happened because they did not listen to God?
- What did God promise despite the people's disobedience?
- Read Jeremiah 33:14. God's good promise was made to the people of Israel and Judah. How does God's "good promise" apply to us today?
- God chose to save us even though humans continuously choose to disobey God. What does this tell us about God?
- What do you think the Kingdom of God will be like?
- How can knowing that God is taking care of the results help you serve God better? What will you do differently with this knowledge?

ACTIVITY | The Master Chef

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out the supplies for the kids. Show them how to create this [apron craft](#). Have them write the Big Idea on the pocket of the apron.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Give preteens real fabric aprons to decorate with fabric markers and puffy paint. Have them come up with fun food-related puns to write on their apron (look through this Lesson Guide for lots of ideas!).
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Precut the printed items so anyone with dexterity concerns can point and a buddy can assist in completing the task.
- God is the master chef in the kitchen of life. God is in control, and God alone knows exactly how things will turn out. Hang your apron up at home as a reminder of this! Let's say the Big Idea together one more time. **Step four, leave the results to God.**

MEMORY VERSE | Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) available in your Programming folder or at growcurriculum.org/Ephesians2-10.
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
- **"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."**