

WEEK 3 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

God is bigger than we could ever understand.

BIBLE

God Speaks to Job:
Job 38:1–7, 34–41

ABOUT THIS WEEK

When we spend time traveling, we come to realize the world is actually so much bigger than we ever dreamed. This week, we'll explore God's response as Job tried to understand what was happening in his life and why. God didn't just give Job an answer, though, but asked him a bunch of questions that help us all recognize that **God is bigger than we could ever understand.**

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Would You Rather?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, lay down a strip of painter's tape to divide your activity area. Line the children up on the tape line. Explain that you'll call out two choices and that they should step to one side or the other to answer your question. Be sure to always say, "Would you rather..." before each set of choices and indicate where to go for each answer choice. Here are some things you could ask ...
 - Eat pizza or a hot dog?
 - Play at the park or in your backyard?
 - Ride in a car or on a boat?
 - Drink chocolate milk or apple juice?
 - Wear sneakers or boots?
 - Slide down a slide or swing on a swing?
- You did a great job answering all of those questions, friends!
- Job, in the Bible, had a lot of questions, too. There was a lot that he didn't understand, and he wanted to hear from God.

ACTIVITY | What Am I?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, gather the kids in the middle of your activity area. Describe a visible classroom item the kids should guess and then find using the questions below.
 - ✖ **TODDLER HACK:** Toddlers may not fully understand a guessing game, but you could offer a globe-style beach ball to roll around the room. You can talk with the toddlers about how God made everything on the earth.
- **What is something red, has four wheels, and goes fast?** Toy car.
- **What is something that can be real, may cry, likes to be held, and needs their diaper changed?** Baby doll.
- **What is something you play with that has lots of pieces that you take apart and put back together?** Puzzle.
- **What is something you can hold or listen to that has lots of pages and maybe some pictures?** Book.

- It's nice when you know the answer to a question, right? When I don't know something, I like to ask "why."
What about you?
- Job wanted to know why, too. He was not doing so well and had questions for God. But we'll find out that God had questions for Job, too!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Job 38:1–7, 34–41 (God Speaks To Job)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below! For some theme-related fun, put on a train conductor's hat and blow a train whistle before you tell today's story.
- Today, we're in for a train adventure! Choo choo! I'm so glad to have you aboard. I love traveling by train because there is so much to see out the window.
 - Pretend you are on a train. **What are some things you see?**
 - Along the way, you might see mountains, lakes, trees, and hills. God has created some beautiful things for us to enjoy!
- We're going back to the land of Uz. We've been learning about Job in the Bible. He loved God very much but one day, everything in his life went wrong.
 - He lost his children and everything he owned. He even got very sick. It was so sad!
 - **Show me the saddest face you can make.** That's very sad!
- Then Job's friends came to visit. At first, they sat with him and cried with him. Just being by his side was a big help. But after a while, his friends started to say things that *were not* helpful.
 - **What do you think they said?**
 - They said that maybe Job did something wrong so God was doing all of this to teach him something. That did not make Job feel better.
- Job had so many questions about why all of this was happening. He wanted answers from God. So one day, God spoke to Job.
 - **What do you think God said?**
- God didn't explain to Job why all these bad things happened to him. But God asked Job a lot of questions.
 - God asked Job if he was there when the world was made. **Was he?** No.
 - God asked Job if he could make the clouds send down rain. **Could he?** No.
 - God asked Job if he could provide food for all the lions and ravens. **Could he?** No.
- God made everything in the whole world. It wasn't up to Job or his friends to tell God how to do things. Even if they didn't understand why, they could trust God. God is so big!
- God knows everything that will happen before it even happens. No one else could know that but God.

BIG IDEA | God is bigger than we could ever understand.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write each word of the Big Idea on pieces of painter's tape. Use a duffel bag, travel suitcase, or backpack (you can reuse the one from Week 1). Pack the bag with travel items and tape the words on some of them, preferably different items than last time. Have kids rummage through the bag and find all the items that have words. Once all the items are out, put them in order and recite the Big Idea together.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Feel free to shorten the Big Idea for toddlers and younger preschoolers. For this week, you could teach kids to say, "God is bigger than we are" or "God is so big."
- Look, you discovered the Big Idea along the way! **God is bigger than we could ever understand.**
- Let's learn our Big Idea together:
 - **God** (point up)

- **is bigger** (bring hands together and then separate side to side)
- **than we** (hold out a pointer finger and do a circular motion)
- **could ever understand.** (bring fingertips to either side of the temple)

VIDEO | *Along the Way*, Episode 3

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

ACTIVITY | Big World, Bigger God

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, have kids spread out in the room, arms-length from each other. Explain that you'll call out a different action for them to pose in. Continue calling the poses randomly for as long as time and interest allow. Here are some suggested poses:
 - **Mountains:** hands up and overhead, bringing fingers together into a point
 - **Lakes:** hands together out in front and wiggle like a snake
 - **Trees:** arms out to either side and sway
 - **Hills:** one hand going up and down like a snake
 - **Stars:** open and close fingers
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Little ones will have so much fun if you gently hold them and help their arms do all of the fun movements along with you. Be sure to smile and keep the activity fun and silly together.
- In our Bible story today, we heard how God made the whole world. In our world, there are beautiful things, such as mountains, lakes, trees, stars, and hills.
 - **What are some other things in God's big world?**
 - **Can you or I make any of these things?** No! Only God can!
- God is a big God. God is bigger than the whole world. God's love for you is even bigger. Can you imagine that?
- **God is bigger than we could ever understand.**

PRAYER

- God, you are bigger than we could ever understand and you love us so much. Thank you for taking care of us every day. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Pretzel Tracks

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid two pieces of fruit ropes and a handful of pretzel sticks. Show them how to lay the ropes out and stack on the pretzel sticks to look like [tracks](#).
- A train needs to obey the signs and stay on the tracks to arrive safely.
- **What kinds of things keep you safe?**
- **If you were a train driver, where would you go?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sit in a circle together. Pass around a toy train so kids can take turns answering questions. The person holding the train gets to speak.
- **Who created the world?** God.
- **Who did God ask a lot of questions to?** Job.
- **Could Job do the things God asked him about?** No, only God could.
- **What is the biggest thing you can think of?** God is bigger than that!

- Who is bigger than we could ever understand? God.
- God is bigger than we could ever understand.

ACTIVITY | God's Big World

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Distribute the [printable](#) that includes three distinct areas: sky, land, and water. Provide stickers, [creation stamps](#) and washable ink pads, or have them draw their own pictures. Allow kids to build a scene containing things God made.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** In addition to or in place of creating their own pictures, provide tactile items that toddlers can touch. Ask them to identify what they are holding and follow it up with, "God made that, too!"
- God made everything in the whole entire world. No one else could do that but God.
- God created a beautiful world for us to live in. Even though sad things happen, we can trust God because **God is bigger than we could ever understand.**

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 121:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Happy Birthday" (include the Scripture at the end). You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- "The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | Train Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out various train sets for kids to play with. Don't forget to include train tracks and toy people and animals, too!

ACTIVITY | Sound Tubes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill empty paper towel tubes with dried rice, beans, pasta, or beads, securing each tube end with duct tape. Have the children shake each tube to see if they can guess the contents. Talk with them about what they think God's voice may sound like.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Toddlers need to be shown how to move a sound tube to make the items inside shift to make the noise. Supervise closely to keep little ones from trying to tear into the sound tubes as the pieces inside may be choking hazards. Remember, even if you plan the most amazing activities every week, toddlers will most likely not recall what they did and what was said. They will, however, remember the love and smiles you shared. Use every opportunity you get to share God's love with them, even if you don't get to every activity you want to.