



children's ministry

promotion SUNDAY

UNIT 1, SESSION 3

GOD'S BIG STORY

JOHN 3:16

KEY POINT

The Bible is all about Jesus!

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is the Bible all about? **Jesus!**

MEMORY VERSE

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1**

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

It's the beginning of a new school year, so what better time to talk about renewal? It's time for a fresh breath of air and a reminder why we serve in children's ministry, wouldn't you agree?

Let's be honest, children's ministry can be messy, chaotic, and even exhausting. Kids are loud, rowdy, playful, and don't always want to listen to a Bible lesson or work on a craft. It can be a lot.

And yet... kids are also curious, compassionate, and kind. They're bursting with life and energy. They approach the world around them with joy and wonder, and often take adults by surprise with how much they see and know.

In Mark 10, Jesus did something completely out of the ordinary for His time: He demonstrated the importance and value of children. The disciples were trying to herd people away from Jesus, especially the ones bringing their children to be blessed by Him. But Jesus rebuked His friends and said, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." (Mark 10:14b-15)

Jesus saw the value of children, even when others didn't. He knew how vital it is to build children up, not tear them down. He recognized their wonder, curiosity, and joy as gifts from God and beautiful lenses to see our world through.

It's so important to not only disciple children, but also see things the way they do. As we step into a new year of serving, teaching, and discipling, let's remember what it feels like to learn about the goodness and love of God for the first time, and do our best to live in the understanding and patience those memories bring. Let's approach volunteering with childlike joy and wonder—as a privilege, not a chore—and maybe be served, taught, and disciplined ourselves.



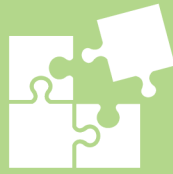
IT'S PROMOTION SUNDAY!



Today, we're celebrating all our children who are moving up to the next room or grade in our ministry! We'll also have a special snack, make a fun craft, and send children home with a balloon and the memory verses and Bible lessons we'll cover this year.

Be sure to make connections with children this morning, whether you're serving in a new area or moving up with your previous group. Also, don't forget to have fun!

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the memory verse song to the tune of “Three Blind Mice”:

In the beginning
in the beginning

God created
God created

the heavens and the earth
the heavens and the earth

Genesis 1:1
Genesis 1:1

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the lesson.

CRAFT: GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

Give each child one of the globe and sticker sets. Using the image below, help children put the stickers on their globe ornament.

As you work, share John 3:16 with children and talk about what it means for us as believers in Jesus!



BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Using the provided Hug a Bible, talk about how the Bible isn't just a book; it's a very important book, the best book in the whole world that God gave us to help us learn more about Him!

Let's say that together: "The Bible is an important book."

Sing the B.I.B.L.E song a few times while holding up the Bible.

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Who loves books? I know I do! Who loves it when their mommies or daddies read books to them?

Here's a tough question: What is an author? Can anyone tell me? *(If needed, explain an author is a person who writes a book.)*

And what is this book? *(hold up the Bible)* Who is the author of the Bible? God! But did He get out a pen and paper and write it all down? No! He used people, a bunch of different people over a long time, to write down His words.

Our story today is about one of those men. His name is Jeremiah. He was told by God to write down what God told him. He had a friend named Baruch (buh-ROOK) and as Jeremiah shared God's mission with him, Baruch wrote all the words down on the paper.

Well, there was a king at the time who didn't like what God was saying. He took all the papers that Baruch and Jeremiah had written God's words on and burned them. The king did not want to hear what God had to say and wanted to arrest Jeremiah and Baruch for what they wrote.

But God always wins! He protected them from the king. God told them to start again with all the words He had told them to write down. And they did!

God used Jeremiah to write down part of the Bible. That must have been a very important job because it was for a very important book! Today, we learned that the Bible isn't just a book—it's a very important book that God gave us to help us learn more about Him. Let's say that together: "The Bible is an important book."

Close in prayer.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Why is the Bible a special and important book?
4. Who is the Bible all about? **Jesus!**

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!