



## Remember & Celebrate – Feasts & Festivals

Psalm 106:1; Psalm 107

### God Statement: God is in Control

**KEY VERSE:** “Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.”  
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)

## CHECK-IN

*Classroom Teacher*

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.*

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

**(15 minutes)**

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

### **DISCUSS: God is in Control**

In today’s lesson, we are going to continue learning about how God is in Control.

**SAY:**

What holiday did we just celebrate? Thanksgiving, that’s right. Do you have any special traditions or things you did for Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving is such a special time to gather with family and spend time thinking about all that God has given us. We get to spend intentional time saying thank you. We’ve got a special day planned in Woodmen Kids today... Today is Remember & Celebrate. Do you know what that means? Kind of like Thanksgiving, Remember & Celebrate is a

special time to think about and reflect on all God has given us. We're going to learn more in Large Group today about some very special feasts and festivals that took place in the Old Testament as a way to intentionally remember & celebrate, but first, let's play a game.

**PLAY:**

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

**Grateful Dice Game**

**Supplies:** 2 grateful dice

**Say:** *God has truly blessed us with so many great and wonderful things! We have a lot that we can thank Him for. We can always remember that He will take care of us and will always keep His promises. That's something worth celebrating.*

**Directions:** Have children sit in a circle and take turns rolling a dice. Have them read whichever side the dice lands on and answer the question. Go around until all kids have had a turn.

## LARGE GROUP

**(25 minutes)**

*Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.*

### WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

**Host**

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

**Expectations Slide**

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

*\*\*\* After Expectations, transition the power point to the Key Verse slides..\*\*\**

### KEY VERSE

**Host**

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great

opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

***Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.***

**“Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.”  
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)**

***\*\*\* After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship. \*\*\****

## **OPENING WORSHIP**

### ***Worship Leader***

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

***\*\*\* After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. \*\*\****

## **BIBLE STORY**

### ***Lesson Video***

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

### ***THIS WEEK’S LESSON: Remember & Celebrate***

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

***\*\*\* After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God. \*\*\****

## **WORSHIP RESPONSE**

### ***Host***

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

***Supplies:*** Chalkboard stations, chalk

***Prepare ahead:*** Write “God is in Control” on the top of the chalkboards.

Today we're taking time to Remember & Celebrate. The Jewish people would take time throughout the year to celebrate feasts and festivals as a way to remember and celebrate God's faithfulness to them.

The Israelites went through a lot of hard situations. Do you remember some of them? ***Allow kids a chance to respond (slaves in Egypt, plagues, going through the Red Sea, wilderness wanderings)***

During each of these feasts and festivals, the Jewish people would stop and thank God for the way he protected them and provided for them. They knew it was important to give thanks to God, so they made it a priority.

Let's look at a couple of verses in the Bible that tell us about the way thankfulness can give us peace.

- Turn to Philippians 4:6 and 7 in your Bible. Who would like to read that slowly and loudly for us?
- Philippians 4:6-7

***Don't worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray and give thanks to him. Then God's peace will watch over your hearts and your minds.***

Did you catch that? Listen again. Read it slowly and emphasize

***Don't worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray and give thanks to him. Then God's peace will watch over your hearts and your minds.***

What are some things you are thankful for? ***Wait for answers. Encourage them to think about being outside – mountains, snow, trees, clouds, sunsets including family and friends, pets.***

When we focus our minds on what God has already done for us, it helps us to not worry about what might happen in the future.

So if you're feeling worried about something, or if you're crabby or angry, think of things to be thankful about.

Let's thank God for what He has done. Miracles and all the beauty and family around us. I bet you will feel some peace from being thankful.

***Ask if a few kids will pray out loud up in front. Or get them into small groups and let them pray together.***

*\*\*\*After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.\*\*\**

## **CLOSING WORSHIP**

### **Worship Leader**

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

*\*\*\*After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the “Compassion International” slide.\*\*\**

## **COMPASSION & OFFERING**

### **Host**

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

***Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.***

*\*\*\*After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.\*\*\**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Host**

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

*\*\*\*After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.\*\*\**

## **BLESSING**

### **Host**

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

*Friends, may you always remember to be thankful. Look around you and praise God for what you see and hear and smell and touch and taste! Give thanks to the LORD, because He is good. His faithful love continues forever.*

## SMALL GROUP – Chat & Chew

*Classroom Teachers*

**(10 minutes)**

*The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.*

### **ALL Kids:**

As part of Remember & Celebrate, use this time to chat with kids about all they have to be thankful for and enjoy a snack together.

***Pass out animal crackers in the provided paper cups during this time and break into a few small groups to chat together.*** Use the questions below as a guide to lead the conversation, but feel free to insert your own questions as the conversation develops.

1. **Read Psalm 106:1.**

**What does Psalm 106 say about God?** (He is good).

2. **The Israelites celebrated Passover to remember God's goodness and faithfulness throughout the years. How can we remember God's goodness and faithfulness every day?**
3. **What does it mean to be thankful?** (to be aware and acknowledge the good things we have and say thank you for them) **What are you thankful for?**
4. **Spend time sharing stories of how the kids celebrated Thanksgiving. Then, ask kids for prayer requests or praises.**

**Close small group in prayer.**

## RESPOND ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

**(10 minutes)**

**DISCUSS:**

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

### **Remember & Celebrate – Thankful Tree**

**Supplies:** 1 tree page per child, markers/crayons

**Say:** *Let's talk about all the things we've said we're thankful for! God gives us so much and He always takes care of us.*

**Directions:** Have children write things they are thankful for in the leaves of the trees on the paper. Children can decorate their trees using markers or crayons.

## **CHECK-OUT**

*Classroom Teacher*

**(end of service)**

*As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.*

# Gratitude Dice

Cut out the dice.

Fold the flaps in and assemble the dice.

Glue or tape to secure.

Children can roll the dice and respond to the prompt shown.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

