



God has a Plan

(Remember & Celebrate – Atonement)

Psalm 130

God Statement: God Has a Plan

KEY VERSE:

“The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He’ll never desert you. So don’t be afraid. Don’t lose hope.”

Deuteronomy 31:8, NIRV

CHECK-IN

Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you’ve completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books, or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

CONNECT WITH KIDS

Purpose: To build relationships & prioritize safety for our youngest children.

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

The 4 S’s are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:

When a child feels...(most of the time)

SAFE: physically and emotionally

SEEN: known and understood
SOOTHED: calmed and supported
 They can become **SECURE.**

WORSHIP TIME

Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to **Plex > Videos > EC > Babies folder.**

- Thank You God
- Mindy Songs God Can Do Anything
- Our God is So Big

READ THE BIBLE STORY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!

This week, read about a Bible story from Psalm 130.

Read the Bible story provided. Try to engage the child(ren) as you share the story by showing pictures and repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word of the story! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Remember and Celebrate

(Summarized from Psalm 130)

BIBLE STORY:

Bring Hamilton (the hedgehog puppet) out and allow the kids to interact with him before you begin the story (they can feel his soft fur, give him high fives, give him a hug, etc.). Use Hamilton to help keep the kids engaged while you share the story (he can read parts of the story, do the hand motions, ask the kids questions, etc.).

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is holding some hand sanitizer.

SAY: Hi Hamilton, what do you have there? ***Hamilton shows us.*** Oh, you have some hand sanitizer! Hamilton, have you ever had dirty hands? ***Hamilton nods.*** We can use hand sanitizer to get those hands clean again! ***Pretend to give Hamilton some hand sanitizer. He rubs his hands together.*** Let's see what hand sanitizer has to do with our Bible story for today.

Share Psalm 130 using the story cards in your folder.

SAY:

- We are all humans. I'm a human, you're a human, and the person sitting next to you is a human.

- Hamilton, are you a human? *Hamilton shakes his head “no.”* No, you’re a hedgehog, Hamilton!
- But we are humans, and humans sin.
- To sin means to do something wrong.
 - What are some things we do wrong? Sometimes we don’t listen to our mom and dad, or we yell and scream if we don’t get a toy that we reeeeaally wanted.
- When we sin, our hearts get dirty.
 - Where is your heart? Can you put your hand over your heart? It’s inside of your body and beats all day and all night to keep you alive. Can you feel it beating?
- When our hearts get dirty from sin, God can clean our hearts up again! Kind of like hand sanitizer cleans our hands!
- This means when we sin, God forgives us and makes our hearts clean.
- In the Bible, it says, “His love never stops. He sets His people free from all their sins.” (Psalm 130: 7-8, summarized)
- God knew we would sin when He made us, so He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins.
- But Jesus didn’t stay dead, did he? He came alive again, and He set us free from our sin! He made us clean!
- God had a plan all along to save us from our sins and make us clean again.
- Let’s remember and celebrate that God sent Jesus to save us from our sins!
 - Let’s say, “Thank you, God!”
- God has a plan!

RESPOND ACTIVITY

(10 minutes)

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

PLAY: Celebration Dance Party

Supplies: Fun music from the TV

Directions:

- Put on the music and dance!
- Choose a favorite song that the kids enjoy.
- You could play freeze dance, too.
- Stop the music unexpectedly and tell the kids to freeze.
- Then start the music again and dance more.

SAY: Let’s dance to celebrate all God does for us!

BLESSING (1 minute)

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.

SAY: Friends, may you always remember all the good things God provides for you and have a thankful heart.

PLAY!

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

Suggestions of activities for Babies & Younger 1 Year Old's:

- Play Peek-A-Boo
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball
- Roll a large car back and forth
- Take turns putting toys in a bin or bucket

Suggestions of activities for Older 1 Year Old's:

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)

CHECK-OUT**(end of service)**

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent. Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"