



## God has a Plan

Genesis 2, 3

### God Statement: God Has a Plan

KEY VERSE:

**“The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you.”  
Deuteronomy 31:8 NIRV**

## CHECK-IN

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

*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 brings money for offering, allow them to put the money in the class offering bank. Thank them for sharing with others.*

*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: Building relationships & prioritizing 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 Ss 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.**

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

**(10 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:

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how the very first people sinned. They did something wrong and disobeyed God.

**SAY:** What are some sins kids do? Yes, hit, take things that don't belong to them, make a mean face. What can we do when we sin? Yes, we can tell God what happened. He always forgives us. If we hurt someone else, we can tell them we are sorry.

### ACTIVITY: What Does Sin Look Like?

**Supplies:** marshmallow, LIT or other adult in class

#### Directions: LIT is Tempted and Gives In

- This will involve some acting and drama.
- LIT is tempted by marshmallow and told by the teacher not to eat until the teacher says go. They eat it anyway. The teacher forgives them.
- Announce in huddle to work out who will do what. Ask LIT or other teacher to volunteer

**Gather class to sit in circle.**

**SAY:** All right, LIT (name). I'm going to leave this marshmallow right here *(or they could hold it)*. I'm going to get the rest of the lesson ready and I'll be right back. Don't let anyone eat the marshmallow. Don't you eat it either. We will be using it later in the story.

**LIT** – *use all your dramatic abilities to resist the marshmallow. Look at it. Smell it. Maybe even lick it. Turn your head. Shake your head no. Then grab it quickly and stuff it in your mouth and chew it up.*

**Teacher** – *don't pay attention to what is going on. Give it a minute and then return to the scene. Maybe say something like, SAY: "All right class, we are ready to do an experiment with a marshmallow." Act it up and look all around for it. Meanwhile, the LIT looks guilty.*

**Teacher:** "What happened to the marshmallow?"

**LIT:** "Umm." *You can pretend like you don't know or confess right away. "I am so sorry that I couldn't resist eating the marshmallow. I know you said not to but I ate it anyway."*

**Teacher:** Oh (LIT's name). That was wrong. You disobeyed me and now we can't do our experiment. I know you are sorry. I forgive you. We will have to do that experiment another time.

**Teacher pat on shoulder or give hug.**

**SAY:** "I forgive you."

**SAY:** We all do wrong things. We can confess and be forgiven. God always forgives us. He wants us to do the right thing, but when we sin He will forgive us.

## CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

*Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.*

*Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."*

## LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

*After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .*

## WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

**Offering – ASK:** Did anyone bring money for an offering today? This money is used to help other people. You may put your money in the class offering bank.

## WORSHIP

*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 > 2s/3s folder**. Choose some songs to sing.

- My God is So Big
- He is God

## READ A BIBLE STORY

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

This week, read about a Bible story from Genesis 2 and 3.

**BIG IDEA: We all do wrong things. And God always forgives us.**

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as you read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! 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!

### BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

**THIS WEEK'S LESSON: *God has a plan.***

*Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.*

***Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class.***

**Read the Bible Lesson below.**

**SAY:** We learned that God created all the things in the world in (***show on fingers***) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 days and rested (***sleep on hands***) on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

God created a man and a woman in His own image; they looked like him!

They had eyes, a nose, arms and legs, and fingers and toes, just like you!

Can you show me your eyes? Your nose? Wiggle your fingers? Have the kiddos point to the body parts.

God named the man and woman Adam and Eve.

They lived in a beautiful garden filled with flowers, trees, and fruit.

Hamilton, do you like fruit? ***Have Hamilton hold some of the plastic fruits.***

Here, you can have some, too. ***Give the kiddos some plastic fruit.***

Let's eat some tasty fruit together. **Have Hamilton pretend to eat fruit with the children.**  
 There was one special fruit tree in the garden that God told Adam and Eve not to eat from.  
 One day, a tricky snake told Eve to eat that special fruit. She did, and so did Adam.  
 Adam and Eve had done something wrong, and had sinned against God because He said not to eat the special fruit.  
 Because they had sinned, they had to leave the beautiful garden.  
 They were very sad.  
 Show me your sad faces.  
 But God still loved them and He had a plan to show them that He loved them!  
 Let's give ourselves a hug and make a happy face.  
 He sent his son, Jesus, to save us from our sins so that we can still be with God!  
 God has a plan!

### **SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)**

*This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.*

We are learning that God has a plan! (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times).

### **WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)**

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.

**SAY:** What are some sins kids do? **(Let kids answer.)** Yes, hit, take things that don't belong to them, make a mean face, disobey. What can we do when we sin? Yes, we can tell God what happened. He always forgives us. If we hurt someone else, we can tell them we are sorry.

Let's sit quietly for a moment. Have you sinned? Have you done a wrong thing?  
 You can tell that person you are sorry. You can tell God you are sorry. You can tell God that you are sorry right now. You can whisper it: "God, I am sorry."  
 God says He loves you and forgives you.

### **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.*

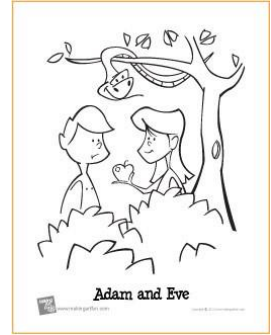
**SAY:** Friends, may you always remember that God has a plan. God loves you so much that He sent His son to save you. You are precious to Him."

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

### MAKE: Color a Picture

**Supplies:** crayons of different colors including a black crayon and coloring page, Jesus sticker



**Directions:** Give them a few crayons and assist them with coloring, as needed.

- Then, give them a black crayon and let them color what they want to with it. Tell them the black makes us think of Adam and Eve's sin against God when they didn't listen to him and ate the special fruit.
- Finally, give them a Jesus sticker to put on the black scribbles to show that Jesus saved us from our sin.
- Write the name of the child along with the date and the location (Woodmen Kids) on the child's craft so the parent(s) can keep it as a keepsake.

## 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 with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

### Suggestions of activities:

- 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.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball

## 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)!"