



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 & I’m Thankful

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 later 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!

"I am thankful for..." Straw Game

Supplies: colored popsicle sticks, thankful chart

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. Once at a time, have the students close their eyes and pick a popsicle stick. Look at the guide to ask the corresponding question for the color they chose. Have the child answer. Repeat until every kid has had a chance to share something.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

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

WORSHIP & CHLOE'S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

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!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE'S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe's Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Chloe's Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

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)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What's It: Thankful Tree

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Hmm... What does this look like? It looks like a tree, that's right. But this is more than just a tree, isn't it? It's a **thankful tree**! We've already talked a bit about how important it is to be thankful, but I bet we're going to hear more about it in the Big God Story. Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to 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: none

We just celebrated a holiday that's all about thankfulness.

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.**

Today, we're celebrating something special called Remember & Celebrate. The Jewish people celebrated feasts and festivals to remember all the ways God was with them and helped them.

So today, we want to pause and remember how God has helped us!

Can you remember something God helped you with?

Let kids share.

Let's celebrate and thank God for what He has done! God is always in control and has a plan for us. I bet you will feel some peace from being thankful for that.

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 Compassion & Offering slides.****

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.

Younger 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 Hands

Supplies: 1 paper 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: Pass out a piece of blank paper to each child. Help them trace their hands on the page. Encourage children to draw pictures of things they are thankful for on each finger. Teachers, help kids write words of things they are thankful for.

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 GAME

 Name a Person You are Thankful for

 Name a Place You are Thankful for

 Name a Food You are Thankful for

 Name a Thing You are Thankful for

 Name Anything of Your Choice

Teach Beside Me