



God is Provider

Matthew 6: 25-34

God Statement: Jesus is Awesome

**“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.
Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”**

-John 3:16-17, 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 God is Provider.

SAY: In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is Provider. Did you ever lose your shoe? What did you do? Did you look under your bed? Did you look in your closet? Did you look by the front door? Did you pray? Do you know that God provides for all of our needs? He does! Jesus says in the Bible, "do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear". God will take care of all your needs.

DO: Time to Get Dressed

Supplies: assorted hats and mittens

Directions:

- Play a relay game with hats and mittens.
- Put the hats and mittens in a pile at one side of the room.
- Line the kids up on the other side.
- Have them go one or two at a time to put on a pair of mittens and a hat.
- Then they will go back to the other side and take off the mittens and hat.
- Then the next kid puts them on to run to the other side and pile them up there.
- Play as long as there is interest.

SAY: God provides clothes and food for 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.

- God is With Us all the Time
- Jesus is our Hope

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 Matthew 6:25-34.

- Read the Bible story below. 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: Do Not Worry

(Summarized from Matthew 6:25-34)

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 do the hand motions, ask the kids questions, etc.).

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is holding a little bird.

SAY: Hi, Hamilton, what do you have there? ***Hamilton shows us.*** A little bird! God made the birds, and God made us. He takes care of us all. Let's listen to this true Bible story. ***Hamilton nods.***

Share the story of Matthew 6:25-34 using the story cards in your folder.

SAY:

- One day, Jesus climbed up a mountain.
 - Let's pretend to climb a mountain with Jesus!
- A lot of people met Him there because they wanted to listen to Him teach.
 - Let's get ready to listen to what Jesus had to say, just like the people did.
- Jesus said to the people, "Don't worry about what you eat or drink."
- Can you pretend to eat something tasty? Let's take a drink, too!
- Jesus also said, "Don't worry about what you wear."
 - Put on your pretend hat and mittens! It doesn't matter what we wear, God will take care of us!
- Then, Jesus said, "God takes care of the birds, and you are much more important to God than the birds, so He will take care of you."
 - Oh, just like the bird Hamilton brought! God made the birds and takes care of them, so he will also take care of us!
- Finally, Jesus said, "Do what God wants you to do and He will give you what you need."
- Jesus taught the people that God is provider.
- He gives us just what we need, so we don't need to worry!
- God is Provider!

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.

SAY: Today our God statement is God is Provider. We are going to say our God statement in fun ways to help us remember it.

- Have the kids say it in a fun voice.
- Have them say it in a whisper.
- Have them say it in a loud voice.
- Motions: God (hand vertical in front of face) is provider (pretend to hand out things).

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: In our Bible story today, we learned that God takes care of us so we don't have to worry! What are some things kids worry about? (*wait for responses*)

Yes, the dark or leaving your grown up.

God helps us when we're worried!

He gives us what we need and keeps us safe.

Let's say, "Thank you, God...for taking care of me!"

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 is Provider. He loves to give you what you need and will always take care of you.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

(15 minutes)

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

COLOR: A Coloring Page about God's Word: Do not Worry

Supplies: Color page about Do Not Worry, crayons

Directions:

- Sit with the kids at the table.
- Give them the color page and a few crayons.

SAY: Let's color this picture.

These words say, "Do Not Worry."

What is "worry"? Worry is when we think about things without trusting God.

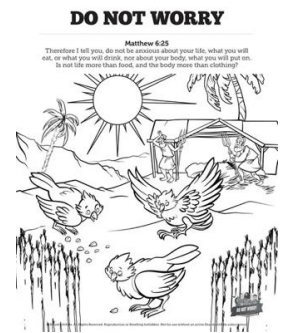
See the birds in the picture? How many birds are there?

Do you see birds in your yard?

Do you think they worry about having enough to eat? Or how they will make their nest?

Jesus said in the Bible that the birds don't worry, and God takes care of them.

We can trust God to take care of us, too.



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)!"