



## God Unifies (Brings Together)

Galatians 3:26-29

### God Statement: God is the One True God

**KEY VERSE:** “Remember what happened in the past. Think about what took place long ago. I am God. There is no other God. I am God. There is no one like me.”

(Isaiah 46:9, 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 Unifies (Brings Together)

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God unifies us!

**SAY:**

Raise your hand if you like crafts. ***If available, use items in the classroom to use as an example for this illustration.*** Let’s say I wanted to make a craft where I took a bunch of small pieces of paper and tried to put them on a card. Could I just set them on the card and then they’d stay perfectly how I put them? ***Let kids respond – no.*** No! They would fall right off. What would I need to help make it all come together? ***Let kids respond – glue or tape.*** Glue would be a great way to make sure these pieces all stick together on

the card, right? The glue brings together all the little pieces to make a beautiful masterpiece!

Just like the glue in my craft, God brings people together! Today, we're going to learn how God unifies. That's a big word, but it just means brings together. Let me give you another illustration. Let's all stand up and spread around the room. **Grab a walking rope, towel, piece of paper or book.** Now, I want you all to touch this \_\_\_\_\_ with one hand/finger. Look around now, we were all spread out before, and now we are all together because of this object. Okay take a seat.

Just like the object brought us together physically, God brings us together with people all around the world because of His love for us. That means that even the people who follow Jesus all across the world who don't look the same as you or speak the same language are a child of God, just like you! We're going to learn more about it later, but first, let's do this craft.

### **MAKE:**

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

#### **Child of God Necklace**

**Supplies:** string, beads, charm

**Directions:** Pass out one string and one charm (child of God) to each child. Allow children to use the bag of beads and their charm to make a necklace. Help them tie the ends of their necklace and place it somewhere safe to take home at the end of the lesson.

**Say:** *Today we get to make a special necklace to remind us that we are a child of God. God is always with us and He is the one true God.*

## **LARGE GROUP**

### **(25 minutes)**

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

### **WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP 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.

#### TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- Waymaker
- Child of God

#### LARGE GROUP RULES

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

*\*\*\* After Worship & Large Group 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.*

**"Remember what happened in the past. Think about what took place long ago. I am God.  
There is no other God. I am God. There is no one like me."  
(Isaiah 46:9, 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: WORLD WITH CHILDREN & CROSS

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 do we have here? Can you tell me what this is? **Let kids respond.** That's right, it's the **world/earth/globe**. But do you see what else is on it? **Let kids respond.** That's right, there are **kids** all around it holding hands and a **Cross**! Did you know that there are kids all over the world just like you who love Jesus? I wonder what this has to do with our story today. Let's find out! 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: God Unifies (Brings Together)**

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 this time.

**Supplies: None**

After Jesus died and rose again, He sent His disciples a very special gift. Do you remember what the gift was? **Let kids respond – the Holy Spirit.** Jesus sent them the Holy Spirit, which gives God's people the power to love others just as God loves us. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to unify us. What does unify mean? **Let kids respond – bring together.**

No matter where you are in the world, as a follower of Jesus, we all are connected because of the Holy Spirit in us. When you believe in Jesus, we're all part of God's family!

#### **CIRCLE OF THE CHURCH ACTIVITY:**

Let's pretend that we all represent God's people in a different country or place. What are some countries/places you think of? ***Let kids respond.*** Now, let's all stand up and grab each others hands to make a big circle. ***Help kids form large circle in room.***

As you hold hands, look at everyone in the circle. God says that His Holy Spirit is with us, followers of Him. Wow! The same spirit is with me all the way over here, and with you all the way across the "world". God uses the Holy Spirit to bring unity, like this big circle connects us all together!

Let's take some time to pray for all God's people around the world. Pray that the Holy Spirit would give each person power to love those around them! Pray that God would bring together His people to show God's love all around!

***Encourage a couple leaders or kids to pray as they stand in the circle. Then close in prayer.***

***\*\*\*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 & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Teacher Appreciation Bags**

#### ***Host***

*Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus 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.*

Raise your hand if you are excited that school is almost over. Raise your hand if you are sad that school is almost over. Well, as we wrap up the school year, we have a new mission focus to get ready for next year!

Does anyone remember the paper bags we decorated last August for teachers in our schools? **Let kids respond.** We have the opportunity to decorate bags again starting next week. These bags are a special way to love and thank teachers for all they do for us. Would we be able to learn without our teachers? No! Teachers do so much for us, and we want to do something kind for them to show them Jesus' love.

***Invite a couple kids to come up and pray for teachers to finish the school year strong and for the bags that will be decorated next week to celebrate teachers.***

***\*\*\*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.*

***May you remember that you are a part of God's family. May you know that God brings us all together through His Spirit because He loves us!***

## SMALL GROUP

### Classroom Teachers

**(10 minutes)**

### Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Galatians 3:26-29**
  - a. **What are we? Who is the one true God?** (We are children of God. God is the one true God)
  - b. **Even though we may be created unique, we are all the same in Christ. This means we are all children of God. What is the promise God has for us as His children?** (we get to spend eternity in Heaven with Him)

3. **God wants us to tell others about Him and to follow Him. He loves us and is always there for us. He brings us all together. We are children of God. How does this make you feel?** (Happy, excited, confused, joyful?)

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.

### **MAKE: Flowers for a Grownup We Love!**

**Supplies:** fresh flowers – one per kid, brown paper, ribbon, tags

**Directions:** Pass out one gift tag per child and have them decorate it and sign it with their name or a picture using the markers/crayons. Help each child wrap a flower with the brown paper and tie their tag onto their flower using the ribbon.

**Say:** *Today is a special day! We want to share how much we love others by giving a grownup we love a special treat! Let's make a special flower craft to show our love to someone who loves us.*

## 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.*