



God is Everywhere

2 Kings 6 (Horses and Chariots of Fire)

God Statement: God is Wisdom

KEY VERSE:

“The Lord gives wisdom.” Proverbs 2:6 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.

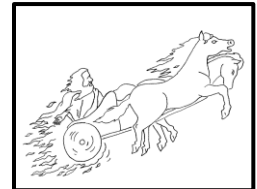
DISCUSS: God is Everywhere!

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God gave wisdom to Elisha.

Say: What is something you can't see but you know is there? **Let kids think – describe wind to them until they guess it.** Just like the wind, God's angels and servants are all around us. We can't see them, but we know they are there. God sends them to help us. We're going to hear about a time when God showed His people an amazing sight!

MAKE: Horses & Chariots of Fire Craft

Supplies: coloring sheet, fire colored paints, flat box, golf balls



Directions: Put one coloring sheet in the flat box, squirt a quarter-sized dollop of each color of paint anywhere on the picture. Put 2-3 golf balls in the box. Help each child roll around the box, holding tightly, taking care not to let it drop. Roll the balls around by tipping the box different directions so that the balls roll through the paint, making marks all over the paper. 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.

Say: *Wow, this is beautiful! This is a chariot. A person can ride in the chariot to drive the horse. Can you imagine if this were made of FIRE?!*

While you are working with each child:

- Which color do you like best?
- Does this look a little bit like fire?
- God can do some amazing things. Wait until you hear our story today!

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 (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to **Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder**.

- *The Wisdom Song*
- *My God is so BIG*

READ A BIBLE STORY

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

This week, read about a story about Elisha and the Chariots of Fire from page 112 in the Jesus Calling Storybook Bible.

BIG IDEA:

**God is everywhere! He can do anything! He is bigger than any enemy.
He sent horses and chariots of fire to save God's people.**

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 IS EVERYWHERE – HORSES & CHARIOTS OF FIRE
(Summarized from 2 Kings 6)

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. Hamilton is wearing a blindfold.

Say: Hamilton, hey, over here. Let's take off that blindfold. Oh, there, now you can see.

Hamilton acts surprised to see the children. Here are our friends. Can you say Hi, Hamilton?

The kids say hi. Hamilton waves. Hamilton, we are going to hear a story about a man who couldn't see what God was showing him. God gave wisdom to Elisha to pray. Then God helped the man see something very special! Why don't you listen to this story with us, Hamilton. You can sit right here in your house to listen. ***Put Hamilton in his house.***

Read this story to the children and have them act out as you read.

Back in Bible times, there were some bad people trying to hurt God's special people.

The bad guys had lots of horses and chariots to help them fight. ***Let's pat our legs to sound like horses running. Now can you neigh like a horse? Good.***

Elisha was a man of God who was helping God's people.

His servant was afraid of all the horses and chariots that the bad guys were driving. ***Let's pat our legs to sound like horses running. Now can you neigh like a horse? Good.***

Elisha said, "don't be afraid."

His servant said – "there are so many horses and chariots." ***Let's pat our legs to sound like horses running. Now can you neigh like a horse? Good.***

Elisha prayed to God to let his servant see God's protectors. ***Put your hands over your eyes. What can you see?*** Nothing? That's what the servant could see. Nothing but the horses and chariots. ***You may uncover your eyes.***

God opened the servant's eyes. Suddenly, he could see God's horses and chariots made of FIRE! They were God's angels who came to save them.

God protected His people. God is wisdom. He gave Elisha wisdom to know what to do. Elisha prayed so his servant would see what God was up to. He wasn't afraid any longer.

Say: That's an amazing story! We can pray to God for wisdom, too! God can do anything!

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 is wisdom." (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.

Encourage class to sit quietly.

Say: God can do anything. What are some things that God can do? **(Let kids answer)**
Let's clap for God. Yay, God! God can do anything! **(Lead kids in clapping for God)**

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: "The Lord gives wisdom." Proverbs 2:6
Friends, may you always know that you can ask God to help you with ANYTHING! He loves you and will help you do the right thing.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

PLAY: Galloping Horses

Supplies: none

Directions: Gather kids in a circle. Direct kids to follow the leader as they pretend to be horses from the story today. Optional: Hum/sing Chariots of Fire theme music as kids gallop.

Say: *Let's be horses. We will carefully gallop and neigh right here in a circle in our room.*

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)!"