



Jeremiah the Prophet – God is Trustworthy

Jeremiah 38

God Statement: God is With Us

KEY VERSE: "You will pass through deep waters. But I will be with you. You will pass through the rives. But their waters will not sweep over you."
(Isaiah 43:2, 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 Trustworthy

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is trustworthy!

SAY: What does it mean to trust? **Let kids respond.** Trusting someone else can be hard! Trust means to confide in and know that that person will do what they say they will do. Have you ever asked someone to do something and you have to trust that they will do it? Or maybe you need them to be honest about something when you ask them a question? **Let kids respond.** Trustworthy means 'honest' and able to be relied on. Who is someone you trust in your life? **Let kids respond.**

Who can we trust all of the time? ***Let kids respond – Jesus/God!*** We can trust God all of the time! He is trustworthy and He is ALWAYS honest and true. We get to learn about how God is trustworthy in our lesson today. First, lets make a special craft!

MAKE: Rubber Band Cross

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

Supplies: one cross per child, colorful rubber bands, sticker

Directions: Pass out one cross per child and have them place the “God is trustworthy” sticker in the middle. Then, have them take small rubber bands and put them on the cross. Have them add different colors to all of the cross parts.

SAY: Today we get to learn about How God is trustworthy! We can always trust Him. Let’s create a special cross to keep as a reminder that we can trust God, because He always fulfills His promises.

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:

- Clap Your Hands
- God is With Me

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.****

***“You will pass through deep waters. But I will be with you. You will pass through the rivers.
But their waters will not sweep over you”
(Isaiah 43:2, 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: A Gift with a Note Inside

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. Accept around three questions and then three guesses. You can allow the kids to whisper their guess to their neighbor to allow for more sharing before you reveal the item. 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.

SAY: What do you guys see? It’s a gift with a note inside. That’s weird... why would we have a gift in our wardrobe when its not even close to Christmas? Do you guys think you might know why? **Let kids respond.** You all had some great answers! This is a tricky one, but we have a gift in our wardrobe because today we are going to learn about a man who had the gift of prophecy. And his name was Jeremiah. We have heard a lot about prophets so far, so I’m excited to learn about how God used Jeremiah. Let’s dive into God’s word today to learn more about Jeremiah!

***** 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: Jeremiah the Propjet – God is Trustworthy

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.

DO: You can Trust God because... statements

Supplies: Green square paper background, butcher paper with “You Can Trust God because...” written on top, smaller square butcher paper

SAY: During Jeremiah’s time things were very difficult. No one liked Jeremiah because he wanted the people to hear God’s truth. They did not want to listen. Have you ever been in a difficult situation where no one would listen to you? (let a few children share their stories) Even in those hard times, God is there for you, just like he was there for Jeremiah in the muddy cistern.

Jeremiah was faithful, even when he could not understand what was going on. But he listened to the Lord no matter what was happening. At times Jeremiah was sad and felt rejected, because no one would listen to him, but he learned that God is trustworthy and always knows what is best.

DIRECTIONS: Lay out the paper background with “You can trust God because” statement. Ask the kids to finish the statement on the smaller butcher paper attached to it. (They can draw or write their answers.) Take the statement home as a reminder that you can always trust God no matter how hard things are.

SAY: Jeremiah trusted, even in the muddy cistern. You can too. Whatever is going on in your life right now, God knows and will help you through the problem. God is Trustworthy!

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Offering slides.******

OFFERING**Host**

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering.

******After Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Senior Center**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 PowerPoint to display important announcements.

SAY: Raise your hand if someone has ever made you feel special? **Pause.** What did they do? How did it make you feel? **Choose a few kids to respond.** Did you know that you can also make people around you feel special by the kind things you say and do?

SAY: Think of the seniors in your life. Can you make them feel special by opening the door for them or asking them how you can help them? As we continue with our current mission focus, the Senior Center, think really hard about how you can love the seniors in your life well. Ask your parents or others around you to help you think of creative ways to serve the seniors you know.

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the seniors of the Senior Center and within the community.

******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 always trust God even in difficult times. May you not doubt Him; but know that He knows best.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

Younger Kids:

If you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well, jump into the questions below. If kids need a break first, that's ok! Have them do some jumps or dances to get out some energy before doing the questions.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (God is Trustworthy.)

2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Jeremiah 38:17-22**
 - What was Jeremiah?** (A prophet.)
 - Who is Jeremiah talking to?** (King Zedekiah.)
 - What did Jeremiah tell King Zedekiah to do (V.20)?** (To obey the Lord.)

3. **Jeremiah was a prophet. God used Jeremiah to help bring His word to those around him. Through Jeremiah's life we learned that God is trustworthy.**
 - What does it mean to be trustworthy?**
 - What is one way you see God being trustworthy in your life?**
 - How can we remember the truth of God being trustworthy?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group. Be vulnerable with your students and share how God is working in your life.

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

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.

PLAY: Times of Bravery Roll the Ball Game

Supplies: small ball

Directions: Have children sit in a circle on the floor. Hold the ball and say a time where you had to trust God and be brave. Then roll the ball to another child in the circle. Have them share a time that they trusted God and had to be brave. Have them roll the ball to another child. Keep playing until all children have had a chance to share.

SAY: Today we got to learn about Jeremiah and his bravery! He had to trust God. God is always trustworthy; we can trust God too! Let's share times where we had to be brave and trust God.

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.