



MAY 2024

Babies-Toddlers Lesson **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

Bible Words: “I will always love you.” Jeremiah 31:3, CEV

Bottom Line: God loves you.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what.

Monthly Bible Story: Hannah • Samuel 1-2

BIBLE STORY FOR NURSERY

(“Story Images” Activity Pages)

LEADER: “Hello, friends! I’m so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today’s true story from the Bible (hold up the Bible) begins with a woman named Hannah.

“Hannah was sad. Show me your sad faces. (Pause.) Those are good sad faces. But Hannah knew she could pray and talk to God about why she was sad. That made Hannah feel better. Show me your happy faces. (Pause.) Yes! Hannah was happy because she knew she could pray and talk to God about anything. YOU can pray and talk to God about anything anytime, too, because [Bottom Line] God loves you! (Point to each of the children.) If you are happy, sad, scared, or excited, you can pray and talk to God. If you are at home, or somewhere new, you can talk to God because [Bottom Line] God loves you!”

HOW TO USE THE ACTIVITIES

As a nursery volunteer, your primary focus is on keeping babies-toddlers safe and happy. We understand that your classroom is busy, and your hands are literally full. However, we know that your influence on these children is more than childcare. The activities included in this lesson are suggestions of how to be more intentional in pointing little ones to Jesus. The theme will remain the same all month long. Choose one activity per week to focus on and don’t worry if you run out of time.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Monthly Parent Cue - 1 per family first weekend of the month)

Hand parents/influencers the Parent Cue handout (age specific for Babies vs Toddlers) and encourage them to review the activities with their child this week.

BABIES ACTIVITIES

BIBLE STORY SONG

What You Do:

- Sing the first chorus of the song with the children.

What You Say:

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.”

“Let your light shine because Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!”

FIND THE LOVE

(Heart toy/pillow, Bin or basket, Ball Pit Balls)

What You Do:

- Put the heart toy or pillow in the laundry basket and fill it about a third full of ball-pit balls.
- Place one child in the basket at a time and let them explore and try to find the heart.
- Say, “God loves you. God loves [child’s name].”

What You Say:

“[Child’s name], come sit in the basket. Look at all the balls. I see a red ball and a yellow one. Do you see a heart? Can you find it? Yay! You found the heart! God loves you. God loves [child’s name]!”

ALWAYS WITH YOU

(Toy Car, Toy Bed or Blanket, Toy Food, Rubber Duck, Doll Clothes, Ball)

What You Do:

- Place the toy car, toy bed, toy food, rubber duck, doll clothes, and a ball around the room.
- Encourage the children to crawl to each item with you and identify it.
- Share that God is with them in the place each item represents. (When riding in the car, when sleeping, when eating, during a bath, when getting dressed, when playing.)

What You Say:

“Let’s go on an adventure! Crawl with me over here. Look, here is a car. God is with you when you’re in the car. Let’s crawl over here. What did you find? Oh, it’s a rubber duck! God is with you when you’re taking a bath. God loves you, and God is always with you

TODDLER ACTIVITIES

CRAFT TIME

("Prayer Journal" Activity Pages - 1 set per kid, Glue Sticks, Wet Wipes, Crayons - optional)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Prayer Journal", one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Journal Pictures" on cardstock and cut, one set per child.

During the Activity: Rub glue on the backs of each of the pictures and encourage children to stick each picture on their paper. Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "[Child's name], you can pray and talk to God when you are sad. Put the sad face on your paper. (Pause.) you can pray and talk to God when you are happy. Put the happy face on your paper. (Pause.) You can pray and talk to God when you are worried. Put the worried face on your paper. (Pause.) You can pray and talk to God when you are excited. Put the excited face on your paper. (Pause.) You can pray and talk to God anytime, because [Bottom Line] God loves you!"