



LITTLE RED WAGON | WEEK 4 | MAY 26, 2024

## Preschool Lesson

# Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego

**Bible Story:** Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego • I can live for God • Daniel 3:10-28

**Memory Verse:** “I will always love you.” Jeremiah 31:3, CEV

**Key Question:** Who loves you?

**Bottom Line:** God loves me.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others and love life.

### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This month is all about introducing preschoolers to God—the One who loves them with a love that lasts forever. When it comes to preschoolers and what they know about God, there are a few faith skills we want to make sure they have in their little red wagon. We want every child to know that they can hear from God, pray to God, talk about God to others, and live for God. We hope they will pull these faith skills around, wherever they go, for the rest of their lives. Then they can go with confidence because they have the faith skills needed for whatever comes their way.

Story Focus: I can live for God. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego have a choice to make. Are they going to live for the king and do what the king says OR are they going to live for God and do what God says?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego choose to live for God. They know that no matter what happens, God loves them. We can choose to live for God, too, because God loves me, and God loves you!

#### Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

#### Morning Flow



## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

**(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)**

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

### OPENING ACTIVITY

**(No Supplies)**

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN

**(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)**

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

### SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

**(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)**

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (Kids respond.) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (List rules while counting on fingers)

1. Be kind. We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. Be safe. We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. Have fun! We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

"Can everybody follow those rules today? (Kids respond.) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn

about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let's say them all together! Are you ready?

1. I am made by God. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? (Kids repeat.)

"It's time for our memory verse. Let's watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!"

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

"I (point up)  
will always (draw circles with finger pointing up)  
love you,' (cross arms over chest)  
Jeremiah 31:3." (Open hands like a book).

"Ok, Now let's sing and worship God!"

## **WORSHIP**

**(VIDEO: YOU ARE WITH ME, WHOLE LOTTA BIT)**

Sing the worship songs together.

## **INTRO SKETCH**

**(Prop - "Heart Cross" Printable, Story Box)**

LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room.  
You should have a HEART for Week 4.

"I have my story box ready. I'm SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let's see what I have in here..."

Pull out the HEART.

Hold up the heart. Do you know what this is? (Pause for responses). Yes, it's a heart! What is on our heart? (Pause for responses). Yes, it's a cross! When you see a cross who do you think of or remember? (Pause for responses). Yes, Jesus! It reminds us of how much God love us! Today in our story we are going to hear about three people who had to make a choice to follow and live for the King or to follow and live for God.

Let's watch our Bible story to see what choice they made.

## **WATCH THE BIBLE STORY**

**(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)**

"That was a great story? Do you remember the names of the people in our story? (Pause for responses). They are big names. Can you say them with me? Shadrach...Shadrach.

Meshach...Meshach. And Abednego...Abednego. Did they follow the king, or did they follow God? (Pause for responses). Yes, they followed God and God kept them safe. They knew that God loved them no matter what and God loves you too! 'Who loves you?', [Bottom Line] 'God loves me!' One more time, Who loves you? [Bottom Line] 'God loves me!'

## **SAY THE BASIC TRUTH**

**(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)**

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others and love life. We can love life by choosing to live for God because he loves me, and he loves you!'

## **PRAY**

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"Dear God, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose to live their lives for You. Please help me live my life for You too. I'm so thankful that You love me. I love You too, God! In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

## **PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP**

## SMALL GROUP

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## EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD

(“World Map” Activity Pages Assembled – 1 per group, Beanbag – 1 per group)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the flat world map on the floor of your activity area. Gather the children around the map on the floor.

During the Activity: Point out where you live on the map. Let the children take turns tossing the beanbag onto the map. Name the place where it lands and talk about how you can live for God and love Him in that place. Repeat until every child has a turn.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come gather here around our map! This is a map of the whole world!”

During the Activity: “We live right here. (Point to the map.) When it’s your turn, I want you to toss the beanbag onto the map! I’ll name the place where it lands. [Child’s name], you go first. (Pause.) You landed on [location]! You can live for God in [location]! Great job! (Continue with each child.)”

After the Activity: “Wherever you go in the world, you can live for God! Wherever you go in the world, you can hear from God! Wherever you go in the world, you can pray to God! Wherever you go in the world, you can talk to others about God! And wherever you go in the world, you can LIVE for God! Because God loves you and [Bottom Line] God loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!”

## PARACHUTE LOVE

(Parachute, Globe Beach Ball)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the parachute out in an open area and place the beach ball in the center. Ask children to join you around the parachute.

During the Activity: Encourage children to grab a handle or side of the parachute and start with small motions that get bigger until the globe ball bounces off. Hold the parachute still and call one child to collect the ball and return it to the parachute. While they are getting the ball, say, “God

loves [child's name]!" Continue with each child and repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! Come join me over here by this super-fun parachute! Look, there is a ball that looks like the world on top!"

During the Activity: "Let's all grab a side. Bounce the parachute slowly and gently. (Pause.) See how the ball moves? Now bounce it really fast! (Pause.) Whoa! The ball bounced right off! Everyone, freeze! Hold the parachute really still. [Child's name], will you go get the ball and put it back on the parachute? (Pause.) God loves you. God loves me. God loves [child's name]! Let's play again! (Repeat as many times as desired.) That was so much fun!"

After the Activity: "God loves me, and God loves you! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me! That's right! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!"

## MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

**(Memory Verse Motions Poster - 1 per group)**

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

"I (point up)  
will always (draw circles with finger pointing up)  
love you,' (cross arms over chest)  
Jeremiah 31:3." (Open hands like a book).

## PRAY

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"Dear God, thank You for sending an angel to protect Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. You did that because you love them, and you love me too! I love you too, God. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

## COLORING SHEET - EXTRA TIME

**(Coloring Sheet - 1 per kid)**

If you have extra time, have kids color until parent pick up.

## CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

**(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)**

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.