



LET'S FLY | WEEK 1 | OCTOBER 6, 2024

Preschool Lesson

Daniel and the Lions

Bible Story: *Daniel and the Lions* • God is always with me • *Daniel 6:1-23*

Memory Verse: "God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9, NLT

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

If you've ever been near a playground when an airplane flies by, you know the sound of the airplane is quickly followed by the sound of kids shouting with excitement! Their innate sense of wonder is immediately turned up as they ask questions like: Where do you think that plane is going? How big is that plane? How can it fly so high in the sky?

Today, our preschoolers will go to places like school, daycare, church, and grandparents' houses. We know God has plans for each of them, and as they grow, they will go to even more places that might be even further away. We want to make sure that wherever they go, they can look to God with a trusting heart and say, "Let's fly!" because they know God is always with me.

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

Doors Open 9:15/11:00	Kid Connect 9:35/11:20	Large Group Starts 9:40/11:25	Small Group Starts 10:05/11:50
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Story Focus: God is always with me. Daniel loved God and prayed to God three times a day. But some other people who worked for the king tricked the king into creating a new law that said no one could pray to God. Daniel did what he had always done. He prayed to God. When the people saw Daniel praying to God, they ran and told the king, and the king threw Daniel into the lions' den. But God was with Daniel in the lions' den! God sent an angel to close the lions' mouths. God was always with Daniel, and God is always with you, too!

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.

‘God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*
is with you *(bring two fists together)*
wherever you go,’ *(march in place)*
Joshua 1:9. *(Open hands like a book.)*

“Ok, now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: ALWAYS WITH ME, YOU ARE WITH ME)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Paper Airplane with Words that Highlight Current Week’s Story, Bible and Story Box)

*LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room.
You should have a paper airplane with words that highlight the current week’s story.*

“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 Bible

What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, it’s the Bible! The Bible is God’s word and God’s word is always true. The Bible has many stories that make one BIG story, and we (you and me) are part of that story. Let’s see what else is in our story box today.

Pull out the paper airplane.

What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* YES, it’s an airplane! So cool! Has anyone seen or been on an airplane? Airplanes fly high in the sky and have wings. Let’s stretch our arms out like this *(raise both arms out to the side)* and pretend to be an airplane. Ready? *(Make airplane sound.)*
Nneeaooow! Nneeaooow! That was so FUN! This airplane has a special message. Let me read it to

you. It says, **God is always with me.** This message has something to do with our story today. Are you ready for a story? *(Pause for responses.)* Great!

Let's get our eyes and ears ready! Let's click on our listening ears (tug on each ear, one at a time, as you make a click, click sound), let's put on our looking eyes (bring your hands, one at a time, to your eyes like binoculars as you say shook, shook) and let's put our hands that have been move and praising Jesus quietly in our laps.

Now we are ready. Let's watch today's true Bible story."

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"Wow! That was an amazing story! God was with Daniel and God is with us too. Is He with us in the morning? *(Pause for responses.)* YES! Is He with us at night? *(Pause for responses.)* YES! What about when we are eating or playing? *(Pause for responses.)* YES! God always with us.

When I ask, 'Who is always with you' I want you to say, *[Bottom Line]* 'God is always with me!' Are you ready? *(Pause for responses.)* 'Who is always with you?' *[Bottom Line]* 'God is always with me.' YES! *[Bottom Line]* God is always with 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 trust God to guide me. We can pray and talk to God anytime and anywhere because God is with us always.

PRAY

"Let's get our hands ready to pray. *Open them close them, open them close them, give a little clap. Open them, close them, open them, close them, fold them in your lap.*

God, thank you for always being with us no matter where we go or what we do. We are so glad to know you were with Daniel and that we can pray to you anywhere just like Daniel did. We love you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *Daniel and the Lions* • God is always with me • *Daniel 6:1-23*

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Key Question: Who is always with you?

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EVERYWHERE, ANYTIME

(“Everywhere, Anytime” Activity Page – one set per group, Painter’s Tape)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Everywhere, Anytime”, one set per Small Group. Tape each picture to the wall in different areas of the room.

During the Activity: Encourage children to pretend to fly like an airplane to each picture. Talk about how God is with us at each “place/time” you fly to.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, friends! Come over here, and let’s visit some different places while we fly like an airplane!”

During the Activity: “Okay, everyone put your arms—I mean wings! — out like this (*extend arms*) and get ready to fly. Our first stop is the morning picture. (*Fly around and stop at the morning picture.*) Is God with us in the morning? Yes, God is with us in the morning. God is always with us. Can we talk and pray to God in the morning? Yes, we can talk and pray to God anytime.

Our next stop is the kitchen. (*Fly around and stop at the picture of the kitchen.*) Great flying! Look, this is where we make food to eat. God is with us when we eat! God is always with us.

Let’s fly to the evening picture. (*Fly around and stop at the evening picture.*) Is God with us in the evening? Yes, God is with us in the evening. God is always with us. Can we talk and pray to God in the evening? Yes, we can talk and pray to God anytime.

Okay, get your wings out, and let’s fly to the place where people sleep. (*Fly around and stop at the picture of the bedroom.*) Great flying! We flew to the bedroom where people sleep. God is with us when we sleep! God is always with us.

Next let’s fly to the afternoon picture. (*Fly around and stop at the afternoon picture.*) Awesome flying! Is God with us in the afternoon? Yes, God is with us in the afternoon. Can we talk and pray to God in the afternoon? Yes, we can talk and pray to God anytime.

Friends, wings out and let’s fly to our last stop—the place where we play outside. (*Fly around and*

stop at the picture of the playground.) Oh, that was such good flying! We made it to the picture of the playground. God is with us when we play at the playground! God is always with us.”

After the Activity: “That was so fun flying to all the different places and times with you today. No matter where you go, God is always with you. **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me!**”

STORY RETELL WITH MOVEMENT

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather children in a circle.

During the Activity: Encourage children to stand up and listen as you retell the story. Every time they hear “Daniel” they will get down on their knees, fold their hands and pray like Daniel. **NOTE:** If you finish the retelling and still have time, continue a 2nd round and have the children pray when they hear “Daniel” *as well as* make the sound of a lion roaring when they hear the word “Lion”.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello, hello, friends! Come stand in the circle with me.”

During the Activity: “I have a fun game for us to play! This game needs everyone to listen very carefully. I’m going to retell our Bible story. When you hear the name “Daniel”, you are going to kneel and pray just like Daniel did in our story. Let’s practice. Our story begins with a man named **Daniel**. Everyone kneel and pray. Excellent. Are you ready? Let’s start.

Our story begins with a man named **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) who loved God and prayed to Him every day. **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) had an important job working for the king. **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) was really good at his job, so the king wanted **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) to be in charge of the whole kingdom! But there were some other workers who didn’t like this and tricked the king into making a law that said **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) could not pray to God anymore. Oh no! What did he do? (*Pause.*) That’s right! **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) continued to pray.

When the king’s other workers saw **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) praying to God, they told the king. Then the king had to do what his law said and throw **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) to the lions. But God was with **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) when he worked for the king. God was with **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) when he prayed. And God was with **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) when he was thrown in with the lions! And because God was always with **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*), God sent an angel to shut the lions’ mouths! God kept **Daniel** (*Pause. Kneel and pray.*) safe!

After the Activity: Great job listening my friends! God was always with Daniel, and God is always with you too! **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with 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.

'God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*
is with you *(bring two fists together)*
wherever you go,' *(march in place)*
Joshua 1:9. *(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.")*

God, thank you for always being with us. You are with us when things are scary, you are with us when we are having fun, and you are with us all the time! Thank you that we can talk to you just like Daniel did. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats and encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.