



# WEEK 4

## PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

**BREAKING NEWS**

### THE BIG IDEA

When I am lost, God guides me.

### THE BIBLE

**Ezekiel:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

#### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Eyewitness Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Follow the Leader
- ACTIVITY** | DIY Sheep

### TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- THE BIG IDEA** | When I am lost, God guides me.
- VIDEO** | Breaking News, Episode 4
- ACTIVITY** | Guide Me
- PRAYER**

### DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Sound Bites
- ACTIVITY** | Guiding Stars
- ACTIVITY** | Send the Sheep Home
- MEMORY VERSE** | | Corinthians 16:13 (NIV)

### PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Cotton Ball Transfer
- ACTIVITY** | Lost and Found



# WEEK 4

## HACKS FOR TODDLERS

**BREAKING**  
**NEWS**

### BY DESIREE BOARD

#### HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

#### **THE BIG IDEA | When I am lost, God guides me.**

Ask an adult volunteer to read the Big Idea and then ask the kids to repeat it.

#### **ACTIVITY | Send the Sheep Home**

Eliminate the time clock and allow the kids ample time to get their sheep to the finish line.

#### **MEMORY VERSE | Picture the Verse**

Give the kids a page with the memory verse. Once they've colored the picture, ask them to repeat the verse after you.

#### **ACTIVITY | Lost and Found**

Encourage the kids to dig through the sandbox to find missing letters or objects. To make it easier, don't give them a worksheet that they need to match those items with.



# WEEK 4

## PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

**BREAKING**  
**NEWS**

### THE BIG IDEA

When I am lost, God guides me.

### THE BIBLE

**Ezekiel:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

## WELCOME TIME

### MUSIC | Eyewitness Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play the song, "[God is Always Working](#)," by KidSpring Children's Ministry and invite the kids to sing and dance along.

### ACTIVITY | Follow the Leader

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell all of the kids to stand up. Play a few rounds of "Follow the Leader." Tell the kids to follow everything you do. If time permits, allow one kid to be the leader for a round.
- Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Today's prophet talks about following our leader. Who is our ultimate leader? Our leader is God! Before our next story, though, let's play a fun game that helps us be good listeners and followers!

### ACTIVITY | DIY Sheep

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a sheep printable, a few cotton balls, and glue dots. Glue dots are less messy, but regular glue will work, too! Tell the kids to place the cotton balls on the sheep.
- Today, we are going to talk about a shepherd taking care of sheep. Let's make a sheep for you to take care of.
- Glue the cotton balls onto the sheep to make it soft and fluffy.
- Now, don't let your sheep get lost!

## TEACHING TIME

### SCRIPTURE | Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Recruit an adult helper to play the part of Ezekiel. Provide a handheld microphone – real or pretend – for the interview portion.
- Today, we're learning about the prophet, Ezekiel, who was from Judah. Ezekiel lived during a time when all of the people of Judah had been sent away to a place called Babylon because they were not honoring God.
- This already sounds like some bad news, but Ezekiel actually has good news! Let's see what he had to say:
  - **You:** Hello, Ezekiel. We know that your people have been away from home for a long time. What does God have to say to them?
  - **Ezekiel:** God wants everyone to know that God will search for the lost and bring back them back. God will heal the hurt and strengthen the weak. God will treat everyone the same.
  - **You:** Wow! Are there a lot of people who are hurt or lost?
  - **Ezekiel:** That's right. During my time, the leaders were not doing their job leading the people well. But God will take care of the people anyway.
  - **You:** That is good news. Anything else?
  - **Ezekiel:** God will come and make things right. No longer will the sheep be pushed around.
  - **You:** What sheep? Can you tell us more about that?
  - **Ezekiel:** We are the sheep. God is our shepherd. God will take care of us like shepherds take care of their sheep.
  - **You:** You heard it first here, everyone. Thank you, Ezekiel, for that good news from God!
- God spoke through Ezekiel, sharing a message of hope.
- Let's think about it like this: God is the shepherd, and the people are God's sheep. Sheep like to wander off, or follow the wrong person by mistake. Ezekiel was saying that God will always find us, and that we will be led to where we need to be.

### THE BIG IDEA | When I am lost, God guides me.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask two kids to run across the front carrying a banner that says, "Breaking News" while you play the sound effects from this [video](#).
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Ask an adult volunteer to read the Big Idea and then ask the kids to repeat it.
- We interrupt these activities to bring you some breaking news. This is [Name of volunteer] with today's Big Idea: **When I am lost, God guides me.**
- Now, back to your original program.

### VIDEO | Breaking News, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).

**ACTIVITY | Guide Me**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the activity starts, ask another leader for help watching the group as you play. Go to one end of the room and put on a blindfold. Tell the kids they are going to help you make it from one end of the room to the other by giving you directions.
- I wonder if you can guide me.
- I am going to put this blindfold on and I want you to work together to tell me how to go to the other side of the room.
- Now remember, you have to keep me safe while you guide me.
- Whew! I'm glad I made it safely to the other side of the room. That was hard, wasn't it? It's a good thing we have God to help us when we are lost.
- **When I am lost, God guides me.**

**PRAYER**

- Dear God, thank you for being our shepherd. We sometimes feel like we've lost our way. When we feel lost, help us to remember that when we are lost, you guide us. Amen.

**DISCUSSION TIME****SNACK | Sound Bites**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As the kids are eating their snack, use a microphone to ask the kids the following questions:
- **Has anyone seen a sheep or pet a sheep before?**
- **Have you ever lost something?**
- **What did you lose?**
- **How did you feel once you found it?**

**ACTIVITY | Guiding Stars**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a Guiding Stars printable. Have the kids crumple one small piece of the yellow tissue paper squares and glue it to a star on the worksheet. It's easier and less messy to put glue on the worksheet and not on the tissue paper. Continue to glue the tissue paper onto the stars until all the stars are covered. Once complete, tell the kids to color their printable.
- Just like the stars help guide people at night, God helps to guide us.
- Remember: **When I am lost, God guides me.**

**ACTIVITY | Send the Sheep Home**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a straw and a cotton ball. Instruct the kids to attempt to guide their sheep by blowing their cotton ball from the start line to a designated finish line. Depending on how far their sheep have to travel, give them a time limit of ten to twenty seconds.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Eliminate the time clock and allow the kids ample time to get their sheep to the finish line.

- Just like we are guiding our lost sheep home, God guides us when we are lost.
- **Don't forget: When I am lost, God guides me.**

### MEMORY VERSE | I Corinthians 16:13 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a page with the memory verse typed or written across the bottom. Provide crayons and instruct the kids to draw a picture to go along with the verse.
- Sometimes, when there is breaking news, there is a picture to show what is going on. Let's pretend our memory verse is breaking news. Draw a picture that you think might show what is happening in our memory verse.
- Our memory verse is, "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give the kids a page with the memory verse. Once they've colored the picture, ask them to repeat the verse after you.

## PLAY TIME

*While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .*

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.

### ACTIVITY | Cotton Ball Transfer

- **INSTRUCTION:** Give the kids a pile of cotton balls and a straw and have them use the straw to transfer the cotton balls to a bowl. Check out [this activity](#) for some ideas.

### ACTIVITY | Lost and Found

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print out both pages of the printable so that there is enough for every kid. Cut out the words in color and hide them in sand. Have kids dig through the sand to find all the missing words and glue it to their paper.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instruct the kids to dig through the sandbox to find missing letters or objects. You could hide pieces of a [wooden puzzle](#) and have them return the pieces to the correct spots.

*Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.*