



WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

God's plans are perfect.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Clears the Temple:

John 2:13-22

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Follow the Blueprints
- ACTIVITY** | Puzzle Mix-Up

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | John 2:13-22
- THE BIG IDEA** | God's plans are perfect!
- VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 1
- STORY** | Follow the Plan
- PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Mixed Up Munchies
- ACTIVITY** | Blueprints for Life
- ACTIVITY** | Build-A-Scene
- MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Follow the Blueprints – Remodel
- ACTIVITY** | Nailed It



WEEK 1

HACKS FOR TODDLERS

BLUEPRINTS

BY ABBY BURG

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.

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

"Blueprint" is a fun word to say. Ask words to repeat "blueprints" after you. After doing this a few times, ask, "What's this month all about?" Tell the toddlers to respond, "Blueprints!"

ACTIVITY | Puzzle Mix-Up

Consider using a [puzzle with large pieces](#) to make this activity more accessible for the younger kids. If you already have a puzzle in your ministry area that the toddlers have played with before, consider using it as increased familiarity can help the activity run even more smoothly. Instead of referring to the picture on the front of the box as the activity directs, you can talk about the shapes or pictures on the board that help you see where the puzzle pieces should go.

STORY | Follow the Plan

Consider a tangible and somewhat goofy example using the construction worker costume, like putting a hardhat on backwards or trying to wear a reflective vest like pants. This will not only create some giggles, but make your example visible and concrete to help get the main point across more effectively.

ACTIVITY | Blueprints For Life

If you can find stickers that will work for this activity, consider having the kids add the stickers to the appropriate drawing (e.g., A broom sticker on the house to represent helping to clean, a music note sticker on the church to represent singing to Jesus, a book to represent story time at school or daycare).



WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

God's plans are perfect.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Clears the Temple:

John 2:13-22

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- This month is all about blueprints. I don't mean your blue handprints from art class or blue paw prints a puppy would leave after walking around in blue paint. Blueprints are another word for "plans." The kind that builders look at to make, well, buildings. That's the kind of blueprints we're talking about! And God has a plan – or a blueprint – for our lives.
- Let's sing this song as a reminder that we can trust God's plans for us no matter what!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead kids into a fun time of praise! Pick one song to be your theme song for the month, such as "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)" or "[I Know the Plans](#)."

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** "Blueprint" is a fun word to say. Try saying "blueprints" and have the younger kids repeat the word after you. After doing this a few times, ask, "What's this month all about?" Tell the toddlers to respond, "Blueprints!"

ACTIVITY | Follow the Blueprints

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before your group meets, make a few simple structures out of blocks and take pictures of it. ([Duplo blocks](#) are ideal, but any type of building blocks will work). Display each picture on a screen and invite kids to try making the structure shown. Tell the kids exactly how many pieces they are going to need to replicate each picture. Alternatively, you can take pictures of the individual blocks you used (dismantled) and verbally tell kids to make an object (e.g., house, cube, stairs, etc.).
- Before we got started on our towers, I gave you the "blueprint" or the "plan" to follow by telling you what blocks you will need to make each structure. Following a plan is a good idea – especially if the plan comes from God!

ACTIVITY | Puzzle Mix-Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the group a puzzle you've brought. It should be an age-appropriate puzzle with fewer than forty pieces. Mix up the puzzle pieces and ask the kids to help you put it back together. Keep the picture on the front of the box visible to the group while they put it together.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Consider using a [puzzle with large pieces](#) to make this activity more accessible for the younger kids. If you already have a puzzle in your ministry area that the toddlers have played with before, consider using it as increased familiarity can help the activity run even more smoothly. Instead of referring to the picture on the front of the box as the script below directs, you can talk about the shapes or pictures on the board that help you see where the puzzle pieces should go.
- Sometimes, when we look at a bunch of puzzle pieces all jumbled in a pile, it's hard to tell what it will look like when it's finally all together. But when we look at the box, we can see the bigger picture and learn where the pieces should go.
- **Do you think it would be easy or hard to put together the puzzle without being able to see the picture on the front of the box?**
- We'll learn today that God shows us the bigger picture of God's plans for us, too.

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | John 2:13-22

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Open a Bible and explain to the kids that there are two words to listen for in today's story: "God" and "plan." Whenever you say, "God," everyone should point up to the sky. Whenever you say, "plan," everyone should hold their hands out together in front of themselves with their palms up so their hands look like an open book.
- In the Bible in the book of John, we read about a time when many people traveled a long way to celebrate a holiday called the Passover.
- The Passover is a time **God's** people remembered their time in Egypt, where they had lived and not been treated very well and weren't allowed to leave. They celebrated how **God** had a **plan** and led them out of Egypt.
- So, Jesus came to Jerusalem for Passover and went to remember **God's plan** and celebrate in the temple.
- Jesus saw things going on in the temple that weren't a part of **God's plan**. This made Jesus so upset that Jesus flipped over the tables in the temple and told the people to leave.
- The people wondered what was going on and why Jesus did that. So, Jesus told them about the **plans God** had, **plans** that were bigger than the ones they had been making. Jesus told them **God** had something in store that was even better than the temple!
- This was very confusing to everyone because the temple was very big and very special to the people.
- What they didn't know was **God** had an even better **plan**. The people thought the temple was the best, but **God** wanted them to know that Jesus was even better than the temple. One day, Jesus was going to die but, after three days, come back to life!

- What Jesus said came true! After Jesus came back to life, the disciples would remember what Jesus had said that day at the temple and come to believe in **God's plan!** **God** had a **plan** all along!

THE BIG IDEA | God's plans are perfect!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print or write the Big Idea on a piece of [blueprint paper](#). Roll the paper up and put it in a blueprint tube like [this](#). Ask a volunteer to be this week's construction worker, giving them a [hard hat](#), a [safety vest](#), and [safety glasses](#). Ask one of the kids to come up to the front to open the tube and take the paper out to reveal the Big Idea. Point to each word on the paper as you say it aloud, adding in the motions below.*
- This week's Big Idea is: **God's plans are perfect!**
- Try it out with me!
 - **God's** (*Point up to the sky.*)
 - **plans** (*Hold your hands out together in front of you with your palms up so your hands look like an open book.*)
 - **are perfect!** (*Give two thumbs up.*)

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 1

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

STORY | Follow the Plan

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask the volunteer dressed as the construction worker to share a time when they were given instructions or plans. Tell them to share what happened when they followed those plans and what happened when they didn't.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Consider a tangible and somewhat goofy example using the construction worker costume, like putting a hardhat on backwards or trying to wear a reflective vest like pants. This will not only create some giggles, but making your example visible and concrete to help get the main point across more effectively.*
- We've all been given plans to follow at some point in our lives. It's important to follow them! Especially when we don't know what might happen next. Remember, **God's plans are perfect.**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for showing us your plans through the words you gave us. We trust your plans are perfect and that they will give us hope even when things aren't going well. Help us to follow your plans! Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Mixed Up Munchies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide each kid with a plate of multi-colored snacks with a hole in the middle (e.g. [Froot Loops](#)). Give them a length of string (enough to make a necklace), with one end taped to the plate. Have kids add one item on at a time according to the color you call out. After you string a good amount, help kids tie it around their neck and they can munch on their [new necklace!](#)
- Sometimes, things can feel all mixed up in our lives, just like these snacks. But remember, **God's plans are perfect!** And God wrote them down in the Bible for us. Even when life feels all mixed up, you can trust God's plans written in the Bible to help you.

ACTIVITY | Blueprints for Life

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On three separate large pieces of paper, draw a house, a school, and a church with markers. Working together as a group, have kids write or draw "blueprints" for things that God might want them to do this week in each place (e.g., On the picture of the house, you might write, "Help my mom with the dishes." On the picture of church, you might write, "Sing worship songs.")
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** If you can find stickers that will work for this activity, consider having the kids add the stickers to the appropriate drawing (e.g. A broom sticker on the house to represent helping to clean, a music note sticker on the church to represent singing to Jesus, a book to represent story time at school or daycare).
- **What are some things the Bible tells us we should do?**
- **Is it easy or hard to follow God's instructions?**
- **What will you do this week to follow these blueprints in your life?**
- When we do these things based on what God wants us to do, it will help us to follow God's plans for us. **God's plans are perfect.**

ACTIVITY | Build-A-Scene

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Think of a scene that your group can build together (e.g. a barnyard scene, Noah's ark, or a playground). Tell the kids you're going to create the scene with Play-Doh and make a plan. Think about things like what you'd like to include and who will build each part.
- Before we built this scene together, we had to make a plan. God has plans for us, too. **God's plans are perfect.**
- **Where can you find God's plans?**
- **How can we know God's plans are perfect?**
- **Who is someone you can talk to if you're not sure what God's plans are?**

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write out the memory verse on a large piece of paper or project it on a screen. Write one word of the memory verse on the side of the LEGO Duplo blocks from earlier using masking tape. Instruct the kids to work together to try to "build" the memory verse in the correct order.

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 | Follow the Blueprints – Remodel

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print out a variety of LEGO Duplo [instructions](#) or use the ones that came with your LEGO set. Laminate each set of instructions. Provide a pile of LEGO Duplo blocks and allow kids to practice building by following their blueprint.

ACTIVITY | Nailed It

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write the word "PLAN" on styrofoam blocks in dotted lettering. Have kids "hammer" in golf tees on each of the dots using toy hammers. Have them read the word aloud when they are done, and see if they can remember the Big Idea.

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