



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

LEGACY

THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.

THE BIBLE

Life in the Spirit: Romans 8:12-17

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Time Travel Tunes
- ACTIVITY** | Family Legacy
- ACTIVITY** | Family Trivia

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Romans 8:12-17
- THE BIG IDEA** | The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.
- VIDEO** | Legacy, Episode 5
- ACTIVITY** | Families Forgive
- PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Divine Design
- ACTIVITY** | Birth Certificate
- ACTIVITY** | Join My Family!
- MEMORY VERSE** | Romans 8:14 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Pieces of the Family
- ACTIVITY** | Time Travel Play



WEEK 5

HACKS FOR TODDLERS

LEGACY

BY CATHERINE HWANG-JIN

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 | Time Travel Tunes

Invite the kids to bring their favorite stuffed animal, doll, or action figure from home, or have some available for kids to play with. During the chorus, encourage the kids to hug their stuffed animals, dolls, or action figure tightly.

ACTIVITY | Family Trivia

Change all the questions to whether or not they think this is a good rule (e.g., Should chewing gum be against the rules? Should it be against the rules to drive a dirty car?).

ACTIVITY | Birth Certificate

Help kids stamp their name on their certificates using [alphabet stamps](#).

ACTIVITY | Pieces of the Family

Give kids action figures, a dollhouse, or play sets [like this](#) to create and play a make-believe family.



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

LEGACY

THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.

THE BIBLE

Life in the Spirit: Romans 8:12-17

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Time Travel Tunes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sing and dance along to some fun songs during your worship time. Along with your kids' favorite songs, consider adding "[God's Family](#)" (LifeKids) to your playlist. During the part, "family," tell the kids to hold hands or get closer and give each other a side hug.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Invite the kids to bring their favorite stuffed animal, doll, or action figure from home, or have some available for kids to play with. During the chorus, encourage the kids to hug their stuffed animals, dolls, or action figure tightly.

ACTIVITY | Family Legacy

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids hold hands and walk around in a circle. Play a fun, upbeat song. Pause it at random to call out a number between one and ten and have kids group themselves into that many people (adult leaders may be needed to help the kids count). Tell the kids they are forming a family with their group. Encourage them to quickly say each other's names before getting back into the big circle. There is no "out," so anyone not included in the last round can still play.
- We are in our last week of this series, where we've been talking all about God's helper, the Holy Spirit. We've talked about how the Holy Spirit helps us do a lot of things, from being brave to loving everyone! When we have the Holy Spirit with us, it connects us all together!

ACTIVITY | Family Trivia

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help the kids vote as a "church family" and guess what the laws of different countries and cities are. Instruct them to give a thumbs up if they think the statement is true, and a thumbs down if they think it's false.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Change all the questions to whether or not they think this is a good rule (e.g., Should chewing gum be against the rules? Should it be against the rules to drive a dirty car?).*

- Families have different ways and rules of being together around the world! Give me a thumbs up if you think what I'm saying is a real rule, and a thumbs down if you think it's made up!
- **In Switzerland, people are not allowed to flush the toilet after 10 p.m.** *(Thumbs down.)*
- **In Georgia, there is a law that says people can't eat fried chicken with anything other than their hands.** *(Thumbs up.)*
- **Chewing gum is against the rules in Singapore and has been since 1992.** *(Thumbs up.)*
- **It's against the rules to feed pigeons in the city of San Francisco.** *(Thumbs up.)*
- **Kids cannot eat ice cream in front of their parents in Montgomery, Missouri.** *(Thumbs down.)*
- **It is illegal to drive a dirty car in Russia.** *(Thumbs up.)*
- Different places have different rules to live by. It doesn't make them wrong, it just makes them different!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Romans 8:12-17

- So, we know every place we go usually has their own set of rules. Maybe you have even seen it when you've been to a friend's house – you find out they have their own set of family rules that might be different from your family.
- Wait . . . hold on. What's going on with the time machine? It says I have one trip left! Okay we better make it count. When I bring our special guest from the past, make sure you say "hello" very loud!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Point the arrow on the "time machine" to "5" and play this [sound effect](#). Go inside your time machine and put on costume pieces and props to match the character of Paul. Step out of the time machine as Paul, startled as the kids yell, "Hello!"*
- Oh! Hello! Am I in the right place? This stranger named [Your name] told me that they were going to take me to the future. Is this the future?
- **Can you tell me something cool about living here in the future?**
- **How do you send a message to people in the future?**
- Wow, the future sounds wonderful. Back where I'm from, it takes a very long time to send a message. That's what I was doing right before I came here. I was writing a letter to some of my friends. **Want to hear what I wrote?**
- *[Read Romans 8:12-17.]*
- I am writing this letter because I just wanted to remind my friends that because we are all members of God's family, we need to live that way.
- All humans have this thing called sin that makes us want to do things we shouldn't. That doesn't mean we're bad people . . . but we have to learn how to be strong and not give in to sin.
 - That means that sometimes, no matter how hard we try not to, we sometimes disobey God. But guess what? I have some great news!

- God sent Jesus to Earth to save us all from the things we do that we aren't supposed to do. And because of that, we are forgiven for all of our mistakes!
- And because we have the Holy Spirit, we have been invited to a new family, God's family, with family rules that help us love, forgive, be patient, put others first, and have joy in times of trouble!
- I have to go now, but I'm so glad we are in the same family! Bye fam! *[Go back into time machine.]*

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.

- I really like that guy, Paul. I think he's going to do awesome things for God. Hey! Check out what I found in Corinth!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Record someone (dressed like they're from a different time period/decade) saying the Big Idea. Open [the time capsule](#) and pull out an old DVD or VCR tape. Pretend to insert it into a player. Then play the actual Big Idea video you made.
- **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.**

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 5

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

ACTIVITY | Families Forgive

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into pairs. Go outside with chalk and encourage the kids to trace each other's bodies on the sidewalk or pavement (if indoors, use pieces of painter's tape). Encourage the kids to share with each other some bad choices they made recently. Get a water hose and spray away the chalk (or rip off the tape).
- The Holy Spirit lets us know when we do something wrong and need to ask God to forgive us. Then God does! God washes away our sins like the water washed away the chalk (or we took out the tape from the floor).
- God does this for us because we are in God's family. **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family!**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for the legacy you gave to us . . . the Holy Spirit. Thank you for making us a part of your family. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for showing us how to live like members of God's family. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Divine Design

- All month long, our series has been called, "Legacy." The Holy Spirit is the legacy that Jesus gives us.
- Not only that, but God has given us people — parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, teachers, and other people who show us how to be God's child.

- Let's show how thankful we are for those people by making our cookies look like one of them!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lay out large sheets of either homemade or pre-cut gingerbread-shaped cookies. Allow the kids to decorate the cookies with icing, sprinkles, etc.

ACTIVITY | Birth Certificate

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a Birth Certificate printable and a pencil. Help kids fill in their name in the space provided. Then allow them to go around and write their name on other people's certificates where it says "witness," or give them stickers they can stick on instead. You could also have leaders sign the certificate instead.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Help kids stamp their name on their certificates using [alphabet stamps](#).
- **Do you know your birthday?** Whenever a baby is born, they get a birth certificate. A birth certificate tells someone's name and what family they belong to.
- We are going to make our own birth certificates to show we are a part of God's family!

ACTIVITY | Join My Family!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a spirit of invitation in your group by filming each child inviting their friends or family to church. Share these videos with their parents to forward to whoever they like! Throw confetti or give them balloons to hold while recording. (We recommend asking for parents permission before making the videos.)
- **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family**, and we want to make sure everyone knows that!
- Let's make a video invite telling people to join our family! We can practice what we're going to say together.
 - Hi, I'm . . . **say your name.**
 - I love being in God's family because . . . **say a reason.**
 - Join my family!

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 8:14 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give kids a copy of the Memory Verse printable and have them color in the words in the order of the memory verse. Call out the words or write out the words on pieces of paper to show and help them find the correct words.

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. You could use [metallic crayons](#) to stay on theme!

ACTIVITY | Pieces of the Family

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a jigsaw puzzle to work on together. They can work on it as a large group or divide the kids into small groups to work on separate puzzles.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give kids action figures, a dollhouse, or play sets [like this](#) to create and play a make-believe family.
- If we are missing one piece in a puzzle, the puzzle is not complete!
- The same thing happens in God's family. Every one of us are needed in God's family!

ACTIVITY | Time Travel Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have some props and costumes available for the kids to play with and retell the story in their own way.

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