

WEEK 4 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

FAMOUS

THE BIG IDEA

When we are thankful, we can give God what we have.

THE BIBLE

Solomon Builds the Temple:

I Kings 6:11-14; 8:22-30

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Spotlight Songs

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Love Each Other" (Kidsping)
 - "You are My God" (Kidsping)
 - "My Best Friend" (Hillsong Kids)
 - "Follow" (Lifeway Kids)
 - "God Loves Me Specially" (Orange Music)

ACTIVITY | Paparazzi Photos

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide a box of costumes and props (you can reuse items from the Celebrity Costumes activity in week two). Take pictures of each kid and allow them to decorate a frame for their picture. For a more budget-friendly option, you can take pictures on your phone or a camera, then print them out using a photo printer, or print them out during the week and distribute them next week, or send digital copies to parents and caregivers. Famous people have their pictures taken all the time! The people who take their pictures are called, "paparazzi."
- Cameras didn't exist back when the Bible was written, but if they did, today's Bible character probably would have been photographed a lot. He was a king, after all.
- Let's take some fun photos together!

ACTIVITY | Thank You and Goodnight

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the group to stand. When they hear a situation they've been in, have them bow, say "Thank you and goodnight," then sit down. Keep going until everyone is seated.
- There are many moments every day when we can be thankful. If you hear something that happened to you this week, say, "Thank you and goodnight!" Then, have a seat.
- **At any point this past week, has anyone . . .**
 - **said something nice about you?**
 - **helped you look for something you lost?**
 - **helped you make something?**
 - **helped you clean up?**
 - **made you feel better when you were sad?**
 - **made you something to eat?**
- These are all wonderful reasons to be thankful! Let's find out more about King Solomon and what he did when he was thankful.

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Solomon Builds the Temple

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Share the Bible story from *1 Kings 6:11-14; 8:22-30*. You can also show this [video](#) in addition to the Bible story, looking up the story in a preschool Bible or using a storybook version, [like this](#). Print or project a picture of a [temple](#) to share with the group when you mention the temple.
- Last time, we heard about how King Solomon asked God for something. **What was it?**
 - He asked God for wisdom so he could always make the right choices.
 - God gave Solomon the wisdom he asked for and so many treasures, too. Solomon became super rich!
- Solomon wanted to thank God for all these wonderful things. So, when God told Solomon to make a temple, which is another word for a place to worship, Solomon worked really hard to make it extra beautiful.
- Every time I say the word "temple," let's put our hands together over our heads to make a roof.
 - Solomon's temple isn't around today, but it might have looked something like this! *[Show the picture of a temple.]*
 - The temple was made out of so many different kinds of materials and precious gems. Solomon wanted God's temple to be perfect!
- When it was finished, Solomon prayed for the temple in front of everyone. Anyone who heard Solomon pray knew just how much Solomon loved God and how thankful he was to God.

BIG IDEA | When we are thankful, we can give God what we have.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write the Big Idea and place it inside a [gold envelope](#), sealing it with a gold foil seal and red ribbon ([like this](#)). Invite a volunteer to present the "award." Once the Big Idea is read aloud, play [awards music](#) and encourage the kids to applaud.
- And the winner for today's Big Idea is . . . **When we are thankful, we can give God what we have!**

VIDEO | Famous, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

ACTIVITY | Build a Temple

- Just like Solomon built a temple, let's build our own large temple as a group. You will have to use all the pieces in your bag to make this temple!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a small bag filled with a combination of wooden blocks, cardboard blocks, Lincoln logs, foam blocks, LEGO bricks, and other building blocks. Then, encourage the kids to work together to build one big temple, using each of the pieces they have in their bag.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Pass each toddler a block and help them stack them to make a temple.*
- It might not have been easy to make a large temple with only your bag, but when we worked together, we were able to make something really cool!
- We might not have a lot to give to God, but we can always give God our time, our attention, and our hearts. Even though it might not seem like much, when we give those to God, God can do something big and wonderful with what we give.
- We should always remember to thank God for everything because **when we are thankful, we can give God what we have.**

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask the kids to share something they are thankful for. Have them go in a circle and say, "Thank you, God, for ____." Then, close with the prayer below.*
- Dear God, sometimes we spend more time complaining than being thankful. But thank you for loving us and giving us everything we need. Help us show you our thanks by giving you what we have – our time, our attention, and our hearts! Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Tasty Temples

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out a paper plate to each kid. Give each kid cheese cubes and toothpicks. Assist them in assembling them to build a tower. Alternatively, have them build a 2-D temple flat on their plates. Cut some cubes in half and provide triangular pieces as well.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Have toddlers build with cheese blocks without the toothpicks.*
- **Who was in our Bible story today?** Yes, we heard a story about King Solomon.
- **What did Solomon build in our story today?** He built a temple.
- **Why did Solomon build the temple?** That's right, he built a temple to give thanks to God!

ACTIVITY | Thank You Temple

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write one letter from "THANK YOU" on eight [adhesive index cards](#), then stick them on the side of eight of the large [cardboard blocks](#) from earlier. Have the kids try one at a time stacking the blocks in the correct order to spell, "Thank you."*

- **When Solomon finished building the temple, what did he do?**
- He prayed and said, "Thank you" to God! Solomon was thankful that God was always with him, showed him what to do, and gave him more than what he asked for!
- **How do you spell "Thank you?"** Let's practice together by making a Thank You temple!

ACTIVITY | Give It To God

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Seat the kids in a circle and give each kid a plastic cup. Have them pass their cup to the next person by stacking it inside that person's cup. Then, have that kid pass both cups to the next person until the last person ends up with a large stack of everyone's cups. Continue until everyone has had a chance to be the last person.*
- Because Solomon was so thankful, he gave everything he could from his kingdom to build a beautiful temple for God.
- **When we are thankful, we can give God what we have, too.**
- Name something you can give to God, then pass your cup to the next person. Watch what happens when you give what you have . . . it grows! God can make something big happen out of something small we give!

MEMORY VERSE | I Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Review the memory verse using the song and the motions you learned in previous weeks. Then, set up a memory verse "Walk of Fame" (from last week) using the printables, staggering them across the floor in two columns [like this](#). This week, however, put the stars out of order.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *For pre-readers and toddlers, set it up in order like last week and walk with them. Have them repeat the memory verse after you.*
- This month's memory verse is: **"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."**
- Remember this "Walk of Fame," from last week? But wait, something is different! It looks like the words are out of order! I am going to call out the memory verse and you have to find the right word!

PLAY TIME

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

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse!*

ACTIVITY | Toaster Treat Temples

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have a volunteer stationed with the toaster pastries, assorted candies, icing, and trays. Check out [these instructions](#) on how you can make a "temple" using these materials!*

ACTIVITY | Magna Temple

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids make their own temple or church using magnetic tiles. Encourage the kids to practice saying "thank you" to each other as they share the tiles.*

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