



WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

YOU'RE
INVITED

BIG IDEA

We can worship God by living for Him.

THE BIBLE

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax

Collector: Luke 18:9-14

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Make a Party Hat
- **ACTIVITY** | Batting Bows

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **BIBLE STORY** | Luke 18:9-14
- **ACTIVITY** | What's Inside?
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Serving Others
- **MEMORY VERSE** | John 1:1

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Party Games
- **ACTIVITY** | Don't Touch the Ground



WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

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BIG IDEA

We can worship God by living for Him.

THE BIBLE

The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax

Collector: Luke 18:9-14

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Make a Party Hat

- This month, we're talking about a party that Jesus invites us to! We're learning what it means to worship God because worshiping God is a party we're all invited to.
- Who's ready to party?! To get in the mood, let's make our own party hats.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Party Hat printable from your Week 2 folder or use plain store-bought party hats. Help the kids bend the paper hats into a cone shape and tape or staple them together. Use a hole punch to punch two holes at the bottom across from each other, then tie rick rack trim or elastic trim to the holes. They can use stickers, markers, and pom-poms to decorate their hats.*
- **What's one reason you can celebrate today?**

ACTIVITY | Batting Bows

- If you were here last week, you know we had a party. We're going to keep the party going today. We're celebrating God, because He is good!
- I love to give gifts at parties. It's fun to pick out a perfect gift for someone! Today we're going to play a game with some things you use to wrap those special gifts.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split the kids into pairs and give each pair an empty gift box (or you can use empty paper towel tubes or gift wrap tubes) and a small handful of bows. Tell them to stand a few feet apart and one partner will hold the gift box or tube. The other partner will "pitch" the bows to them and they will try to bat the bows, like they're playing baseball.*
- **What's the coolest gift you've ever given someone? Why was it so special?**
- Today, we're going to talk about a gift we can give to God.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can select any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Super Wonderful" by Yancy and, "Life With Jesus" by Hillsong Kids, Jr.

THE BIG IDEA | We can worship God by living for Him.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
 - Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
 - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
 - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
 - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, read it to the kids.
- This week's Big Idea: **We can worship God by living for Him.**

BIBLE STORY | Luke 18:9-14

- Sometimes Jesus liked to teach things by telling a story. In our Bible story today, Jesus did just that. It's about one person who did the right thing, and one person didn't. Let's see if you can figure out which one is which.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- **Who did Jesus say was the good guy in our story?** The second man, the tax collector.
- **Why did Jesus say he was good?** Because he was being honest and humble: he said he had made some bad choices, but instead of trying to hide them, he came to God and asked for forgiveness. Tax collectors were known for cheating people and making bad choices. The other man was a Pharisee, a religious leader.
- **What did the Pharisee do?** He acted like he was better than everyone else.
- Sometimes we try to impress other people or act like we are better than others. We try to pretend like we didn't do anything wrong (even when we know we did) and maybe even lie about what we did, but God wants us to be honest.
- When we pretend we are better than we are, like the Pharisee did, we aren't living for God. But when we are honest, we are living for God.
- That's one way we can worship God! **We can worship Him by living for Him.**

ACTIVITY | What's Inside?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Gather two gift boxes or gift bags (they should be exactly the same and pretty). In one bag, put something nice (a cupcake, candy, a prize), and in the other bag, put something yucky (a piece of broccoli, a fake bug, a dirty sock).
- Today I have two gifts for us – aren't they beautiful? I need some helpers to open them!
- **What's inside your packages? Are they the same inside?** No? But the outside was the same!
- One gift was beautiful on the outside and yucky on the inside. **Would you want to get that gift?**

No!

- Sometimes we can be like this gift. We can try really hard to look good on the outside but have bad things in our hearts, like selfishness or meanness.
- But when we decide to worship God by living for Him, God makes us look more like the good gift – not only is our outside beautiful, but our hearts become more beautiful too!
- **What gifts can we give God?** We can give Him our worship. We can also give Him the gift of being honest about the things we've done wrong so He can help and forgive us.

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank you for how much you love us and for forgiving us when we do things that are wrong. Help us to not worry about what other people think of us, but to live the way you want us to and to love others like you, amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!*
- **What is a Pharisee?** *(A religious leader who thought they were important.)*
- **What did the tax collector do that was wrong?** *(He cheated people.)*
- **Why did Jesus think the tax collector was better than the Pharisee?** *(The Pharisee tried to make it look like he never did anything wrong, but that wasn't true. He made some bad choices too. The tax collector didn't try to hide that he had messed up and he asked for forgiveness.)*
- **Does God want us to be honest?** *(Yes.)*
- **Does God want us to try to impress others or act like we are better than them?** *(No. He wants us to love and be kind to others.)*

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell the kids to sit in a circle and pass around the gift box/bag from the "What's Inside" activity. Let them pass the gift around until you say, "Stop." Whoever is holding the gift will answer a question.*
 - **What does it mean to brag?**
 - **Do you think it's good to brag?**
 - **What can we do instead of brag?**
 - **Do you have the attitude that would make Jesus happy?**
 - **Is it easy or hard for you to put others before yourself?**
 - **What's one gift can you give God today?**

RESPONSE | Serving Others

- One way to live for God is to serve others. The Pharisee in the Bible story today thought he was better than others, but God doesn't want us to think that.

- **How does God want us to think about others?** He wants us to serve them. Let's think about ways we can serve others.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get a large piece of butcher paper or bulletin board paper and ask the kids to think of ways they can serve others. Write them out on the paper and hang it at eye level for the kids.
- **We can worship God by living for Him.** Even you, as preschoolers, can serve others!

MEMORY VERSE | John 1:1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD (make a book with your hands in front of you),
AND THE WORD (spread your hands apart like an open book)
WAS WITH GOD (point both arms up)
AND THE WORD (bring hands back down like an open book)
WAS GOD (bring arms back up and point up again).

PLAY TIME

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

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them that God wants them to live for Him.

ACTIVITY | Party Games

- Let's have some fun together and celebrate a fun time at church learning that **we can worship God by living for Him**. Let's play a game of limbo, like we would at a party!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get two people to hold a pole (or broom stick) parallel with the ground at waist level. Play some music. Have the kids walk under it one at a time, by bending over and trying not to touch the pole. When they all go through, lower it and do it again. If they touch it, they are out. Keep lowering it until you have a winner.

ACTIVITY | Don't Touch the Ground

- Every great party needs balloons! Let's play a game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids some inflated balloons and tell them to work together to keep the balloons from touching the ground.

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