

BIG IDEA

We can worship God out loud

THE BIBLE

The Rocks Cry Out: Luke 19:37-40

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

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- **ACTIVITY** | Rock Painting

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **BIBLE STORY** | Luke 19:37-40
- **ACTIVITY** | Shout Contest
- PRAYER

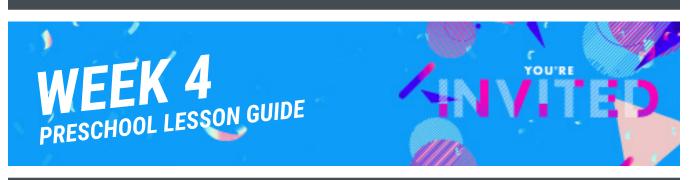
DISCUSSION TIME

- DISCUSSION
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- MEMORY VERSE | John 1:1

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Party Games
- **ACTIVITY** | Rock Sculptures





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WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Party Instruments

- This month, we're talking about parties and celebrating Jesus! We're learning what it means to worship God. Who's ready to party? No party is truly a party until there is music! We're going to make a tambourine for our party!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out some paper plates (thick, strong plates work best), dried beans, markers and a stapler. Have the kids decorate the bottom of two plates. Then put a handful of beans on top of one plate, put the other plate on top and staple all the way around to make an instrument.
- It sounds like a party now! Let's play our tambourines and celebrate God! When we're done, we're going to put them away for something special later.

ACTIVITY | Rock Painting

- Today we're going to hear a story about some rocks! We're going to take these rocks and make them look a little more memorable so that when we see them at home, we'll remember today's Bible story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** To allow time for the rocks to dry some before pick up time, make sure you do this activity early in the service. Write the initials of each kid on the bottom of each rock so you know whose rock is whose. Set up your paint station by covering your table with plastic or paper. Set out some acrylic paint, paint brushes, small cups of water, plates to put paint on and paint smocks (adult t-shirts work great). Then let the kids paint their rocks.
- Wow! These rocks look beautiful! Take your special rock home and put it in a place where you will see it and remember what we talked about today.

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, "At the Top of My Lungs," by Amber Sky Records and, "Ain't No Rock," by Shout Praises Kids. You can let them pull out their tambourines to play during worship.

THE BIG IDEA | can worship God out loud.

- 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 out loud.

BIBLE STORY | Luke 19:37-40

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out some large or interesting looking rocks on a table before you tell the Bible story.
- Do you see these cool rocks? Do they look special? Do you think they can do any tricks? Do you
 think they can sing? Probably not! But let's hear a Bible story about a time when Jesus said some
 rocks might have to start singing.
- INSTRUCTIONS: Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- In this story, Jesus is traveling down the road when a group of people start singing songs about how awesome God is.
- But there were some other people there too who didn't like how loud the others were praising Jesus. They told Jesus to make them stop.
- Do you think Jesus listened to them? No!
- What did Jesus say would sing if the people stopped singing? He said the rocks would sing!
- So He's saying that if the people didn't sing and worship God out loud, the rocks (like these) would start praising Him? Yeah!
- Worship is just us telling God thank you and telling Him how awesome He is. We can worship Him every day!
- When you sing to God in worship you can sing loud! But singing is just one of the ways we can
 worship God. However you worship Him, He wants you to do it with all your heart.

ACTIVITY | Shout Contest

- Does God want us to praise Him with a quiet, sad voice? No! He wants us to praise Him loudly and with excitement!
- In our game today, we're going to see who can shout the loudest. Let's review the Big Idea before
 we start. We can worship God out loud.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids take turns shouting the Big Idea. After each kid has had a turn, ask the kids whose was the loudest.
- Wow! You guys were so loud! Never forget that God wants us to be excited to worship Him!

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer. Today, we're going to tell God how amazing He is.
- Dear God, thank you for being so amazing! Thank you for loving us more than we can even understand. Help us to be bold and sing out our praises to you loud and proud! We love 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!
- Who were the people that were singing to Jesus? (The disciples.)
- Who were the people that wanted the disciples to stop singing? (They were Pharisees, religious people who didn't like people praising Jesus.)
- What did the Pharisees say to Jesus? (They wanted Jesus to make the people stop praising Him.)
- What did Jesus say would happen if they stopped singing? (He said the rocks would cry out.)
- Can you praise God out loud?
- What is something you are grateful for that you can thank God for?

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the rock from the Bible Story time, pass it around the circle. Everyone will say the Big Idea: We can worship God out loud. Whoever is holding the rock when the group finishes saying the Big Idea will tell one thing they can thank God for, but it must be in a loud voice! Continue passing the rock until everyone has had a turn to shout.

ACTIVITY | Praise Party Musical Hula Hoops

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out enough hula hoops for all the kids in your group to fit inside them in groups. Form the hula hoops into a circle on the ground. Play some worship music and encourage the kids to sing and dance to it. Stop the music at random times. When the music stops, they will jump into the nearest hula hoop. Whoever doesn't fit will be out. Keep playing, taking away a hula hoop each round, until you have only one hula hoop. If you don't have hula hoops, you can use string or floor tape to make your own mini circles on the floor.
- As we're playing this game, make sure you sing as loud as you can. We are having a part; a praise party!

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 us to sing praises to Him.

ACTIVITY | Party Games

- Let's have some fun together and celebrate a fun time at church learning We can worship God
 out loud. Let's play a game of Balloon Bust. This is not a quiet game, so it will help us remember
 to worship out loud!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before church, place a small prize inside balloons, then inflate the balloons and tie them off. Let the kids take turns popping their balloons to reveal their prize inside! They can pop their balloon by sitting on them or stomping on them. They may need help.

ACTIVITY | Rock Sculptures

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out rocks in different sizes and shapes. Encourage them to get creative and make something unique out of the rocks. They might create a tower or a person. Sit down and create things alongside them.

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