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BIG IDEA God can do anything. THE BIBLE

The Plagues and the Passover: Exodus 7:14-12:30

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- ACTIVITY | Bucket O' Gnats
- ACTIVITY | Unlock the Box

TEACHING TIME

- MUSIC | Worship Time
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God can do anything.
- BIBLE STORY | Exodus 7:14-12:30
- ACTIVITY | Order the Plagues
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- ACTIVITY | Door Frame Markings
- MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 46:10

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week
- ACTIVITY | Frog Race
- ACTIVITY | Darkness Drawings

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BIG IDEA

God can do anything.

THE BIBLE

The Plagues and the Passover: Exodus 7:14-12:30

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Bucket O' Gnats

- Welcome to church today! It's Week 3 in The Great Escape series and today is going to be great! Are you ready to solve today's puzzle and discover our Big Idea?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before church, prepare a bucket of sand with black sesame seeds. Make sure you have enough sesame seeds to be very visible. Hide various keys inside. Let the kids take turns digging through the bucket of pretend gnats to find the keys. If possible, have one key per child.
- Well, you found a lot of keys, but I wonder what we need them for? Keys are used to unlock things. Let's pretend the keys can help us unlock a box to find our next clue.

ACTIVITY | Unlock the Box

- Oh, here's a box with a lock. I wonder if one of these keys opens it! Maybe that's the next puzzle!
- INSTRUCTIONS: Before church, write the Big Idea on a piece of paper: God can do anything. Place the Big Idea inside a box that locks. If the kids are old enough, use a lock box with a real key and let them try to unlock it using their keys. Pull out the key to the lock box and let them watch as you unlock it and pull out the Big Idea, then read it to them. If they are old enough, they can use their keys to try and unlock the box.
- We found the key and unlocked the box to find our Big Idea! It says, "God can do anything." We're one step closer to escaping Egypt!

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "My God Is So Big" by Go Fish and "Pharaoh, Pharaoh" by Summit Creative Company.

THE BIG IDEA | God can do anything.

- 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 drumroll 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: God can do anything.

BIBLE STORY | Exodus 7:14-12:30

- Last week, we learned about when God told Moses He would use him to set the Israelites free from Egypt.
- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- The Israelites were trapped in Egypt and they needed to escape. But Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, was not going to let them go.
- What did God do to try and change Pharaoh's mind? God sent ten plagues, or bad things, to happen to the Egyptians to try and change Pharaoh's mind.
- What was the first plague? The river turned to blood.
- God used some yucky things to try and change Pharaoh's mind. What were they? Frogs, gnats, and flies. Would you like to live with frogs, gnats, and flies all over the place? It would be very annoying and maybe a little scary!
- What happened to all the Egyptians' animals in the fifth plague? They all died.
- In the sixth plague, what happened to people's skin? They got sores on their skin.
- After all those bad things happened, Pharaoh was still not giving up. He was determined to keep the Israelites as slaves. Then, God sent hail and darkness.
- What did God tell the Israelites to do before the last plague? God told the Israelites to sacrifice an animal and put the blood around the door frame.
- Why do you think God sent the plagues? God wanted the people to see His power and see how much He cared about the Israelites.
- Did Pharaoh see that God can do anything? Yes.
- Just like Pharaoh saw that God can do anything, we can see that through this true story, too. Whatever we face in life, we can know God is bigger. There is nothing God can't do. He can and will do anything. We can be thankful for that!

ACTIVITY | Order the Plagues

- Let's see how much we can remember about our Bible story today. We are going to put these pictures of the ten plagues in order of how they happened in our story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before church, print the Ten Plagues printables (in your Week 3 folder). Have the kids help to put the plagues in order of which they happened. Tape the pictures to the wall or lay them out on the floor. *If the kids are struggling, read from your Bible to help.
- Can you imagine having to live through all of those plagues?

PRAYER

- Let's spend time talking with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank You for this amazing, true story about how great You are. Thank You for being bigger than anything we face and for helping us. 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 was Pharaoh holding captive as slaves? (God's people, the Israelites.)
- Who did God send to talk to Pharaoh? (Moses and Aaron.)
- Did Pharaoh listen to Moses and let God's people go? (No.)
- How many plagues did God send? (Ten.)
- What were some of the plagues? (River turned to blood, gnats, frogs, flies, sores, dead livestock, hail, locusts, darkness, death of firstborn.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids join you in a circle. When you shout out one of the plagues, have them act it out.
 - River to Blood: Use their arms to makes waves like running water
 - Gnats: Buzz and jump around like gnats
 - Frogs: Ribbit and hop like frogs
 - Flies: Buzz and fly like flies
 - Sores: Scratch their arms and legs like they have sores on them
 - Dead livestock: Get on all fours, then fall over to the ground
 - Hail: Pretend something is falling from the sky and hitting them
 - Locusts: Pretend something is flying around their faces bothering them
 - **Darkness**: Turn the lights out
 - Death of firstborn: Fall to the ground

ACTIVITY | Door Frame Markings

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the Door Frame Markings activity page (in your Week 3 folder) onto cardstock. Have the kids color the picture and then paint red on the door post above the door.

- God gave the Israelites a way to protect their families from the death of their firstborn. He gave them clear instructions to sacrifice an animal and put the blood on the doorframe. God made a way for His people to be rescued. He is all powerful! He can help us with anything we need help with.
- Take your picture home to remind you God can do anything!

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 46:10

• **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 . . .

STILL (stand at attention) AND KNOW (point to head) THAT I AM GOD (point upward).

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 God can do anything.

ACTIVITY | Frog Race

- The second plague God sent to Egypt was frogs. Frogs were everywhere! Let's play a game with frogs, but just a few frogs this time.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Mark a line for your finish line. Line the kids up side by side. Give each kid a <u>plastic</u> <u>party favor frog</u>. Show them how to make the frogs hop. Then, have the kids race to see who can get to the finish line first. You could also make a line on the floor and have the kids play leap frog.

ACTIVITY | Darkness Drawings

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Blindfold the kids and instruct them to draw a simple picture, like a sun, smiling face, or rainbow. Remind the kids that the ninth plague was darkness.

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