



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

BIG IDEA

God is with us.

THE BIBLE

Parting of the Red Sea:
Exodus 13:17-22, 14:1-17

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Puzzle Recall
- **ACTIVITY** | Put It Together

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God is with us.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Exodus 13:7-22, 14:1-17
- **ACTIVITY** | Follow the Leader Freeze
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Don't Get Trapped
- **TALK** | RECAP OF THE MONTH
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 46:10

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Red Sea Sensory Bags
- **ACTIVITY** | Balloon Sea



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

BIG IDEA

God is with us.

THE BIBLE

Parting of the Red Sea:
Exodus 13:17-22, 14:1-17

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Puzzle Recall

- Welcome! Today is our last day of *The Great Escape* series. We have completed three levels of challenges. If we can work together and finish this last challenge, we'll finally be able to escape Egypt!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before church, put together a simple puzzle. Using painter's tape, tape two strips all the way across the front of the puzzle. Write this week's Big Idea on the back of the puzzle: God is with us. Remove the tape and take the puzzle apart. Ask kids the questions below from the first three weeks of the series. If they answer correctly, give them a puzzle piece. Tell them not to try to put the puzzle together until you're ready for the next activity. Let the kids help each other come up with the answers from the previous three weeks. For younger kids, you can let them take turns putting the puzzle together without answering questions.*
 - **Who put baby Moses in a basket in the river?** His mom.
 - **Who found Moses in the river?** Pharaoh's daughter.
 - **Who talked to Moses through the burning bush?** God.
 - **What did God tell Moses to do?** Go to Pharaoh and tell him to let God's people go.
 - **Can you name three of the plagues God sent the Egyptians?**
 - **Did Pharaoh finally say he would free the Israelites and let them leave Egypt?** Yes.
 - **Can God help you do great things?** Yes.
 - **Does God send people to help us?** Yes.

ACTIVITY | Put It Together

- You have all the pieces! Now let's put them together to discover our Big Idea and find freedom from Egypt!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Help the kids put the puzzle together. Then use painter's tape to tape two strips across the front of the puzzle. Turn the puzzle over to discover the Big Idea. Read it to the kids.*
- You did it! You discovered the Big Idea and freed us from Egypt! We'll go over it together after we worship.

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, "Our God" by Yancy and, "Great Big God" by Vineyard Kids.*

THE BIG IDEA | God is with us.

- **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 is with us.**

BIBLE STORY | Exodus 13:7-22, 14:1-17

- Last week, we learned about the terrible plagues God sent the Egyptians to get Pharaoh to change his mind and let the Israelites, God's people, go free. It finally worked and Pharaoh said they could go. Let's see what happened next!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.*
- The Israelites were finally escaping from Egypt! But something bad happened: someone started chasing them!
- **Who chased them?** The Egyptians.
- **Why do you think the Egyptians were chasing them? Do you think the Israelites were scared?**
- The Israelites were scared. They even complained and said they shouldn't have left Egypt. But Moses told them God would fight for them and help them. They had to trust Him. They were surrounded by the sea on one side and the Egyptians closing in on them on the other side.
- **What happened when Moses held his hand out over the Red Sea?** The water parted and made a way for the Israelites to walk through safely to the other side.
- **Was God with the Israelites? How do you know?** Yes! Because only God could part the Red Sea.
- The same God who parted the Red Sea is the same God who is with us and loves us.

ACTIVITY | Follow the Leader Freeze

- God was with the Israelites as they left Egypt and He provided them a guide, a cloud in the day and a flame at night. Let's play a game to remember how God was with the Israelites and how God is with us.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before church, make a cloud stick by gluing cotton balls to a large craft stick and a fire stick by gluing yellow, red, and orange tissue paper to another large craft stick. To play the game, lead the children on a trek around the room or even around the church. As you lead, hold up the cloud stick. Every so often, raise the fire stick. When you raise the fire stick, the kids should drop to the floor and pretend to sleep because it's nighttime.*

PRAYER

- Let's spend time talking with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank You for never leaving us. Just like You helped the Israelites escape Egypt, You are with us and help us, too. 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!*
- **Did the Israelites get to leave Egypt?** (Yes.)
- **Did Pharaoh regret his decision to free the Israelites?** (Yes.)
- **How did God guide the Israelites?** (A cloud by day and fire by night.)
- **Why did the Israelites get scared?** (Because the Egyptians came after them to bring them back to Egypt.)
- **How did God make a way for the Israelites to get away from the Egyptians?** (God parted the Red Sea for the Israelites to walk through safely.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids join you in a circle. Give them a piece of blue paper. Tell them to wave them up and down like the waves in the sea, and when you shout, "Freeze!" they should move them to the floor quickly and freeze. You can make it a game with older kids, and tell them the last person to freeze with their blue paper or streamer on the floor will be out. Then, ask them to share a way God can help them this week.*
- God helped the Israelites with a situation that seemed scary and impossible. God is always with us, too, and wants to help us. **What is one way God can help you this week?**

ACTIVITY | Don't Get Trapped

- In our story today, the Israelites got out of the sea safely and escaped the Egyptians, but the Egyptians got trapped by the water. Let's play a game where we try *not* to get trapped by the sea!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Get a parachute or a big blue sheet, and have your leaders raise and lower it over and over as the kids run under it (make sure they don't run into and hurt each other). Then, lower the sheet or parachute and try to "trap" some kids under it as they try to run out.*

TALK | RECAP OF THE MONTH

- We've had a great month discovering how to escape and learning about God's power and love.
- The first week, we learned that **God can send people to help us** when we heard the story of baby Moses in a basket in the river.
- Then we heard the story of Moses and the burning bush and learned that **God can help us do great things.**
- When we heard the story of the plagues and the Passover and learned that **God can do anything.**
- When we heard the story of the parting of the Red Sea and we learned that **God is always with us.**

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 how God was with the Israelites.

ACTIVITY | Red Sea Sensory Bags

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a sandwich-sized plastic baggie. Fill each bag half full of blue hair gel. Add several pieces of fish/ocean confetti and glitter. Close the bag and secure the opening with duct tape. Let them re-enact the parting of the sea. Encourage them to take it home and tell their family all about today's Bible story.

ACTIVITY | Balloon Sea

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide the kids with a bunch of inflated blue balloons and a tan bed sheet. Encourage them to recreate the story of Moses splitting the Red Sea. Help where needed, but try to let the kids imagine and create on their own as much as possible.

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