

Prepare

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Written in the bible is a rich History of ordinary men and women whom God used in extra-ordinary ways. This program explores some of those people of faith and the lessons we can learn from them. We are believing your pre-schoolers will learn that God can use them in extraordinary ways as they keep loving and believing in Him.

Our repeated phrase is: "As we follow Jesus, we can be extraordinary!"

Memory Verse: "For I can do everything through [Jesus] Christ, who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13 (NLT)

RESOURCES

- Game: A parachute and fun pit balls
- Illustration: A3 white paper and markers
- Connect Groups: Simple biscuits, water and 'The Beginners Bible - Timeless Children's Stories' by Zonderkidz.
- Craft: The Week 1 Craft Template, scissors, colouring pens and pencils and decorative stickers.

THIS WEEKS KEY POINT: GIVE GOD YOUR WORRIES (HE CARES ABOUT YOU A-LOT!)

Mat Time

1. WELCOME & GAME: PARACHUTE GAME!

Ask the kids to stand in a circle, around the parachute holding the handles of your parachute. Play a few games: 1. Lifting the parachute up and down, 2. Throw the fun pit balls onto the parachute and make the balls pop like popcorn as they fly into the air when the parachute goes up, 3. Try to keep the fun pit balls on the parachute, 4. Choose 2 kids to run (carefully) under the parachute as it goes up and swap places before it comes back down again. Have music playing as you play!

2. WORSHIP AND OUR BIG THREE RULES

- **Have praise and worship time with the kids**, if they haven't already with the adults at the start of church.
- **Go through our three big rules:** We are kind, we listen, we obey. Give examples & explain any reward system.

3. THIS WEEKS TOPIC & MEMORY VERSE

- **Share today's topic:** We are learning all about how we can as we follow Jesus, we can be extraordinary! **Today we're learning that we can give God our worries (he cares about us a-lot!)**
- **Go through the memory verse with the kids:** Have the kids repeat it loudly, quietly, with fun actions - be creative!

4. VIDEO AND VIDEO FOLLOW-UP

Hannah was a woman in the bible who really, really wanted to have a baby but she couldn't. Even though this made her sad, she never stopped praying to God and giving him her worries! God heard her prayers and He answered them.

- How much do you think God cares about you?
- Do you think He listens when you pray to Him?
- Can you trust Him to answer our prayers like God answered Hannah's prayer?

5. ILLUSTRATION IDEA

Bring out a piece of A3 paper and some markers. Ask the kids what are some things they sometimes feel scared, sad, or worried about. Tell them that you are going to draw or write them all down. This is going to be your 'Prayer Board'. Pray over all of these things and have the kids say 'Amen' (that means they agree with the prayer). Now that you've prayed, you don't have to worry about these things anymore because God is on the case! So we can throw our worries away (scrunch up the paper and have a volunteer throw it out).

Small Groups

6. CONNECT GROUP STORY TIME

Give the kids a simple biscuit as you read 'Hannah's prayer' in the Beginners Bible by Zonderkidz pp. 156-159. Then ask:

1. Why was Hannah sad? Where did she go to pray?
2. Who did Hannah speak to when she went to the temple?
3. When we are sad, afraid or happy who can we talk to?
4. What are some things we can talk to God about?
5. We've talked a lot about how we can give God our worries! Who can tell me what we can be thankful for?

Pray together and thank God that He cares about us and the worries that we have!

7. CRAFT

Today we are making a praying hands card, to remind us that we can give God our worries!

- Leaders are to pre-cut the template so the praying hands card shape has been cut out and folded down the middle.
- Give the kids a praying hand card template, some colouring pens and pencils and decorative stickers.
- Ask the kids what they would like prayer for and help them draw these things inside of their praying hands card.
- Afterwards, ask them to decorate their card with decorative stickers.
- Don't forget to label their crafts.

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RESOURCES

- Game: A ball and bunny ears.
- Illustration: A happy/sad face (overleaf).
- Connect Groups: Simple biscuits, water and 'The Beginners Bible - Timeless Children's Stories' by Zonderkidz.
- Craft: The Week 2 Craft Template (printed double sided) scissors, colouring pens and pencils and stamps.

THIS WEEKS KEY POINT: GIVE GOD YOUR WORRIES (HE CARES ABOUT YOU A-LOT!)

Mat Time

1. WELCOME & GAME: BUNNY IN THE MIDDLE!

You'll need a ball and bunny ears. Stand in a circle and select one player to be the 'bunny' in the middle. The children in the circle must throw the ball to the other players and the bunny has to try catch the ball. If they catch it, the last player who threw the ball is the new 'bunny' in the middle. Play a new round where the kids on the outside of the circle must roll the ball instead of throwing the ball. The bunny must try and stop the ball with their feet!

2. WORSHIP AND OUR BIG THREE RULES

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- Can you trust Him to answer our prayers like God answered Hannah's prayer?

5. ILLUSTRATION IDEA

You will need our happy/sad face template provided here. Show the happy face first and ask the children what are some things that make them happy. Then turn the face upside down and ask if there is anything that makes them sad or worried. Tell the kids that we can pray to God when we are happy and when we are sad. When we are happy what can we say to God? (thank you for...!). When we are sad what can we say to God? (God I am sad because....). Finish by thanking God that he always knows how we feel, whether we are happy or sad. Then thank Him for always being a good God and a kind King who cares about us and loves us.

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4. What are some things we can talk to God about?
5. We've talked a lot about how we can give God our worries! Who can tell me what we can be thankful for?

Pray together and thank God that He cares about us and the worries that we have!

7. CRAFT

Today we are making a folding praying hands page to remind us that we can give God our worries!

- Give the kids the craft template and colouring pens and pencils and ask them to colouring in both sides of the template.
- Help the kids to fold the page on the dotted lines, so that the page folds inward, covering Hannah's face.
- When you open Hannah's praying hands, you will see the baby that she prayed for!
- Ask the kids to decorate their praying hands page using the colourful self ink stamps.
- Don't forget to label their crafts.