



AGELESS

Touching all Generations with God's Good News

PRESCHOOL Lesson - Ageless: Sharing God's Good Gifts

**MISSION
GEORGIA**

Season of Prayer and Offering
for State Missions

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HEART PREPARATION

- Begin your preparation by reading Ephesians 3:7–11; 21
- Pray, thanking God that He has chosen YOU to teach and minister to little boys and girls.
- Read and prepare to teach the Bible-teaching purpose for these teaching sessions.
- Pray that your preparation will result in preschoolers' enjoying learning about God's gifts to them.

LESSON PREPARATION

- Always have at least two teachers in the room with preschoolers or one teacher for every five.
- Place markers in the Bible (the Read-To-Me Bible for Kids is suggested) at the scripture locations suggested for the learning centers and group time.
- Gather and prepare the materials suggested for the learning centers and the large-group time.

GREETING THE PRESCHOOLERS

Keep the classroom door closed, answering it when parents and children knock to be let in. Open the door and happily greet each child with a big smile, making each one feel welcome and accepted. Give each parent a surety card (or security ID that your church uses), and remind parents that their child will be released only to an adult who has the security card or ID.

Say, "We have some fun activities in the learning centers today! Which learning center would you like to start in?" Allowing children a choice in learning makes them more teachable, increasing the potential for learning, and learning to make good choices is a part of personal stewardship. But if one center is full, help the child choose another center to start in. Preschoolers may stay in one learning center or move from center to center during this time.

Learning centers

THE ART CENTER

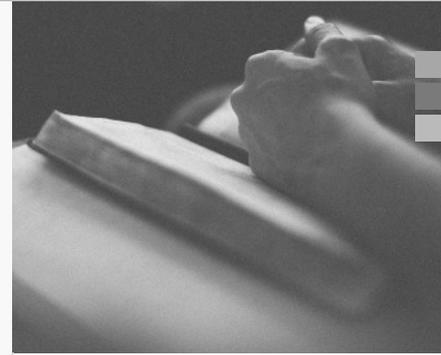
Making a "Thank You, God, for our world" sack

Preparation:

Provide glue and a lunch-size sack for each pupil. Ahead of time, print the Bible verse, "We thank God." on each sack. If the weather is suitable, plan for the children to go outside and pick up nature items which they can bring in and glue on their sacks. If the weather is not suitable, provide nature item pictures for the boys and girls to glue on their sacks.

Teaching:

As the children glue the items on their sacks, talk about all the good gifts that God gives us in His world. Use the Bible verses "We thank God." (2 Thessalonians 1:3) and "God is good to us." (Psalm 73:1)



Teaching Aim

- To learn more about God's love for us.
- To be aware that it is God who made us and gives us our talents and abilities.
- To begin an awareness that, because of God's goodness to us, we must be good and kind to others.
- To know that we can thank God for all He does for us.
- To realize that, because we thank God, we give our time and money to help other people.
- To want to give and to help others know about God's love.

Bible Verse

"God is good to us."
—Psalm 73:1

"We thank God."
—2 Thessalonians 1:3



THE BLOCK CENTER

Building with wooden unit blocks

Preparation:

Neatly stack the blocks on the block shelf or out of the way on the floor. Then allow the children freedom to build and work together.

Teaching:

Talk about how good God is to us. He gives us our hands to work with and good friends at church. Commend the children as they work happily together.

THE BOOK CENTER

Looking at and "reading" preschool books about God's world

Preparation:

Put three or four books and the *Read-To-Me Bible* on the bookshelf or in a quiet corner of the room.

Teaching:

As children look at the books and the Bible, talk about how good God is to give us such a beautiful world. Sing, "The bible is a special book" (tune: "Mary Had a Little Lamb"). Pray, thanking God for all of His good gifts to us. Avoid allowing a child to misuse the Bible or any book.

THE HOME LIVING CENTER

Preparing and serving butter and sugar-free jelly on crackers—***be sure that NO child has an allergy to any of the ingredients.***

Preparation:

Provide a table knife, butter, sugar-free jelly, crackers (enough for each child to have two), a serving plate, and napkins.

Teaching:

Allow the children to play in the home-living area for awhile. Bring the butter, jelly, and crackers to the table. While the children watch the teacher prepare the

NOTES

Horizontal lines for taking notes.



crackers, ask the children to name the foods they like to eat. Wait until all the crackers are prepared and placed on the serving plate before serving any one. Talk about God's goodness in giving us food to eat. Use the Bible verse, "God is good to us" (Psalm 73:1). Before the children eat the crackers, pray, thanking God for food to eat.

THE NATURE CENTER

Planting seeds or flowering plants

Preparation:

Cover a table with newspaper. Place a marker, small foam cups, planting soil, a spoon, a small amount of water in a small plastic pitcher, and seeds or plants on the table.

Teaching:

Write each child's name on a cup. Allow him to carefully spoon soil into the cup, plant the seed or the plant, and put a small amount of water in the cup. As the children plant, one at a time, use the opportunity to talk about specific ways that God is good to us. Say, "God gives us so many good gifts in His world." Ask the children to name some of the things they enjoy in God's world (sun, trees, clouds, rain, flowers).

THE MUSIC CENTER

Making music with rhythm sticks

Preparation:

Plan to use a CD player and CDs from the Sunday school leaders' packs. Gather rhythm sticks or plastic spoons for keeping time with the music.

Teaching:

Quietly play the music and allow the children to enjoy listening and participating in gently tapping the rhythm sticks or spoons to the music. Say, "God is good to give us music and ears to hear the music."

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THE PUZZLE CENTER

Working with nature puzzles

Preparation:

Choose four or five puzzles. Children can work puzzles on a table or the floor.

Teaching:

Encourage and help each child finish the puzzle he starts. Commend a child who has to wait to work a puzzle. Say, "Thank you for being kind and waiting." Point out and thank God for nature items in the puzzles.

Clean-up time

Before group time, give the children time to put away the learning center materials. As you help them, smile and say, "You are being good stewards" by putting away the things in our room at church."

Commend the Preschoolers

Thank them for putting away the materials and being "good stewards" by taking care of our room at church. Explain that a "good steward" is someone who does the jobs for which he is responsible.

LARGE-GROUP TIME

(around 5-10 minutes, depending on the attention span of the group)

Preparation:

Place a different color page marker at each of the scripture locations: Psalm 73:1; 2 Timothy 12:3; Galatians 5:13; and 2 Corinthians 9:7. Remember the preschool version of each verse. For your use during group time, place an inconspicuous page marker at Ephesians 3:7-11.

Talk about God's good gifts

Ask, "What are some of God's outdoor gifts?" Encourage the children to answer. Then ask about God's indoor gifts, family gifts, and church gifts.

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Pray

Say, "When we talk about God's good gifts, I want to thank God." Without fanfare, bow your head and pray a simple prayer, thanking God for the specific gifts that the children mention.

Sing a song

Happily sing the song, "God is So Good."

Choose Bible markers

Pick up the closed Bible. Say, "[a child's name], please come and choose a colored page marker in our Bible." Allow the child to choose a marker. Open the Bible to the marker location, read the short preschool version of the Bible verse (example: 2 Timothy 12:3, "I thank God."), and replace the marker. Allow children to choose markers until all of the verses have been chosen. If the children are still interested, allow them to choose until every child has had a turn.

Tell about the Bible: Thoughts in Ephesians 3:7-11

Open the Bible to Ephesians 3:7-11. Say, "Right here on this page in the Bible is a thought about how good God is to us. And another Bible thought here is that we can tell other people, other boys and girls, that God made the world, God made us, and God loves us. We can tell other people, even our moms and dads and other grown-ups, that God loves them."

Play a game

Say, "Let's play a game! I will describe one of God's good gifts to us. When you think you know what it is, put your hand over your mouth, raise your hand, and don't make a sound until I point to someone to give me an answer. Are you ready?"

"I am thinking of one of God's gifts—It is green, grows tall, has branches and leaves that move when the wind blows. What is it? Remember, raise your hand, but don't make a sound until I point to someone."

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Horizontal lines for taking notes.

