

# WEEK 1

## PRESCHOOL LESSON



Need to Know: *I Can Believe God*

Bible Story: *Zechariah's Unbelief (Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to church.
2. SAY: *Hey, everyone! My name is (YOUR NAME), and I will be your leader today! (SHOW the gift bag) I want to meet each of you, so when it's your turn, tell us your name, pull out one card from the bag, and show it to us. I'll go first!*
3. SAY your name again, REACH inside the bag, and PULL out one Bag Card. SHOW and READ the Card aloud. HAVE everyone do the motion or answer the question with you.
4. PASS the gift bag around the group. ALLOW each child to introduce themselves to the group and select one Bag Card. Then HAVE everyone do or answer what is on the Bag Card.
5. After all kids have been introduced, SAY:
  - *I am so excited to meet each one of you sweet friends! And, just like I believed all of you when you answered the questions from our bag, God wants you and me to believe everything He says.*
  - *That's what we need to know today. Say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)  
*I Can* (thumbs to chest)  
*Believe God* (both hands point up)

Read the Bible



1. SAY: *There's a story in the Bible about a man who didn't believe God would do what He said He would do. Let's read it together and find out what happened.*
2. HAVE kids get ready to hear the Bible story by clicking on their listening ears and putting on their special eyes.
3. SHOW and READ the Bible Story Cards to the group.

Let's Practice



1. SAY: *God loves you and wants the best for each of you. We're going to play a fun game to help you and me remember that, "I Can Believe God."*
2. SHOW the Game Board Coloring Sheet, and SAY: *We need Mr. Gingerbread Man to believe that we will get him back home safely.* (POINT to the gingerbread man at the bottom of the Game Board Coloring Sheet and his home at the top) *Each of us will have a turn rolling this (HOLD up foam die) die to show the group how many spaces to move our candy counters. I believe we can work together and get Mr. Gingerbread Man home!*
3. GIVE each child one Game Board Coloring Sheet.
4. SHOW marshmallows and SAY: *I'm going to give each of you one marshmallow, but don't eat it until we finish the game. Before you get your marshmallow, everyone needs to clean their hands.*
5. SANITIZE kids' hands and GIVE each child one marshmallow.
6. ALLOW each child to roll the foam die, having everyone move their marshmallow the corresponding number of spaces on the Game Board Coloring Sheet together.
7. Using the Leader Guide, READ the section that corresponds to the space landed on. Then ALLOW kids to respond.
8. CONTINUE until Mr. Gingerbread Man reaches his house. Then SAY:
  - *We did it! God wants you and me to always believe that He will do what He says He will do. Let me hear you say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)  
*I Can* (thumbs to chest)  
*Believe God* (both hands point up)
  - *Now you can eat your marshmallow!* (ALLOW kids to eat their marshmallow)



ALLOW the child to roll the foam die. MOVE the marshmallow on the Game Board Coloring Sheet for the child if he/she is unable to do so.

## Memorize It

# 4

1. *At Christmas, we may get gifts like toys or yummy cookies, but the Bible tells us that God has given us the best gift ever! It's His Son, Jesus! Let's tell Him, "Thank you!" Repeat this Bible verse after me!*
2. SHOW the **Memory Verse Card**, and HAVE kids repeat the verse after you several times. Then, USE the back of the **Memory Verse Card** to practice the verse as a group.
  - "Thanks be* (touch hand to lips, then extend arm forward, palm up)
  - to God* (both hands point up)
  - for His gift* (pretend to rock baby)
  - that is too wonderful* (wiggle fingers up high)
  - for words."* (cup hands around mouth)
  - 2 Corinthians 9:15** (make book with hands)
3. REMIND kids to practice this verse with their family at home so they can win a prize in a few weeks.

## Let's Pray

# 5

PRAY with your group, having them repeat after you in short phrases:

- *Dear God, thank You for loving me. Please help me remember that I can always believe You! Thank You for my snack. I love You! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

## Stay Together

# 6

1. SANITIZE kids' hands again, and PASS out **snacks**.
2. KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:
  - PLACE the **crayons** in the center of the group. HAVE kids turn their **Game Board Coloring Sheets** over and color the memory verse picture. As kids color, ASK the following:
    - *What is one thing that you want for Christmas?*
    - *Did you know that God gave you the best gift when He sent Jesus to Earth? He did! And we can always believe God!*
    - *Does God love you all the time or only sometimes?* (All the time) *Yes! God wants you to believe that He will always love you.*
  - HAVE kids practice the memory verse again by doing any of the activities listed on the back of the **Memory Verse Card**.
  - PRETEND to be Gingerbread Men:
    - EXPLAIN that we are going to pretend to be gingerbread men that want to run and play, not become yummy snacks.
    - PLACE action words in the blanks below and HAVE kids pretend to be the gingerbread man that's getting away! (Action words: run, hop, skip, stomp, clap, wiggle, spin, tiptoe, etc.)
    - SAY: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ *as fast as you can. You can't catch me. I'm a gingerbread man!*
  - PLAY "Melting Time":
    - PRETEND to be a snowman, standing in the middle of the group with kids standing around you in a circle.
    - As the snowman, SAY a way for kids to move in a circle. (EX: skip, tiptoe, spin, take tiny steps, hop, walk, slide, etc.)
    - ALLOW kids to move, and then SAY, **"Melting time!"**
    - Kids will pretend to melt in their spots.
    - PLAY again as time and attention spans allow.
    - Kids can also take turns being the snowman in the middle.