



# WEEK 1

## PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



### BIG IDEA

God gave us a mission.

### THE BIBLE

The Great Commission: Matthew 28:16-20

### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Suitcase Play
- **ACTIVITY** | Travel Match

## TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Go! Worship!
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God gave us a mission.
- **VIDEO** | Go, Episode 1
- **SCRIPTURE** | Matthew 28:16-20
- **ACTIVITY** | Follow the Footprints
- **PRAYER**

## DISCUSSION TIME

- **SNACK** | Tires
- **ACTIVITY** | Globe Ball
- **ACTIVITY** | Tell Everyone
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Matthew 5:16

## PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- **ACTIVITY** | Airplane Play
- **ACTIVITY** | Color on Maps



# WEEK 1

## HACKS FOR TODDLERS



**BY KAREN ERNE**

### HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

#### **ACTIVITY | Suitcase Play**

Have younger kids take turns doing a luggage relay. Start with one kid who takes a small rolling suitcase/backpack around the room, then pass it off to the next kid.

#### **ACTIVITY | Travel Match**

If the matching game is challenging for the littlest ones in your group, show them each card and have them identify the vehicle on the card. Have them imitate the noises that vehicle makes.

#### **SCRIPTURE | Matthew 28:16-20**

Sitting still for extended periods of time can be tough for little ones! Make a chain with your toddlers by holding hands, and have them follow you around the room while you tell them today's Bible story.



# WEEK 1

## PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



### BIG IDEA

God gave us a mission.

### THE BIBLE

**The Great Commission:** Matthew 28:16-20

## WELCOME TIME

#### ACTIVITY | Suitcase Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put a variety of suitcases and/or backpacks on the floor for the kids to play pretend with. Add some clothes for the kids to put in and out of the suitcases.



**TODDLER HACK:** Have younger kids take turns doing a luggage relay. Start with one kid who takes a small rolling suitcase/backpack around the room, then pass it off to the next kid.

- These suitcases help you take all your stuff with you when you go far away. Our Bible story is about what Jesus wants you to do when you go.

#### ACTIVITY | Travel Match

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, print out two copies of the Travel Match printable. Put one set face up on the table and the other set face down on the table for the kids to find the matches. For older kids, put all the cards face down and have them find the matching pairs.



**TODDLER HACK:** If matching is challenging for the littlest ones in your group, show them each card and have them identify the vehicle on the card. Have them imitate the noises that vehicle makes.

- These cards all show different ways for us to go on a trip. God wants us to do something important when we go. God wants us to tell people about Jesus.

## TEACHING TIME

### MUSIC | Go! Worship!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to sing along (and dance!) to:
  - “Go” by Yancy ([this video](#))
  - “Who’s Your One?” by Summit Kids ([motion video](#))
  - “Tell the World” by Hillsong Kids ([lyric video](#))

### THE BIG IDEA | God gave us a mission.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hide pairs of inexpensive sunglasses (one for each kid) in your meeting space. If your group is too large, just hide one that you can wear, or a few that kids can take turns trying on.
- Hey everyone! Today, we are all secret agents on a super special mission—wait a minute! We’re missing something. If we’re gonna be secret agents, we need super secret sunglasses! When I say, “Go!” can you help me find them? **Okay, Go!**
- (Once all the sunglasses are found) Now we’re ready to hear the Big Idea. Everyone put on your glasses and repeat after me: **God gave us a mission!**

### VIDEO | Go, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week’s preschool [teaching video](#).

### SCRIPTURE | Matthew 28:16-20

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spread a big map on the floor and call the kids over to sit around the map. Take turns pointing to a place on the map that would be fun to visit.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Make a chain with your toddlers by holding hands, and have them follow you around the room while you tell them the Bible story.
- The Bible tells us Jesus told people to go all over the world. Jesus was talking with the disciples and told them what to do when they were going.
- Jesus told us to go to all nations. That means we can go all around the world and meet different people wherever they live. (Ask everyone to pat the map.)
- Jesus told us to baptize people in the name of God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Move your hands as if dipping someone down into the water to baptize them.)
- Jesus told us to obey. (Put up both thumbs.)
- Then, Jesus told us we would always have help because Jesus is always with us. (Ask everyone to give themselves a hug.)

### ACTIVITY | Follow the Footprints

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the Footprints printable on different colored papers and cut them out. Put the footprints in a fun, winding path all over the classroom. Get the kids to step on each footprint and follow the path. For added fun, give each kid a toy magnifying glass and have them pretend they are detectives looking for clues as they follow the footprints!

- You can follow each of these footprints and go all over our room. Jesus told us to go all over the world, too. God wants us to tell everyone about Jesus. **God gave us a mission.**

### PRAYER

- Jesus, we want to tell everyone in the world about You. Help us to obey you and GO!

## DISCUSSION TIME

### SNACK | Tires

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Serve chocolate sandwich cookies for a snack.
- We can pretend our chocolate cookies are little wheels on a car.
- **Where will your car take you?**
- **Will you tell the people there about Jesus?**

### ACTIVITY | Globe Ball

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get a globe themed beach ball or draw a basic world map onto a beach ball with a permanent marker. Invite the kids to sit in a circle with you. Pass the ball around the circle and have the kids answer a question when they get the ball.
- **In our Bible story, who was Jesus talking to?** (Jesus was talking to the disciples.)
- Jesus told the disciples to go. **Where did Jesus tell them to go?** (Everywhere. Jesus told them to go to all the nations)
- **Who did Jesus tell us to obey?** (God/Jesus)
- **Who needs to hear about Jesus?** (Everyone in the whole world)

### ACTIVITY | Tell Everyone

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give people figures to half the kids and have them hide them around the room, then come back to the group. Then dismiss the other half of the kids to go find the hidden people. Repeat the activity so that both groups have had a chance to hide and find.
- You found all of the toy people! We can use them to help us remember to tell everyone about Jesus. God gave us a mission to tell everyone about Jesus.

### MEMORY VERSE | Matthew 5:16

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Introduce kids to this month's memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.

## PLAY TIME

*While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .*

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a coloring page along with crayons, markers, or colored pencils. Remind them of today's story, memory verse, and Big Idea as they color!

### ACTIVITY | Airplane Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get a toy airplane or draw a basic airplane on the side of an empty box for the kids to put the toy people in.
- The people are all going on a trip. We can carry our airplane around the room to pretend it is flying far away. God gave us a mission to go all over the world to tell people about Jesus.

### ACTIVITY | Color on Maps

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print out the Maps printable and give the kids crayons to color on them with. Older kids can draw some people on the map.
- You are coloring on a map that shows far away places and places nearby. God wants us to tell people about Jesus in far away places and in places nearby. **God gave us a mission!**

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