



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



BIG IDEA

I can help others
when I pray.

THE BIBLE

Peter's Miraculous Escape: Acts 12:1-17

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Telephone Toys
- **ACTIVITY** | On the Go Prayers

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship
- **THE BIG IDEA** | I can help others when I pray.
- **VIDEO** | Go, Episode 5
- **SCRIPTURE** | Acts 12:1-17
- **ACTIVITY** | Catch a Prayer
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **SNACK** | Do-Nut Stop Praying
- **ACTIVITY** | Hold My Hands in Prayer
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Matthew 5:16

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- **ACTIVITY** | Hopping Prayers
- **ACTIVITY** | Snuggle Prayers



WEEK 5

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 | Catch a Prayer

- Toddlers might like playing with the ball, but they might not understand the concept of saying the name of someone to pray for. So just pray together! Hold a kid in your lap as your rock together. Say a simple prayer like, "God, we love you. We like to pray to you."

ACTIVITY | Hold My Hands in Prayer

- Trace each kid's hand and let them color it in. Tell the kids that we can hold our hands when we pray. Give the kids a high five and then give the kid's picture a high five.



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

I can help others
when I pray.

THE BIBLE

Peter's Miraculous Escape: Acts 12:1-17

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Telephone Toys

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a variety of toy telephones, old telephones, and mobile phones to play pretend with.
- When we talk on the phone, we talk to someone like our mom or dad or a friend. When we pray, we can talk to God. We can pray for someone to get better or pray for God to give someone the things they need. You can help others when you pray.

ACTIVITY | On the Go Prayers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids toy cars and blocks to play with. Help the kids build a church building and a house with the blocks.
- You can pray wherever you go. You can even pray when you are in the car. God wants us to pray everywhere we go.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to sing along (and dance!) to:
 - "Ask, Seek, Knock" by Hillsong Kids ([video with motions](#))
 - "The Prayer of a Righteous Man" by Wonder Kids ([split track](#))

THE BIG IDEA | I can help others when I pray.

- **I can** (Point two thumbs to your chest.)
- **Help others** (Point to the other people in the room.)
- **When I pray** (Get on your knees and hold your hands together.)

VIDEO | Go, Episode 5

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

SCRIPTURE | Acts 12:1-17

- Peter was telling people about Jesus, which was a good thing to do. But some people did not like that. They put Peter in jail.
- Peter's friends didn't know how to help. So they gathered together and prayed.
- God heard their prayers and sent an angel to set Peter free! Everyone was so happy that God answered their prayer!
- When we pray, we talk to God. The Bible tells us to pray, asking Jesus to help us and to help other people.
 - You can ask Jesus to help someone who is sick. (*Hold your stomach*)
 - You can ask Jesus to help someone who is sad. (*Rub your eyes*)
 - You can ask Jesus to help someone get the food they need. (*Pretend to eat from a plate*)
- You can help others when you pray.

ACTIVITY | Catch a Prayer

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Toss a ball to each kid. When the kid catches the ball, they can name someone who they can tell God thank you for. Make sure every kid gets a turn.
- Thank You, God, for [kid's name]. (*Toss the ball to [kid's name]*)
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Hold a kid in your lap as your rock together. Say a simple prayer like, "God, we love you. We like to pray to you."

PRAYER

- Jesus, we want to pray for each other. We want to learn how to help others when we pray.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Do-Nut Stop Praying

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids small powdered sugar donuts for a snack.
- This doughnut is a circle shape. A circle doesn't stop going around and around. We can keep our prayers going all the time.

ACTIVITY | Pray Like This

- **Let's stand up and raise our arms up to the sky.**

- We can pray like this, with our arms up high. **What is prayer?** (*Prayer is talking to God*)
- **Now let's sit down and hold our hands out.**
 - We can pray like this when we hold our hands out. **Who can you pray for?** (*Mom, dad, someone who is sick, etc.*)
- **Now let's kneel on the floor and put our hands together.**
 - We can pray like this when we kneel down low. **Will God help people when we pray for them?** (*Yes, God will*)

ACTIVITY | Hold My Hands in Prayer

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Fold a sheet of paper in half and trace the kid's hand on the front of the paper. Cut out the hand shape so you have a card with two hands that fold together. Let the kids color their hands.*
- You can hold your hands together when you are praying. When you open and close your card, you can remember to pray.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Trace each kid's hand and let them color it in. Tell the kids that we can hold our hands when we pray. Give the kids a high five and then give the kid's picture a high five.*

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 | Hopping Prayers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, put four hula hoops on the floor in a row or make four masking tape squares on the floor in a row. Show the kids how to hop in each space as you say each prayer.*
- God, please help (kid's name) to be happy.
- God, please help (kid's name) to get better when they are sick.
- God, please help (kid's name) to have the food they need.
- God, please help (kid's name) to love Jesus, too.

ACTIVITY | Snuggle Prayers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Hold a stuffed animal or baby doll close to you and snuggle it. Then give the stuffed animal or doll to the kids to snuggle while you pray with them.*
- We can pray to God when we need to feel safe and loved.

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