



WEEK 3

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus said yes to
God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Brings Glory to God:
John 12:20-33

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Which Plans?
- ACTIVITY** | "Yes and . . ."

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Construction Cone
- ACTIVITY** | Simon Says, Jesus Says
- ACTIVITY** | Growing Seeds
- MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | John 12:20-33
- THE BIG IDEA** | Jesus said yes to God's plans.
- VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 3
- ACTIVITY** | Yes or No?
- PRAYER**

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Nuts and Bolts
- ACTIVITY** | Demolition Station



WEEK 3

HACKS FOR TODDLERS

BLUEPRINTS

BY ABBY BURG

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 | Which Plans?

Simplify the choice of plans for the toddlers to things they more ordinarily have to decide. For example, "Would you rather make plans to go to the park or plans to watch a movie?" or "Would you rather have waffles or pancakes for breakfast?"

ACTIVITY | "Yes and..."

You can make this activity more concrete by using plastic food items. Put a large pot in the middle of the group and allow each kid to add a different food into a pretend "soup," following the, "Yes, and..." pattern above.

ACTIVITY | Yes or No?

Place a large box on your lap such that the opening faces the kids. Have a kid put an item in your box while you close your eyes. Then without looking in the box, ask the group yes or no questions and have everyone answer it together. Keep asking questions until you can guess what's inside the box.



WEEK 3

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus said yes to
God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Brings Glory to God:
John 12:20-33

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- Hi, friends! **Does anyone remember what we've been talking about so far this month?** You've got it! We've been talking about the plans — or blueprints — God has for our lives.
- Let's sing this song loudly and declare that we can trust God's plan for us!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead kids into a fun time of praise! Pick one song to be your theme song for the month, such as "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)" or "[I Know the Plans](#)."*

ACTIVITY | Which Plans?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask kids which of the following "plans" they would choose if they absolutely had to. Feel free to add your own to the list.*
- **If you had to choose one of these plans, would you choose plan 1 or plan 2?**
 - 1) Brush your teeth with soap; 2) Drink sour milk.
 - 1) Eat an onion; 2) Eat a lemon.
 - 1) Have a cat as big as an elephant; 2) Have an elephant the size of a cat.
 - 1) Eat ice cream that tastes like broccoli; 2) Eat cookies that taste like hamburger.
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Simplify the choice of plans for the toddlers to things they more ordinarily have to decide. For example, "Would you rather make plans to go to the park or plans to watch a movie?" or "Would you rather plan to eat waffles or pancakes for breakfast?"*
- There are times when we have to choose from not-so-great plans. Sometimes, we don't even know what are the right plans to make. But God knows! We just need to learn to say "yes" to God!

ACTIVITY | “Yes and . . . “

- I have a large bowl of ice cream sundae I want to share with you all. You can't see it because it's imaginary! We are going to take turns imagining what's in our sundae. When it's your turn, pretend to eat a spoonful, then say, “Yes and . . .” before telling us what else is in the sundae.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids sit in a circle and give each kid a spoon. The leader starts with the bowl. Pretend to eat a spoonful of ice cream, say what's in the sundae, then pass the bowl to the next person. The next person will pretend to eat a spoonful, then say “Yes and [ice cream topping]” before passing the bowl. For example, the leader says, “Our ice cream sundae has vanilla ice cream.” The next person can say, “Yes, and sprinkles.” Let kids get silly with their imaginary ingredients!*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *You can make this activity more concrete by using plastic food items. Put a large pot in the middle of the group and allow each kid to add a different play food into a toy pot to make pretend “soup,” following the, “Yes, and . . .” pattern above.*
- What I loved most about our pretend sundae is that you each said, “Yes!” Everyone agreed about what was in the sundae – everyone said yes to the whole plan!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | John 12:20-33

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Open a Bible in front of you to John 12:20-33.*
- In our story today, we find that people from all over the world had heard about Jesus and wanted to talk to Jesus.
- **How would you feel if people from different countries knew your name?**
- These people probably traveled from far away places to meet Jesus. But when Jesus talked, he didn't really talk about himself. Jesus talked all about God's plan to save people, and how Jesus was simply following the plan.
 - Jesus used the example of a seed: When a seed doesn't have soil, water, or sunlight, the seed would just stay a seed and not become anything more. But, if a seed follows the right plan, it can grow to become a tree full of fruit!
- Just like the seed follows the right plan, Jesus told everyone that God's plan for him was the right one. Jesus said that he would die but when he did, it would be to save everybody.
- Jesus knew that the road ahead might be full of sadness and hurting. But Jesus trusted that love was the reason for God's plan and trusted that God would bring him back to life.
- God loved us so much that Jesus had to die for our sins. Jesus loved us so much that he followed God's plan to save us!

THE BIG IDEA | Jesus said yes to God's plans.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print or write the Big Idea on a piece of [blueprint paper](#), roll it up and put it in the blueprint tube from last week. Ask the same or a different volunteer to dress up as a construction worker to reveal today's Big Idea. Ask one of the kids to come up to the front to open the tube and take the paper out to reveal the Big Idea.*

- This week's Big Idea is: **Jesus said yes to God's plans.**
- Let's try it together!
 - **Jesus** (*Hold both arms straight out to each side to make a cross.*)
 - **said yes** (*Nod your head.*)
 - **to God's** (*Point up to the sky.*)
 - **plans** (*Hold your hands out together in front of you with your palms up so your hands look like an open book.*)

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 3

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

ACTIVITY | Yes or No?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ahead of time, place in a box an item from the room where you are meeting, preferably items the kids are used to seeing in your space (e.g. a storybook, a puzzle, or a toy car). Ask one kid to look in the box and see the item you've chosen. The rest of the kids can then ask yes or no questions to guess what is in the box. If you like, you can repeat this with several different items.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Place a large box on your lap such that the opening faces the kids. Have a kid put an item in your box while you close your eyes. Then without looking in the box, ask the group yes or no questions and have everyone answer it together. Keep asking questions until you can guess what's inside the box.
- Sometimes, you can't see God's plans. You have to trust that God sees the big picture and will carry out the perfect plans for you.
- **Jesus said yes to God's plans** and we can, too.

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to save us. We are so thankful Jesus said yes to your plan. Help us be like Jesus and be willing to say yes, too. We know you only have the best plans in store for us. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Construction Cone

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Serve kids a handful of [snack mix](#) inside a [sugar cone](#).
- **What kinds of things do you like to say "yes" to?**
- We like to say yes to fun things like playing games or movie nights, but sometimes, God asks us to say yes to things that don't seem fun or don't make sense to us.
- Because **Jesus said yes to God's plans**, our sins are forgiven. When you say yes to God's plans, you can be sure that it's the best choice! God will do something amazing with your yes!

ACTIVITY | Simon Says, Jesus Says

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask an adult leader to call out actions for the kids to do (e.g., pat their heads, turn around in circles). If the leader says, “Simon says. . .” before the action, then the kids should do that action. If the leader does not say, “Simon says. . .” before the action instruction, the kids should not do the action. You do not need to have anyone go “out” if they accidentally do an action that wasn’t preceded by “Simon says. . .” You can just enjoy the giggles of kids realizing they’ve been tricked! After every four to five actions, call out, “Jesus said. . .” to which the kids should respond, “. . . yes to God’s plans!”
- Jesus knew that a part of God’s plan was for him to die. **Do you think it was easy or hard for Jesus to say yes to God’s plan?**
- Because **Jesus said yes to God’s plans**, we can be forgiven and be part of God’s family!

ACTIVITY | Growing Seeds

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a clear, plastic cup filled two thirds of the way with potting soil along with three to four large seeds ([lima bean seeds](#) work well for this). Instruct each kid to press the seeds down between the side of the cup and the dirt so the seeds are visible from the outside of the cup. Gently water each cup and encourage the kids to keep them in a sunny spot, watering them a little bit each day. Explain that, over the next few days, they will be able to see roots growing down and eventually shoots sprouting up. Provide wipes to clean off dirty fingers afterwards.
- **Have you ever watched a seed sprout before?**
- **What part do you think will grow first?**
- **How many days do you think we’ll have to wait before we start to see our seeds sprout?**
- In our story today, Jesus used the example of a seed. **Can a seed do anything on its own?** No, it can’t. If we just left these seeds in a bag on the shelf with no soil, water, or sunshine, they would never be anything more than just seeds.
- **What happens when a seed is planted in good soil, watered just right, and given sunlight?** That’s right! It will grow. If a seed follows the right plan, it can grow into a fruitful plant or tree.
- **Jesus said yes to God’s plans**, just like a seed that is planted.
- Even though sometimes God’s plans take time, just like seeds take time to grow, God’s plans are always good.

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write Jeremiah 29:11 on butcher or blueprint paper so that each word can be covered up with a sticky note. As you review the verse, cover up words at random to help the kids memorize the words.



PLAY TIME

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

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Nuts and Bolts

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a sensory bin full of bolts, nuts, and washers for the kids to put together. Try to use toddler-safe [toy versions](#) to prevent choking hazards.

ACTIVITY | Demolition Station

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a wrecking ball by attaching a [plastic ball](#) to some string and dangling it from a doorframe or a stand (a mic stand would work fine). Have kids line up wooden, cardboard, or foam blocks and take turns "demo-ing" them by swinging the wrecking ball.

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