

The Story Week 17 -

God's Prophets

Overview Card

**Weekly Bible Verse:**

I say to myself, "The Lord is everything I will ever need. So I will put my hope in him."
- Lamentations 3:24

Bible Point:

God's people suffer because of their sins, but God still loves them.

Coloring Page:

Jeremiah tried to warn the people of Judah.

Resource:

The Story for Little Ones, Chapter 17:
God's Prophets



The Story Memory Verse - January
"For I know the plans I have for you,"
declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you
hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

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ACTIVITY



Story Time

What You Need: The Book, "My Messy Room"

What You Do: Gather the children together onto the carpet and read the book, "My Messy Room".

What You Say:

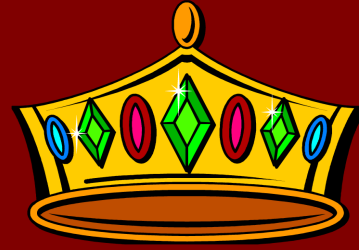
"Her bedroom was pretty messy. What made her room look messy? (Have the children give individual answers.) Your absolutely right all those things sure do make a room look messy. In our Bible story, God's people looked a lot like this messy room. They filled their lives with so many things that they had no room for God. What would we have to do to help the little girl clean her room? What would God's people have to do to clean up their lives? Say, God's people needed to be cleaned up. Cleaning takes time, and it isn't fun. However, even though, God's people made a lot of mistakes, God ALWAYS loved them!"



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Hear and Do

What You Need: Masking tape and a large feather.

What You Do: Use the masking tape to make a large square on the floor. Make it large enough for all the children to fit in it and have room to move around. Tell the children to get inside the square. Explain that they have to stay inside the square while playing the game. Tell the kids that you will throw the feather up in the air and call out an action, like jumping on one foot, spinning around, waving your arms, etc. The children will have to do that action until the feather hits the ground. As soon as the feather touches the ground, all the children have to freeze until you throw the feather in the air again and call out another action.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "You are going to need your very best listening ears to play this super fun game. Did you bring them today? Make sure they are on straight. (*Pretend to straighten your ears.*) Okay, listen up while I tell you what to do."

At the end of the activity: "Whew! That was fun! You did a great job hearing what I said and then DOING what I said. We learned from our story today that God wants us to listen and do what He says. However, God loved his people even when they made mistakes. God ALWAYS loves us too! That's right! So keep those listening ears on so you can HEAR and DO what God says."



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Book Look

What You Need: A preschool storybook for each child participating and one Bible.

(Note: Make sure your selection of books is preschool friendly and includes titles and illustrations that both boys and girls will recognize.)

What You Do: Place all the books and the Bible in a pile on the floor. Gather the children around and have a seat near the books. Allow the children to take turns choosing a book from the pile. Invite the child to stand by you and hold the book for everyone to see while you talk about it. Ask the children what they can tell you about the book. Maybe they recognize a character or an illustration. Maybe they've even heard the story read to them before. Once all the books have been chosen, go back to the Bible and hold it while you wrap up the activity.

What You Say:

Each time a child chooses a book: "(Name of child) chose (title of book). Can anyone tell me something about this book?"

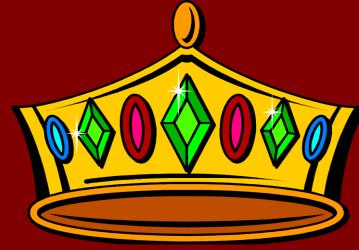
When a child chooses the Bible: "(Name of child) chose the Bible. The Bible is a very special book. It is different than any of these other books. The Bible has God's words in it, and it is always true. The Bible is full of lots and LOTS of stories that help us learn what to do and help us to know God. Our story today was from the Bible and taught us that God loved his people even when they made mistakes. I hope you always remember that God ALWAYS loves you!



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Looking for Love

What You Need: Heart Stickers, and a white paper bag for each child.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Have enough heart stickers so each child can find at least 10 when they play the game.

During the activity: Hide the hearts all over the room. Give each child a paper bag. Tell the children they will hunt for the paper hearts. Each time they find a paper heart, they must say out loud, "God loves me!" Once all the hearts are found, the children can use the hearts to decorate their "Hearts" they will make at craft time!

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "God loves you this much (*stretch your arms out as far apart as they'll go*)! Who loves you? God loves me! That's right! God loves you. I have hidden some hearts that look like this (*hold up a heart*) all over our classroom. Your job is to find them. Every time you find a heart, I want to hear you yell, 'God loves me!' Let's practice. I'm going to count to three. When I get to three, I want to hear you yell 'God loves me.' One, two, three: GOD LOVES ME! Okay, you're ready."

At the end of the activity: "It makes me so happy to hear you yelling 'God loves me.' Do you know why it makes me happy? Because it's true! God does love you! That's why He gave you the Bible, so you can know God and He can teach you what to do. Do you remember from our story today, God loved his people even when they made mistakes. God ALWAYS loves you."



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Green Light

What You Need: Three pieces of black cardstock; yellow, red and green construction paper; three paint sticks; glue; masking tape; and scissors.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Cut a large circle out of each color of construction paper. The circles should all be the same size. Glue one circle to each piece of black cardstock. Tape one piece of cardstock to each paint stick. This will give you a red circle, yellow circle, and green circle to hold up during the game.

During the activity: Line the children up shoulder to shoulder facing you. Hold the different colored circles behind your back. When you hold up the yellow circle, guide the children to say Jeremiah 29:11 slowly. When you hold up the green circle, guide them to say Jeremiah 29:11 quickly. When you hold up the red circle, guide them to stop and not say anything. Once you have played through the colors a few times, begin letting the children take turns holding the circles.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "God wants me to do what He tells me. Our Bible verse says that God has a plan for our lives. So, how do I know what to do? God will teach me. That's right! God will teach you."



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God's Message

What You Need: God's Message Activity Page and color crayons or markers.

What You Do:

Have the children look at the pictures and color the items that might give them God's message.

What You Say:

We can hear God's message many different ways. The easiest way is to read the Bible. The Bible is a very special book. It is different than any of these other books. The Bible has God's words in it, and it is always true. The Bible is full of lots and LOTS of stories that help us learn what to do and help us to know God. Our story today was from the Bible and taught us that God loved his people even when they made mistakes. I hope you always remember that God ALWAYS loves you!

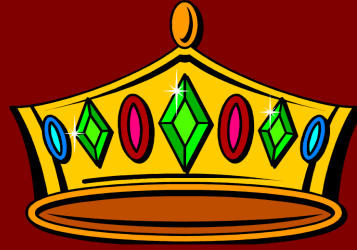


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CRAFT



God Loves You

What You Need: a “Heart” for each child, stickers from Looking for Love activity and crayons or markers.

What You Do:

Give each child a heart to decorate with the stickers used during the Looking for Love activity.

What You Say:

“God loves you this much (*stretch your arms out as far apart as they’ll go*)! Who loves you? God loves me! That’s right! God loves you. That’s why He gave you the Bible, so you can know God and He can teach you what to do. Do you remember from our story today, God loved his people even when they didn’t listen to God. God ALWAYS loves you.”



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