

OVERVIEW

God Gives Me What I Need

Key Question: Who will take care of you? **Bottom Line:** God will take care of me.

Memory Verse: "My God will meet all your needs."

Philippians 4:19, NIrV

Bible Story: God gives me what I need.

Elijah Fed by Ravens - 1 Kings 17:1-6

Coloring Page: God sends ravens with food for Elijah (week 2)

God cares for Elijah (week 3)

Music: Great Big God

Nobody Loves Me Like You

All My Heart

Bible Lesson: The Beginner's Bible

Food from Birds Pages 201 to 205

Service Time: 74 minutes (week 2)

72 minutes (week 3)

Story Time: Made by God - Our Feathered Friends

by Zondervan

May Memory Verse -

"My God will meet all your needs."
Philippians 4:19 NIrV



Bozo Buckets - So Many Birds

What You Need: Six pictures of different birds, six buckets, masking tape and ping pong balls.

What You Do: Look at the bird pictures together. Talk about the sizes, colors, and names of the birds. Let the children take turns throwing the ping pong balls into each bucket. Have the crow be the last bucket.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "Raise your hand if you like birds. (Look around with your hand raised.) Me, too! Raise your hand if you like to play bozo buckets. (Look around with your hand raised.) Then you are really going to like what we're about to do. Let's take turns throwing these ping pong balls into each bucket."

At the end of the activity: (Show the picture of the raven.) "Our Bible lesson today had a bird in it. It was called a raven. God gave the raven a very special job to do. Do you remember what that job was?"



Elijah, Elijah Where is Your Bread?

What You Need: Toy piece of bread

What You Do:

Pick one child to be Elijah. Elijah sits in front of the room with his back to the other children and closes his eyes. Give "the bread" to one of the children sitting behind Elijah. Have all of the children place their hands behind their back. All the children then say, "Elijah, Elijah where is your bread? Somebody took it, but whose the One?" Elijah tries to guess who took the bread. If he is right he takes another turn. If he is wrong, he takes the place of the child who took the bread.

What You Say:

During the activity: "Who remembers what kind of animal God used to take care of Elijah? Was it an elephant? Was it a kangaroo? Was it a peacock? No? Oh, yeah, it was a bird called a raven. How did God use the raven to take care of Elijah? (Pause for responses.) Right again. God told the raven to carry meat and bread to Elijah so he wouldn't be hungry. God took care of Elijah. Who will take care of you? (Pause) God will take care of me.



Bowling for Needs

What You Need: "Bowling" from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, clear tape, scissors, and bowling pins and ball.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Bowling" from the Activity Pages onto white cardstock and then cut out the pictures. Tape one picture from the "Bowling" activity page onto each pin. When you're ready to play, set the pins up in a line about two feet away from each other, making sure the pictures are visible.

During the activity: Give one child the ball and give him three tries to knock pins down. For the first two tries, ask him to knock down a pin with a NEED on it. For the third try ask him to knock down a pin with a WANT on it. When the first child finishes, reset the pins. Allow all of the children to have a turn.

At the end of the activity: Discuss needs and wants with the children.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Can you name things that we need in order to live? (Pause.) I know one! (Pause.) Food! What's something else we need? (Pause.) Yes! Now, what are some things that you don't really need in order to live but would be nice to have? These are what we'll call wants. (Pause.) I know! I want (name something you want). What's something that you want? (Pause.) Oh! That would be something nice to have for sure! Today we're going to play a bowling game that will use some of our needs and wants that we just talked about. Would you like to play with me? (Pause.) Great! Let's get started!"

During the activity: "These are our pins. They have pictures on them of things that we NEED and things that we WANT. When it is your turn listen closely to which one you are supposed to knock down. Let's look at the pictures so we know what we're aiming for. (Point to pictures.) We have a plate of food. Is that a need or a want? (Pause.) Yes, it is a need. Everyone needs to eat. Next we have a bicycle. Is that a need or a want? (Pause.) Yes, it is a want. We may think we need a bicycle, but we do not have to have a bicycle to live. Next is a pillow and blanket. Do we need or want a pillow and blanket? (Pause.) Right! Even more than that we need some place to sleep every night, so we need shelter. Next is a glass of water. Do we need or want water? (Pause.) Right again! We need water to drink. Look! I see a picture of a doll. Do we need or want a doll? (Pause.) You got it! We want a doll to play with, but we do not need the doll in order to live. Great job! I see something else that looks like it would be really fun. It's a ball! Do we WANT a ball or do we NEED a ball? (Pause.) Right again! We don't need a ball but there are sure nice to play with. Are you ready to bowl? (Pause.) Great! Let's get started!

(Hand ball to the first child.) Knock down something that we NEED. (Allow child to roll the ball three times.) Great job! Now knock down a WANT. Awesome! Now try for another NEED. You got it! Now let's set the pins back up and give someone else a turn." (Continue until all the children have had a turn.)

At the end of the activity: "You all did a fantastic job bowling! God gives us the things we need to live like food, water, and shelter. Sometimes He even gives us the things we want. It is very important to know the things that we need and the things that we want. Today in our lesson we heard about how God provided Elijah with something that he needed. Do you remember what it was?"



Up in the Air

What You Need: Parachute and pom-poms.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place pom-poms in the center of the parachute.

During the activity: Shake the parachute slowly to keep the pom-poms on the parachute, and then shake it fast to shake them all off. Have the children pick up the pom-poms and say the memory verse before placing them back onto the parachute. Repeat as many times as desired.

At the end of the activity: Collect all the stray pom-poms.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Yay! We get to play with the parachute today! Everyone come grab an edge of the parachute."

During the activity: "Let's shake the parachute really easy so the pom-poms stay on. (Demonstrate.) Great job! Now let's see if we can shake all the pom-poms off. (Demonstrate.) Wowee! That was some super shaking!"

At the end of the activity: "All those pom-poms looked like birds flying through the air! In our Bible lesson today we heard how God used some birds to help a man named Elijah. Do you remember what the birds did?"



Racing Birds

What You Need: Masking tape.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place two pieces of tape on the floor as a starting line for each team. Place a second set of tape, for the finish line, about 10 feet in front of each starting line.

During the activity: Divide the children into two teams and have each team line up single file at the starting lines. When you say, "GO," have the first person in each line flap their arms and pretend to be birds as they "fly" to the finish line. When the first child has reached the finish line, instruct the second child in line to have a turn. Make sure all of the children on both teams receive a turn. When all of the children are at the finish line, repeat the game using the finish line as the new starting line.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Do you know what has feathers and flies high in the sky? (Pause.) Yes! You are all so smart! We are going to talk about birds today. Can you show me how a bird flies? (Pause.) They fly like this! (Demonstrate.) Let's pretend to be birds and have a race!"

During the activity: "Line up behind this line (point to starting line), and when I say, 'GO!' the first person will pretend to fly like a bird all the way to here. (Point to finish line.) When they get here it will be the next person's turn to fly. Are you ready? (Pause.) GO! (Encourage the children to fly like birds.) That was awesome! Let's do it again! This time we will be flying back to this line." (Point to original start line.)

At the end of the activity: "Great job! We all made it back to where we started. Today in our lesson we heard about the birds and how they took care of someone very special. Do you remember who it was?"



CRAFT God Gives Me What I Need

Color Your Own #1 Mommy Crown

What You Need: Crown and crayons and/or markers



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What You Do:

Have the children color their crowns for a Mother's Day present to their moms!

What You Say: "God is SO good! He took care of Elijah and He takes care of all people. He takes care of everyone! He even takes care of us! And guess what He gave us such wonderful mommies! Let's make our mommies a wonderful present for Mother's Day to show them how special they are and how much we appreciate them taking care of us!"



CRAFT God Gives Me What I Need

Feed the Birds

Be sure to list the foods you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room.



What You Need: "The Allergy Alert" poster from the "Start Here" tab on the Website copied onto white cardstock, "Parent Card" from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, scissors, pipe cleaners, Cheerios[®] cereal, and string or yarn.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make enough copies of "Parent Card" from the Activity Pages on white cardstock so that each child can have one to take home. Cut the string or yarn into long pieces that the children can use to hang their bird feeders.

During the activity: Give each child one pipe cleaner and show them how to bend it into a "V" shape. Next, give them a handful of Cheerios® to string onto the pipe cleaner. When the "V" is filled with Cheerios®, assist the children in curving the ends of the pipe cleaner into a heart shape; twisting the ends to make it secure. Tie a piece of string to the heart shaped bird feeder so the children can hang it when they get home.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "What kind of animal did God send to give Elijah food in our Bible lesson today? (Pause.) Yes! God sent a bird to give Elijah food! How cool is that? Today we're going to make something that will give the birds in your yard some food!"

During the activity: "I need you to listen very closely so you'll know what to do. (Hand out cereal and pipe cleaners.) Here's a pipe cleaner and some cereal for each of you. Watch me and do the same thing I do. Got it? (Pause.) Great! First, I want you to bend your pipe cleaner into a V shape like this. (Demonstrate.) Good work, everybody! Now I want you to string the Cheerios® onto your pipe cleaner like this. (Demonstrate.) Raise your hand when you've filled it up ALMOST all the way and I'll show you how to finish your bird feeder. (Assist children as needed.) Now that your pipe cleaner is full of Cheerios®, bend the ends of your pipe cleaner just like this. (Demonstrate.) Great job! To finish up your bird feeder, I'll come around and help you tie it to some string so you can hang it up somewhere at home where the birds can eat it."

At the end of the activity: "Wow! Your bird feeders look awesome! You are going to have some very happy birds in your yard when they find this yummy food, just like I'm sure Elijah was happy when the birds brought him some yummy food in our lesson today. God is SO good! He takes care of birds; He takes care of people; He takes care of everyone! Who takes care of you? (Pause.) God takes care of me!"



SMALL GROUP God Gives Me What I Need

Small Group Time

What you Need: Bible, stickers, dry-erase board and marker

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "Can you imagine what it would be like if a bird brought you lunch? (*Pause.*) That would be pretty cool! He could just fly right over your head and drop a lunch bag in your lap! Ha!

"A bird really did bring Elijah food in our Bible lesson today. True story! Elijah was hungry and all alone and he didn't have any food. But that didn't stop God from taking care of Elijah! No way! God told a bird what to do and the bird did it! He took that food straight to Elijah! Wow!

"Nothing will ever stop God from giving you what you need. He will always take care of you. Who will take care of you?"

CHILDREN and SGL: "God will take care of me."

SGL: "Our Memory Verse even says, 'My God will meet ALL your needs,' Philippians 4:19. Let's practice saying that together so we don't ever forget it."

CHILDREN and **SGL**: "My God (push both palms up into the air) will meet (bring both hands together in front of you in a clap/clasp on the word 'meet') all (do jazz hands from above your head and down to each side) your needs' (jump and land with your hands on your hips and your feet planted like a cheerleader), Philippians 4:19." (Open hands like a book.) (Repeat as many times as desired.)

SGL: "It's time to pray. I think today we should make a list of the things we need—not the things we want, but the things we need. When we pray, we can thank God for giving us what we need!"

Write down the children's names and what they say on the dry erase board. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters.

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, You do such an AMAZING job taking care of us. We just want to say thank You for some of things You give us that we need. (*Name of child*) says thank You for (*need*). (*Repeat for each child*.) Please help us remember to be thankful for what You give us. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."