



WEEK 1

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

God's plans are perfect.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Clears the Temple: John 2:13-22;
(Psalm 19:7-11)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Follow the Blueprints
- ACTIVITY** | Telephone Charades
- QUESTION** | Have You Ever Had a Big Party to Celebrate a Holiday?
- SCRIPTURE** | John 2:13-22
- THE BIG IDEA** | God's plans are perfect!
- VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 1
- STORY** | Follow the Plan
- IMAGE** | Blueprints Picture
- SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 19:7-11
- ACTIVITY** | Match The Plans
- REFLECTION** | Following God's Perfect Plans
- MEMORY VERSE** | "LEGO Uni-Verse"
- PRAYER**

SMALL GROUP TIME

- DISCUSSION**
 - Why did the Jews celebrate the Passover?
 - Where did Jesus go to celebrate the Passover?
 - What did Jesus say would happen to the temple after it was destroyed?
 - Read Psalm 19:10. According to this verse, what is the Bible better than?
 - Where can you find God's plan for your life?
 - How can the Bible help you with something from school last week?
 - What is one way you know God's plans are perfect?
- ACTIVITY** | Blueprints for Life
- MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)



WEEK 1

HACKS FOR PRETEENS

BLUEPRINTS

BY ANGIE DEWITT

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

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

ACTIVITY | Follow the Blueprints

Position older kids back-to-back and add a time limit. Don't tell the kids that they are each getting different rules of play. Compare and discuss the process and the results, getting feedback from both participants and the audience as well. Use music to include the rest of the room and giveaway prizes to both participants for being willing to play.

THE BIG IDEA | God's plans are perfect!

Ask one of the preteens to volunteer for this construction worker role. You can have the same kid do the Big Idea reveal each week or pick a different person each week.

STORY | Follow the Plan

Have preteens share each of their own experiences about a time when they didn't follow directions and caused not-so-great outcomes. Looking back on it now, what do they think could have happened if they had followed the plan?



WEEK 1

HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

BLUEPRINTS

BY SUNNY BROWN

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 1

Ensure the closed captioning is activated for this video. Keep this in mind for all videos used throughout this series, if words are not already part of the video.

ACTIVITY | Match The Plans

Pair kids together to support those needing extra help finding words. Provide Bibles (with a concordance) or equip volunteer leaders with an app that they can use.

ACTIVITY | Blueprints for Life

Utilize small groups of 2-3 to compile ideas to support anyone who needs accommodations for reading and writing.



WEEK 1

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

God's plans are perfect.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Clears the Temple: John 2:13-22;
(Psalm 19:7-11)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT TODAY?

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- This month is all about Blueprints – God's plan for our lives! Let's sing this song as a reminder that we can trust God's plans for us no matter what!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the kids in worship and include one theme song for the month, such as "[I Believe In Jesus](#)," "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)," or something similar. For today, have them listen and try to sing along, looking out for lyrics that stand out to them.

ACTIVITY | Follow the Blueprints

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Buy two small, identical [LEGO sets](#). Bring two kids up to the front and give them each a Lego set – one with the instruction manual and one without. Tell them to put the LEGO set together as correctly as they can.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Position older kids back-to-back and add a time limit. Don't tell the kids that they are each getting different rules of play. Compare and discuss the process and the results, getting feedback from both participants and the audience as well.
- **Who was able to put their LEGO set together correctly?**
- **Was it more difficult to do with or without the instructions?**
- We are going to discover how God's plans and instructions can help us in our lives!

ACTIVITY | Telephone Charades

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have groups of up to ten kids stand in a line. Tell everyone except the first person in line to face away from you. Show the first person a simple action (e.g. singing, sleeping, kicking, etc.). Then, the first person will tap the next person in line and perform the action for them. When the second person thinks they understand the action, they will tap the third person in line. This will continue until it reaches the last person. The last person should guess what the original action was.
- Sometimes, instructions can get mixed up and don't always make sense.
- We'll learn today that we can always rely on the instructions God gives.

QUESTION | Have You Ever Had a Big Party To Celebrate a Holiday?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a chance to tell about celebrations they've been to for Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthday, graduation, etc. Focus in on stories where lots of people came from far away for the celebration.
- **What is your favorite thing to do at the party?**
- Those sound like fun parties! But more than fun, it's important to observe traditions with loved ones. It brings us closer and helps us create lasting memories.
- Let's look at our Bible story to see what happened during one such holiday that people came from various places to celebrate.

SO WHAT? WHY DOES IT MATTER TO GOD AND TO US?**SCRIPTURE | John 2:13-22**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Build a [LEGO set](#) slowly or a [wood model](#) while teaching the scripture each week. Be sure to do enough at each session to complete the model by week four.
- Many people traveled a long way to celebrate a Jewish holiday called the Passover.
- The Passover is a time Jewish people remember what God has done. They look back at their time in Egypt, and how badly they were treated there. They celebrate how God had a plan and led them out of Egypt.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read John 2:13-22.
- Jesus came to Jerusalem to celebrate in the temple, like everyone else.
- But once he got there, Jesus saw things going on at the temple that weren't a part of God's plan and spoke up. In fact, Jesus did more than that — Jesus flipped over tables and made a pretty big statement about how displeasing this was.
- Jesus was very upset and made everyone leave the temple, and people wondered how Jesus had any power to do that. Jesus answered them by talking about the plans God had — plans that were bigger than the ones they had been making : Jesus shared the plan of how God would destroy and rebuild the temple.
 - This was very confusing to everyone because the temple was this massive, super special, and holy place.
 - What they didn't know was that Jesus was talking about what was going to happen later when Jesus died on the cross for everyone's sins.

- Eventually, what Jesus said came true! Jesus' disciples remembered later what Jesus said and believed God's plan! God had one all along!

THE BIG IDEA | God's plans are perfect!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print or write the Big Idea on a piece of [blueprint paper](#). Roll the paper up and put it in a blueprint tube like [this](#). Ask a volunteer to be this week's construction worker, giving them a [hard hat](#), a [safety vest](#), and [safety glasses](#). Tell the volunteer to open the tube and take the paper out to reveal the Big Idea.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Ask one of the preteens to volunteer for this construction worker role. You can have the same kid do the Big Idea reveal each week or pick a different person each week.
- This week's Big Idea is: **God's plans are perfect!**

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Ensure the closed captioning is activated for this video. Keep this in mind for all videos used throughout this series, if words are not already part of the video.

STORY | Follow the Plan

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Share a time when they were given instructions or plans. Tell them to share what happened when they followed those plans and what happened when they didn't. You could even have the same volunteer who did the Big Idea reveal share a story.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have preteens share each of their own experiences about a time when they didn't follow directions and caused not-so-great outcomes. Looking back on it now, what do they think could have happened if they had followed the plan?
- We've all been given plans to follow at some point in our lives. It's important to follow them! Especially when we don't know what might happen next.

IMAGE | Blueprints Picture

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show this [picture](#) of blueprints of Cinderella's castle at Disney's Magic Kingdom.
- **Who can tell me what these blueprints are for?**
- These are the blueprints for Cinderella's castle at Disney World.
- **Do you think you could take these blueprints and build the castle yourself?**
- This is what the actual castle looks like ([Show this picture](#)).
- These pictures show the same thing, but it takes very special instructions to get from one to the other.
- In our lives, sometimes the blueprints are confusing. That's when we rely on God to give us the instructions we need because **God's plans are perfect!**

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 19:7-11

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Psalm 19:7-11.
- These verses tell us what the Bible is, and how it can help us.
- **What were some words used to describe the Bible?**
 - *Perfect* - It turns us back to what is right.
 - *Sure/Trustworthy* - It gives us wisdom.
 - *Right* - It brings us joy.
 - *Radiant/Bright* - It shows us what God wants us to see.
 - *Pure* - It lasts forever.
 - *Firm/Righteous* - We can depend on it.
 - *Desirable/Precious* - It's valuable to us.
 - *A warning to us* - We need to listen to it.
 - *A promise to us* - We need to believe it.
- No matter what, we can trust God's words and God's plans because they are both perfect. God will never lead us to a plan that isn't good for us because **God's plans are perfect.**

NOW WHAT? WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO ABOUT IT?

ACTIVITY | Match The Plans

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play a matching game where kids have to match the words from Psalm 19:7-11 that describe God's Word to another place in the Bible where the same word is used. The kids can use a computer, tablet, or another resource to find these words. Encourage the kids to share their favorite verse!
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Pair kids together to support those needing extra help finding words. Provide Bibles (with a concordance) or equip volunteer leaders with an app that they can use.
- **Perfect** - It turns us back to what is right.
- **Sure/Trustworthy** - It gives us wisdom.
- **Right** - It brings us joy.
- **Radiant/Bright** - It shows us what God wants us to see.
- **Pure** - It lasts forever.
- **Firm/Righteous** - We can depend on it.
- **Desirable/Precious** - It's valuable to us.
- **A warning to us** - We need to listen to it.
- **A promise to us** - We need to believe it.

REFLECTION | Following God's Perfect Plans

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to think about one of the ways the Bible can help them right now. Encourage them to think about something going on this week at home or at school that the Bible can help them with.

- Sometimes, we go through tough times, don't we? But even in those times, God has plans to help us.
- The Bible is God's written plan for us. You can trust it to help you through anything in your life right now!
- **What is one way the Bible can help you this week?**

MEMORY VERSE | "LEGO Uni-Verse"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write one word of the memory verse on the side of large LEGO blocks using masking tape. Instruct the kids to work together to try to "build" the memory verse in the correct order.

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for showing us your plans through the words you gave us. We trust that your plans are perfect and that they will give us hope even when things aren't going great. Help us follow your plans! Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **Why did the Jews celebrate the Passover?**
- **Where did Jesus go to celebrate the Passover?**
- **What did Jesus say would happen to the temple after it was destroyed?**
- **Read Psalm 19:10. According to this verse, what is the Bible better than?**
- **Where can you find God's plan for your life?**
- **How can the Bible help you with something from school last week?**
- **What is one way you know God's plans are perfect?**

ACTIVITY | Blueprints for Life

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to write the blueprints for what they will do this week. On three separate papers, instruct the kids to draw a house, a school, and a church. Encourage them to write or draw things that will need to happen in each place: spending time with God, sharing their story, using their gifts, spending time with others, learning, giving, serving, getting help from each other.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Utilize small groups of 2-3 to compile ideas to support anyone who needs accommodations for reading and writing.
- **What will you do this week to follow these blueprints in your life?**
- It is exciting to know that we do these things so that we are following God's plans because **God's plans are perfect.**

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.