



# WEEK 3

## ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE

# BLUEPRINTS

### THE BIG IDEA

Jesus said yes to God's plans.

### THE BIBLE

**Jesus Brings Glory to God:** John 12:20-33;  
(Hebrews 5:7-9)

### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## LARGE GROUP TIME

- **MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- **ACTIVITY** | Which Plans?
- **ACTIVITY** | "Yes and . . ."
- **OBJECT LESSON** | "Will You Be My Volunteer?"
- **SCRIPTURE** | John 12:20-33
- **THE BIG IDEA** | Jesus said yes to God's plans.
- **VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 3
- **STORY** | Saying Yes
- **ACTIVITY** | Building Together
- **SCRIPTURE** | Hebrews 5:7-9
- **REFLECTION** | Jesus Gave it All for You
- **RESPONSE** | We're in Jesus' Heart
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Peek-a-Verse
- **PRAYER**

## SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
  - Where did people come from to talk to Jesus?
  - What kind of seed/grain did Jesus talk about?
  - What did Jesus say yes to?
  - Read John 12:32. Who did Jesus say would be drawn to Jesus if Jesus was lifted up?
  - What is something God wants you to say yes to this week?
  - Is it difficult for you to say yes to God's plan when you're not completely sure what it is?
  - What is something you will do this week because you said yes to God's plan?
- **ACTIVITY** | Your Yes!
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)



# WEEK 3

## 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 | Which Plans?**

Have kids write out a bunch of their own "plans" on slips of paper and add them to a bucket. You can read out their questions in addition to the ones provided.

#### **OBJECT LESSON | "Will You Be My Volunteer?"**

Poll the kids beforehand: which balloon will pop – the one filled with water or the one filled with air?

#### **SCRIPTURE | John 12:20-33**

Tell the kids to open their Bible and find John 12:20-33. Once they have found it, have them find a partner and read the scripture together.

#### **MEMORY VERSE | Peek-a-Verse**

Recruit preteens to learn the memory verse with signs we've provided in advance. Give preteens the opportunity to lead kids in learning the verse during this activity to help the rest of the group with recall.



# WEEK 3

## 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.

#### **ACTIVITY | Which Plans?**

To accommodate kids with limited mobility, have kids answer the poll with simple gestures such as holding up one finger for option 1 and two fingers for option 2, smiling or frowning, or pointing to the right or to the left.

#### **ACTIVITY | "Yes and . . ."**

As kids add on their parts of the story, help them use gestures (similar to charades) to act out the story in addition to voicing it.

#### **OBJECT LESSON | "Will You Be My Volunteer?"**

This activity can be adjusted by placing headphones on anyone who may not be able to handle the sound of the balloon popping.



# WEEK 3

## ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

# BLUEPRINTS

### THE BIG IDEA

Jesus said yes to God's plans.

### THE BIBLE

**Jesus Brings Glory to God:** John 12:20-33;  
(Hebrews 5:7-9)

## LARGE GROUP TIME

### WHAT? WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT TODAY?

#### MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- This month, we've been talking about Blueprints and God's plan for our lives! It's not so hard to follow someone's plan for you when you know that you can trust them.
- Let's sing this song loudly and declare that we can trust God's plan for us!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead the kids in worship and repeat your theme song for the month, (e.g., "[L Believe In Jesus](#)," "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)"). Today, split your kids into teams and see if they can come up with simple motions for the chorus. When everyone is ready, have teams take turns sharing their moves at the different times the chorus is sung.*

#### ACTIVITY | Which Plans?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play a game of deciding "which plans" kids would choose to do if they absolutely had to. Feel free to add your own to the list. Have kids sit in a circle. For each question, have kids who choose option 1 to move to the middle of the circle, and anyone who chooses option 2 to move to the outside.*
- **If you had to choose one of these plans, would you . . .**
  - 1) Brush your teeth with soap, or 2) drink sour milk?
  - 1) Eat a whole raw onion, or 2) a whole lemon?
  - 1) Have an elephant-sized cat, or 2) a cat-sized elephant?
  - 1) Eat broccoli-flavored ice cream, or 2) meat-flavored cookies?

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have kids write out a bunch of their own “plans” on slips of paper and add them to a bucket. You can read out their questions in addition to the ones above.

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** To accommodate kids with limited mobility, have kids answer the poll with simple gestures such as holding up one finger for option 1 and two fingers for option 2, smiling or frowning, or pointing to the right or to the left.

- These were silly plans to follow and chances are you won’t ever have to do any of these! But there will be times that have to do things that don’t seem so great at first, but if it’s part of God’s plan, we can trust that it will be awesome!

### ACTIVITY | “Yes and . . . ”

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell everyone to stand in a circle. The leader will start by saying a scenario that the next person will build on by saying, “Yes and...” For example, the leader will say, “Let’s build a fort.” The next person will say, “Yes, and...” The story will build until it goes all the way around the circle.

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Use gestures (similar to charades) to act out the story in addition to voicing it.

- You came up with some awesome stuff in that story!
- What I loved most about it is that you each said, “Yes!” Everyone had to be on board with the rest of the plan.

### OBJECT LESSON | “Will You Be My Volunteer?”

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask an adult volunteer for help before trying this lesson. Have the volunteer sit on a chair. Hold an inflated balloon high above their head and place a lighter under it so that it pops (make sure to do this at a safe distance away from their head). Then, hold a balloon with water over their head and place a lighter under it. It will not pop! You might want to test this activity beforehand.

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Poll the kids beforehand: which balloon will pop – the one filled with water or the one filled with air?

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** This activity can be adjusted by placing headphones on anyone who may not be able to handle the sound of the balloon popping.

- **Why do you think [name of volunteer] said yes to being a part of this activity?**
- They probably trusted that no matter how wacky this experiment got, I wouldn’t allow them to get hurt. We say yes to people we trust. Today’s Bible story will show why and to what Jesus said yes!

## SO WHAT? WHY DOES IT MATTER TO GOD AND TO US?

### SCRIPTURE | John 12:20-33

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Continue the LEGO or wood model you started building in previous weeks while you tell the Bible story.
- Time was drawing nearer to the moment when Jesus would have to give his life – the part of



God's plan no one really likes thinking about. But Jesus knew it was coming and he wanted his friends to be ready. He also wanted his friends to understand that following God would not always be easy.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read John 12:20-33.

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Tell the kids to open their Bible and find John 12:20-33. Once they have found it, have them find a partner and read the scripture together.

- People from all over the world heard about Jesus and wanted to meet him.
- **How would you feel if people from everywhere knew your name? What would you do? What would you say about yourself?**
- Even though he easily could have, Jesus didn't talk about how great he was. Rather, Jesus wanted everyone to know how great God was. Jesus said that by giving his life to save us from sins, it would bring glory to God, meaning everyone would know just how powerful and loving God is.
  - To help explain this, Jesus used the example of a seed. **Can a seed do anything on its own?**
  - Without being planted, watered, and nurtured, 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 fruitful tree! However, this path to becoming a tree would mean that the seed would "die" – it wouldn't be a seed anymore.
- Jesus knew that this part of saving us – giving his life for our lives – was part of God's plan all along. The Bible tells us how much sadness it caused in his heart. But Jesus knew that it would be worth it, even though it was going to be a difficult journey.
- Jesus trusted that love was the reason for the plan and trusted God to take care of everything and bring Jesus back to life as God promised. God was so pleased with how Jesus obeyed and brought glory to God.

### 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.
- This week's Big Idea is: **Jesus said yes to God's plans.**

### VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 3

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

### STORY | Saying Yes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell a story about a time when you said yes to something that you weren't sure about, but everything turned out great. Why did you not want to say yes at first? What changed your mind? What happened as a result?
- **What is something that you have said yes to that you weren't sure about? How did it turn out?**

**ACTIVITY | Building Together**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use one of the [LEGO sets](#) from the previous lessons. Select two volunteers, one to build and one to instruct. The kid who is building can hold up one piece at a time and ask if it is the next piece needed. The kids with the instructions can only say, “yes” or “no.” Together, they should build the set according to the instructions.
- Sometimes, you can’t see God’s plans. Just like how **Jesus said yes to God’s plans**, we can trust God sees the big picture and will carry out the perfect plans for us.
- A part of saying “yes” to God is saying “yes” to God’s timing. The best thing we can do is say yes to God’s plan by patiently waiting and trusting that it’s what is best for us!

**SCRIPTURE | Hebrews 5:7-9**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Hebrews 5:7-9.
- **How do you think Jesus felt knowing that his life would end in a painful way?**
- From what we read in the Bible, we can see that Jesus was really concerned or maybe even afraid dying. But even though it would be extremely hard, Jesus was willing to obey God’s plan no matter what.
- **Why do you think Jesus was so dedicated to this difficult plan?**
- Jesus knew that saying yes to God’s plan was just like saying yes to you. You mean that much to him! Jesus could see every person who would be reconnected to God and forgiven because of his choice. Because of love, **Jesus said yes to God’s plans.**

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

**REFLECTION | Jesus Gave it All for You**

- Jesus was willing to give up life for everyone — even those who didn’t know or love Jesus!
- **What are some thoughts you might have if you knew you had to die for other people?**

**RESPONSE | We’re in Jesus’ Heart**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to use [blueprint paper](#) to draw a picture of Jesus according to how they imagine Jesus to look like. Next to it, tell them to draw a heart with the word, “Loves” and the names of the people they care about in the heart.
  - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Find images of Jesus online that represent different ideas of what he might have looked like based on his Galilean Jewish culture. Ask kids to draw a picture of Jesus with them at school, at home, or any place that would help them to imagine how much Jesus loves them and wants to support them wherever they go.
- **How do you know Jesus loves you and the people you care about?**
- **What does it mean to you that Jesus loves you?**
- We know Jesus loves us because **Jesus said yes to God’s plans.**

**MEMORY VERSE | Peek-a-Verse**

- **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.
  - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Recruit preteens to learn the memory verse with signs we've provided in advance. Give preteens the opportunity to lead kids in learning the verse during this activity to help the rest of the group with recall.

**PRAYER**

- Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to Earth to save us. Help us to always be willing to follow Jesus' example and say yes to your plan for our lives! Amen.

**SMALL GROUP TIME****DISCUSSION**

- Where did people come from to talk to Jesus?
- What kind of seed/grain did Jesus talk about?
- What did Jesus say yes to?
- Read John 12:32. Who did Jesus say would be drawn to Jesus if Jesus was lifted up?
- What is something God wants you to say yes to this week?
- Is it difficult for you to say yes to God's plan when you're not completely sure what it is?
- What is something you will do this week because you said yes to God's plan?

**ACTIVITY | Your Yes!**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and cut this week's printable and hand one out to each kid. On the back of the card, tell kids to write something that they are going to say yes to this week. These things may be hard to do, but they can do it because of love (e.g., help around the house, give someone a genuine compliment, make someone smile). After they have written their idea down, play twenty questions using only yes or no questions only to guess what they wrote!
- There are a lot of things we can do to say yes to. But remember you can't just say yes – you need to follow through with action. **Jesus said yes to God's plans** then obeyed God every step of the way. We can follow Jesus' example and say yes to God's plans for us!

**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.