



WEEK 4

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

I am included in God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Enters Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11;
(Psalm 118:19-29)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Chair Challenge
- ACTIVITY** | Road Builders
- QUESTION** | Working Together
- SCRIPTURE** | Mark 11:1-11
- THE BIG IDEA** | I am included in God's plans.
- VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 4
- ACTIVITY** | Donkey Relay
- ACTIVITY** | Palms of Praise
- SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 118:19-29
- REFLECTION** | Is It Personal?
- RESPONSE** | Make It Personal!
- MEMORY VERSE** | Pass the Verse
- PRAYER**

SMALL GROUP TIME

- DISCUSSION**
 - What were the two towns that were nearby Jerusalem where Jesus was?
 - What were the names of the disciples Jesus sent to get the donkey?
 - What did the people put down in the road in front of Jesus as Jesus came into Jerusalem?
 - Read Psalm 118:28. How does King David describe God?
 - What does Jesus riding on a donkey instead of entering in a grand way tell us about the kind of person Jesus is?
 - How do you think you are included in God's plan?
 - What is one thing you can do this week as part of God's plan?
- ACTIVITY** | Dream Plans
- MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)



WEEK 4

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.

QUESTION | Working Together

Ask more detailed questions regarding working together on a team. You could use construction analogies about how everyone on a construction crew needs to work together. Or for a more relatable approach, ask about playing as a team:

- **What happens when one volleyball player decides to play every ball on the court?**
- **Or basketball player decides to take every shot.**
- **What about soccer?**
- **Who has played on a team where everyone really worked well together? What was it like?**
- **How did things turn out when you worked together as a team?**

RESPONSE | Make It Personal!

Have each kid hold up ten fingers. Kids will go around in a circle stating things that they think God's plan for them might involve, making sure that they are general enough. For example, "I think God's plan for me might include animals." Anyone who feels like that is a part of God's plan for them also will put a finger down. Keep naming things until someone puts down all ten fingers.



WEEK 4

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 | Chair Challenge

For someone with a mobility concern, have a few kids chosen to pull or choose the chairs to pull out in the chair trick games.

ACTIVITY | Road Builders

If you serve a kid in a wheelchair, be sure to space the palms on the ground out far enough to maneuver as needed.



WEEK 4

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

I am included in God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Enters Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11;
(Psalm 118:19-29)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT TODAY?

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the kids in worship and repeat your theme song for the month, (e.g., "[I Believe In Jesus](#)," "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)"). Today while they listen and sing along, give each kid a piece of graph paper, a pencil, eraser, and a ruler and have them write "Jesus" in large block letters [like this](#).
- Today will mark our final week of our lesson this month, called Blueprints. We've been hearing all about how God has a plan for all of our lives.
- We've talked about what that means in a lot of way, but today, let's make it personal! Really think about how you can trust and believe God's plan no matter what!

ACTIVITY | Chair Challenge

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select four volunteers who are all about the same age and size. Perform this [chair trick](#). Repeat it a few times with other volunteers, if time allows. If you have a small enough group, you can do [this version](#) and involve everyone.
 - ✳ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** For someone with a mobility concern, have a few kids chosen to pull or choose the chairs to pull out in the chair trick games.
- Today, we're talking more about God's blueprints for our lives. God has a plan for each of you!
- What an awesome trick! It was so important for each person to do their part!

ACTIVITY | Road Builders

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids evenly into teams, with a minimum of two teams, but have more if you have a large group. Each team needs a [hobby horse](#) and three pieces of green paper, which will represent palm branches. The teammate on the hobby horse has to get across the room, but can only walk on the palm branches. The rest of the team must keep moving and putting paper in front of the person on the hobby horse for them to move forward.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** If you serve a kid in a wheelchair, be sure to space the palms on the ground out far enough to maneuver as needed.
- The people in Jerusalem put coats and branches on the street to welcome Jesus as a king!

QUESTION | Working Together

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the question and allow the kids time to answer. Focus on answers where each person had to do their own part on a team while working together with others.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Ask: What happens when one volleyball player decides to play every ball on the court? Or basketball player decides to take every shot. What about soccer? Who has played on a team where everyone really worked well together? What was it like? How did things turn out when you worked together as a team?
- **What are some activities where you need a team for things to work? What happens when someone doesn't do their part?**
- Can you imagine a sports team where one person thinks they should do everything? Their team would have a hard time winning!
- God's overall plan was made with you in mind!

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

SCRIPTURE | Mark 11:1-11

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before your kids meet for the day, finish the LEGO or wood model you started building in previous weeks. Bring it out to show before you start the Bible story today.
- We've been building this [name of model] this whole month while talking about God's plans and look! It's finally finished!
- The thing about God's plans are, we may not be able to see what's going on at first. But little-by-little, God shows us the amazing things that are in store for us. We'll see more of that in the Bible story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select volunteers to be Jesus, the two disciples who get the donkey, and the other people who are there for the parade. Read the story in Mark 11:1-11 and encourage the kids to act out the story as you go. Instruct the Jesus actor to ride the hobby horse. Give kids paper palm branches and extra clothes that kids can wave and lay on the ground for the kid playing Jesus.
- **If you were really there that day, what would you have been doing? Fetching the donkey? Laying down your coat on the donkey? Waving palm branches? Putting palm branches on the ground?**

- What I love about this story is that everybody played a part!
- Jesus asked the disciples to get the donkey to ride.
- Some people put their coats on the donkey for Jesus to sit on. Others put their coats or large palm branches in the road to make a “red carpet” which was only done for a king. Some people were just there to celebrate.
- **Which part do you think was the most important that day? Why?**
- Everyone shouted and praised as they welcomed Jesus into the city of Jerusalem. The people called out to Jesus saying, “Hosanna!” Hosanna means “to save.” When the people were shouting it, they were asking Jesus to save them.
- Everyone thought that Jesus would be the kind of king that would help them build their own nation and rule. But God’s master plan was about more than that. It’s true that God sent Jesus to save everyone. But it was to save everyone from sin.
- No matter which part you might think was the most important that day, we are all loved the same by God, because Jesus came to save all of us. When God made the plan of sending Jesus, God did it with you in mind. We would all be shouting, “Hosanna!”

THE BIG IDEA | I am included in 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: **I am included in God’s plans.**

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 4

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

ACTIVITY | Donkey Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up a relay race between two teams. Split the teams in two and put half at one end of the area and half at the other end. Give each team a [hobby horse](#) to “ride”. Each kid should race with the hobby horse and pass it off to their teammate at the other end. Once they have gone, have them sit down. First team to have their entire team sitting wins!*
- While Jesus didn’t have to race on the donkey, Jesus did ride it and was greeted like a king into Jerusalem. But Jesus knew that what came next would be the most difficult time in his life. Even then, he kept going.
- Jesus didn’t think about how much he would suffer. Jesus was thinking of us. **We are included in God’s plans.**

ACTIVITY | Palms of Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Instruct the kids to trace their hands on green paper. Encourage them to write a note of thanks and praise to Jesus for including everyone in God’s plans. Then, cut it out and make a “road” out of everyone’s palm by gluing them onto butcher paper.*

- Jesus had to make difficult decisions and chose them on purpose so that God's plans could be carried out.
- Aren't you thankful that Jesus obeyed God, specifically so that you and I could be saved? **We are included in God's plans!**

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 118:19-29

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Psalm 118:19-29.
- King David wrote these psalms to praise God for saving him. And fun fact – King David happens to be an ancestor of Jesus!
- Saving King David was part of God's plan. You and I have a lot to praise God for as well.
- **What is something you want to praise God for?**
- Let's shout those things out to praise God like King David did!
- Jesus was God's plan to love and help everyone, including you.
- You are a part of God's plan! **We are included in God's plans.**

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

REFLECTION | Is It Personal?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out paper, crayons, and markers to the kids and tell them to draw a picture of what they imagine God's plans are for them.
- Everything we see is part of God's plan. **Have you ever wondered about what will happen in the future? What do you think might be in God's plans for you?**
- We may not know everything that is in God's plan, but we can still look forward to whatever is heading our way because **we are included in God's plans.**

RESPONSE | Make It Personal!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Partner up the kids and tell them to take turns telling each other how they are a part of God's plan. Model it by choosing a few volunteers and telling them how you see them in God's plan.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have each kid hold up ten fingers. Kids will go around in a circle stating things that they think God's plan for them might involve, making sure that they are general enough. For example, "I think God's plan for me might include animals." Anyone who feels like that is a part of God's plan for them also will put a finger down. Keep naming things until someone puts down all ten fingers.
- I see [insert friend's name] as a part of God's plan. God loves you and made you special.
- We can help our friends because we are all included in God's plan.

MEMORY VERSE | Pass the Verse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to sit in a circle so that everyone can catch the ball. Each time the ball is passed, the person passing it should say one word in the verse. Be ready to help the kids who need it!

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for making me part of your plan. Help each of us to be grateful for your plans and help us follow them. We love you! Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What were the two towns that were nearby Jerusalem where Jesus was?
- What were the names of the disciples Jesus sent to get the donkey?
- What did the people put down in the road in front of Jesus as Jesus came into Jerusalem?
- Read Psalm 118:28. How does King David describe God?
- What does Jesus riding on a donkey instead of entering in a grand way tell us about the kind of person Jesus is?
- How do you think you are included in God's plan?
- What is one thing you can do this week as part of God's plan?

ACTIVITY | Dream Plans

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a copy of the Dream Plans printable and colored pencils. Have them create a detailed floor plan of their dream house. Afterward, have each kid explain each item in their floor plan.
- We talked a lot about plans this month. We make a lot of plans every day, but unless God is at the center of those plans, they have no meaning. Look at all the rooms in your dream plans again. **Where can you make room for God to be in your plan?** Because God made room for you. **You are included in God's plans.**

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.