



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

I am included in God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Enters Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Plan for Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Construction Clean-Up
- ACTIVITY** | Road Builders

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Cup of Dirt
- ACTIVITY** | Palms of Praise
- ACTIVITY** | I am in God's Plan
- MEMORY VERSE** | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Mark 11:1-11
- THE BIG IDEA** | I am included in God's plans.
- VIDEO** | Blueprints, Episode 4
- ACTIVITY** | Donkey Relay
- PRAYER**

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Parachute Party
- ACTIVITY** | Build-It Center



WEEK 4

HACKS FOR TODDLERS

BLUEPRINTS

BY ABBY BURG

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

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

ACTIVITY | Construction Clean-Up

Younger kids might not have the dexterity to balance items in a shovel or scoop. In that case, have them retrieve items by hand and bring it to their bucket.

SCRIPTURE | Mark 11:1-11

Toddlers love to play and act out stories! Consider reading the passage a few times through, allowing different kids to play different parts each time.

ACTIVITY | Parachute Party

For toddlers just learning to use a parachute, you can do this activity without any objects. Have them practice lifting the parachute and running under it.



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

BLUEPRINTS

THE BIG IDEA

I am included in God's plans.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Enters Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Plan for Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead kids into a fun time of praise! Pick one song to be your theme song for the month, such as "[Jeremiah 29:11](#)" or "[I Know the Plans](#)."
- Hi, friends! Today is our final week talking about blueprints. Remember, blueprints is another word for "plans." Today we are going to find out more about what God's blueprints have to do with you and me!

ACTIVITY | Construction Clean-Up

- In a construction crew, it's so important for each person on the site has to do their part. Let's see what that looks like through this next activity!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Beforehand, create fake gravel by crumpling up newspaper, paper grocery bags, and aluminum foil, making enough to fill up a large garbage bag. Split your group into two teams, giving each team a [large bucket](#) and a [shovel](#) or scoop. Dump out the contents of the garbage bag in a pile in the middle of the room. Have kids take turns bringing back as much "gravel" from the pile to their bucket. Play until the pile is cleared. The team with the most in their bucket wins!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Younger kids might not have the dexterity to balance items in a shovel or scoop. In that case, have them retrieve items by hand and bring it to their bucket.

ACTIVITY | Road Builders

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide into teams evenly, with at least two teams or more if you have a large group. Each team needs a [hobby horse](#) and three pieces of green paper to serve as 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.
- In today's Bible story, we are going to find out that people were so happy to see Jesus come to Jerusalem that they put coats and branches along the road to welcome him.

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Mark 11:1-11

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Open a Bible in front of you to Mark 11:1-11. 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 and ask the kids to act out the story as you go. Ask the volunteer playing Jesus 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.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Toddlers love to play and act out stories! Consider reading the passage a few times through, allowing different kids to play different parts each time.
- What I love about this story is that everybody played a part!
- Jesus asked friends to get the donkey for him to ride on.
- Some people put their coats on the donkey for Jesus to sit on.
- Others put their coats or large palm branches on the road to make Jesus an extra special path to ride on, perfect for a king.
- Some people were just there to celebrate!
- Everyone shouted, "Hosanna!" as they welcomed King Jesus to Jerusalem. **Can we try shouting that together? Hosanna!**
- "Hosanna" means "save us." Jesus came to Jerusalem to save all of us!

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. Ask one of the kids to come up to the front to open the tube and take the paper out to reveal the Big Idea.
- This week's Big Idea is: **I am included in God's plans.**
- Say the Big Idea with me!
 - **I am** (Point to yourself.)
 - **included** (Hug your arms around yourself.)
 - **in God's** (Point up to the sky.)
 - **plans** (Hold your hands out together in front of you with your palms up so your hands look like an open book.)

VIDEO | Blueprints, Episode 4

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

ACTIVITY | Donkey Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a relay race between two teams. Split the teams in two groups and have half at one end of the area and half at the other end. Give each team a [hobby horse](#) to "ride." Each kid races with the hobby horse and passes 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 while being greeted like a king into Jerusalem.
- Even when Jesus was going to Jerusalem, Jesus was thinking of us. **We are included in God's plans.**

PRAYER

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

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Cup of Dirt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare [instant chocolate pudding](#) for each kid in clear cups or use [ready-made pudding cups](#). Put [crushed oreos](#) into bowls that kids can scoop out and sprinkle on top of their pudding. Give each kid a few candy corn to top it off and consider having them use these [shovel spoons](#) to eat their cup of dirt!
- **Do you remember the different things people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem? Some people . . .**
 - Went to get the donkey.
 - Gave their coat for Jesus to sit on.
 - Covered the road with their coats.
 - Covered the road with palm branches.
- **Which part do you think was the most important that day? Why?**

ACTIVITY | Palms of Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid at least two green hand cut-outs. Provide a variety of stickers, crayons, or markers. Ask the kids to either draw or add stickers (e.g. a dog sticker to represent their pet, a hamburger sticker to represent yummy food they get to eat) to their handprint that represent things they are thankful for. Make a "road" out of everyone's palm by taping or gluing them onto butcher paper.
- We are thankful to God for lots of things, including the things you've put on your handprints. We're also thankful that we are part of God's plans.
- Remember today's Big Idea: **I am included in God's plans.**

- What did Jesus ride on when Jesus entered Jerusalem?
- What word were the people shouting when Jesus entered Jerusalem?
- Who is included in God's plans?

ACTIVITY | I am in God's Plan

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sing the following to the tune of, "[The Farmer in the Dell](#)," adding in a different kid's name each time you sing it. Finish the song with "We are in God's plan." As you sing, tap your knees and clap along. Tap, tap, clap is a rhythm that works well for this.
 - I am in God's plan
 - I am in God's plan
 - Hosanna! Hosanna!
 - I am in God's plan
 - Replace underlined part with "[Name of kid]'s" and "we are" as you repeat the song.
- I am included in God's plan and so are each of you! I'm so glad God has included us.
- Part of God's plan is for us to spend time with God. **What are some ways we can spend time with God this week?**
- Part of God's plan is for us to be like Jesus. **What are some things we can do this week to be like Jesus?**
- Part of God's plan is for us to tell others about Jesus. **Who can you tell about Jesus this week?**

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to sit in a circle and have kids roll the ball to different people in the circle. Each time the ball is passed, say one word of the memory verse that the kids should repeat after you. Continue until the entire verse has been recited.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids...

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Parachute Party

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Instruct the kids to stand around the edge of a parachute, or bedsheet if a parachute isn't available, holding it at about waist height. Place a different item in the middle of the parachute (e.g., ball, stuffed animals that want to go for a ride, cotton balls to make a pretend snowstorm, or balloons to make it look like a party). Have fun either lifting the parachute together or having each kid move their hands up and down to create waves in the parachute. Make sure the kids remember to follow the instructions together and hold on tightly to their part of the parachute.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *For toddlers just learning to use a parachute, you can do this activity without any objects. Have kids practice lifting the parachute and running under it.*

- Wow, that was fun! It was so important for each person to do their part in this party!
- We all have a part in God's plan. **I am included in God's plan.**

ACTIVITY | Build-It Center

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up a station with assorted building blocks (e.g., magnetic tiles, LEGOS, wooden blocks, bristle blocks, etc.) and large construction vehicle toys, like this [dump truck](#). Have them pretend they are on a construction site and have them transport materials around and use a combination of the materials provided to build their own city.*

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.