Explore the Bible: Preschool Music & Print Extras

Parent Email Messages

Winter 2022-23

*Teachers: You have permission to use these brief messages to provide families an overview of the Bible focus for each week.*

**Session 1.** Parent Note for Week of December 4, 2022

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: The Promised One

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: God’s Plan for Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17)

• Text Truth: Jesus had a family. (BT)

• Text Truth: Jesus came from the family of Abraham. (P)

• Bible Verse: Isaiah 9:6-7

**PARENT TIP**

In the Gospel book of Matthew, we read about Jesus’ family. Matthew’s account traced Jesus’ lineage to the Old Testament Scripture that announced the coming of God’s Son, Jesus. (See Isaiah 9:6-7.)

 Look for opportunities during December to talk with your child about the coming of Jesus. Say Jesus’ name often as you celebrate with your family during the Christmas season.

**Session 2.** Parent Note for Week of December 11, 2022

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: A Family for Jesus

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: News for Mary and Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38)

• Text Truth: God chose people to care for Jesus. (BT)

• Text Truth: God chose people to care for His Son, Jesus. (P)

• Bible Verse: Luke 1:35

**PARENT TIP**

Gather a few of your preschooler’s baby photos and use them to make a Christmas photo tree. Find a wall or door on which you can tape wide green ribbon in the shape of a tree. (Place the tree at your preschooler’s eye level.)

 Give your preschooler rolled pieces of masking tape to attach his baby photos inside the tree outline.

 As you make the tree together, talk about the joy of the Christmas season and your excitement to hear and learn about Jesus’ birth.

**Session 3.** Parent Note for Week of December 18, 2022

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Good News of Great Joy

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: A Baby in Bethlehem (Matthew 1:24-25; Luke 2:1-20)

• Text Truth: The birth of Jesus is good news.

• Bible Verse: Luke 2:14

**PARENT TIP**

This will be a busy week as your family makes final Christmas preparations. Look for opportunities to share with your preschooler the good news about God sending His Son to earth to love and help people.

 Gift your child with a Bible that he can call his own. A full-text Bible with realistic illustrations appeals to young children. The CSB® Read to Me Bible is a good choice. Encourage your child to use his Bible during family worship times.

**Session 4.** Parent Note for Week of December 25, 2022

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Worship the King

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Wise Men Worshiped Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)

• Text Truth: Praise and worship Jesus.

• Bible Verse: Revelation 17:14

**PARENT TIP**

Show your child a Christmas card with a picture of the wise men. Tell about the wise men wanting to worship Jesus. Say: “Let’s praise Jesus and worship Him!”

 Make streamers from Christmas ribbon. Make a streamer for yourself and one for your preschooler and other family members. Play music and wave your streamers in praise.

 Help your child find Revelation 17:14 in a Bible and say the verse: “Jesus is the King.”

**Session 5.** Parent Note for Week of January 1, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Jesus Pleased God

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jesus Pleased God (Matthew 3:13-17)

• Text Truth: Jesus pleased God.

• Bible Verse: Matthew 3:17

**PARENT TIP**

Your preschooler may have attended a baptismal service. Help your child understand that to baptize someone means to lower the person into the water, then bring him back up out of the water again.

 Look in a Bible atlas or online for a photo of the Jordan River. Tell your child that this is the place where Jesus met John and was baptized. Say: “People today can visit this river and remember Jesus.”

**Session 6.** Parent Note for Week of January 8, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Jesus’ Test

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jesus Worshiped God (Matthew 4:1-11)

• Text Truth: Worship God. (BT)

• Text Truth: Worship God and serve Him. (P)

• Bible Verse: Matthew 4:10

**PARENT TIP**

To help your preschooler connect with this week’s Bible story, play a choices game. Draw a happy face on a paper plate. Name an action (such as hit, take turns, grab a toy, give a hug, throw trash on the ground, talk softly). Encourage your preschooler to hold up the happy face when the action is about doing something good. Say: “Sometimes choosing to do the right thing is hard, isn’t it? Jesus knew about making choices, too. He made the right choice. Jesus chose to worship God and serve Him.”

**Session 7.** Parent Note for Week of January 15, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Lessons for People

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jesus Taught from a Mountaintop (Matthew 5–7)

• Text Truth: Jesus taught people. (BT)

• Text Truth: Jesus taught people how to live for God. (P)

• Bible Verse: Matthew 5:16

**PARENT TIP**

Matthew 5–7 is often called the “Sermon on the Mount.” At church, many fun hands-on Bible explorations will guide your preschooler to connect with this event. Teachers will use the Bible, show Bible pictures, sing songs, and talk about Jesus, the teacher.

 Read Jesus’ sermon and think about ways you can apply the truths to your life. Do your actions reflect the love of Jesus to others?

 Matthew 5:16 is an important verse for your preschooler to learn and say. Locate the verse in the Bible and say the words with your child often.

**Session 8.** Parent Note for Week of January 22, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Helping the Sick

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jesus Helped Sick People (Matthew 8:1-15)

• Text Truth: Jesus wants to help people. (BT)

• Text Truth: Jesus is willing to help people. (P)

• Bible Verse: Matthew 8:3

**PARENT TIP**

Jesus cares about every person and wants to help people. Lead your preschooler to become aware that Jesus loves him and cares about him. Talk and sing about Jesus and remind your child that everyone is important to Jesus.

 Matthew 8:3 assures us that Jesus is willing to help anyone. Help your child highlight this verse with a crayon or marker in his Bible. Say the verse with your child.

 This week during family worship times, pray for Jesus to help your family.

**Session 9.** Parent Note for Week of January 29, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Matthew this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Jesus Provides

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Food for Everyone (Matthew 14:13-21)

• Text Truth: Jesus cares about our needs.

• Bible Verse: Matthew 14:14

**PARENT TIP**

Learning about Jesus begins with hearing His name and becoming familiar with the things He did. Give your preschooler his very own Bible and help him find Jesus’ name.

 Spend some family time outdoors. If the weather is agreeable, go for a walk around your neighborhood or nearby pack. Talk about the things you see—trees, grass, sky. Sit on the grass (or on a blanket spread in the grass). Blow bubbles or read a book. Tell your preschooler that Jesus told people to sit on the grass. Say: “Jesus cared about the people. He helped them have food. Jesus cares about you. He helps you have what you need.”

**Session 10.** Parent Note for Week of February 5, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Jeremiah this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: God Calls

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: A Job for Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1)

• Text Truth: God chooses people to tell about Him.

• Bible Verse: Jeremiah 1:7

**PARENT TIP**

Jeremiah 1 sets the stage for children to hear that God chooses people to tell about Him. Just as God called Jeremiah to speak for Him, God uses us today to share about Him.

 Help your preschooler name family members, church friends, or community people who tell others about God and His love. Thank God each of these people and the influence they have on your family.

**Session 11.** Parent Note for Week of February 12, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Jeremiah this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Listen and Obey

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jeremiah Spoke at the Temple (Jeremiah 26:1-19)

• Text Truth: Listen to God and obey Him.

• Bible Verse: Jeremiah 26:13

**PARENT TIP**

Help your child begin to hear and recognize names of people who lived during Bible times. Jeremiah was a prophet who went where God led him. Jeremiah told the people what God wanted them to do.

 Guide your older child to find Jeremiah’s name in the Bible story passage.

**Session 12.** Parent Note for Week of February 19, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Jeremiah this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: God’s Words

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jeremiah Wrote God’s Words (Jeremiah 36)

• Text Truth: God told people to write the Bible. (BT)

• Text Truth: God’s words in the Bible will never go away. (P)

• Bible Verse: 2 Peter 1:21 (BT); Psalm 119:89 (P)

**PARENT TIP**

Most children are surrounded by books, but the most important one is the Bible! By watching and hearing you read from the Bible, your child will learn the Bible’s importance to you.

 This week’s story can help your child learn that the Bible is true, and it will never go away. Jeremiah wrote the words of God, and those words are in the Bible we read today.

 Help your child learn that the Bible is God’s Word, and it is everlasting. Find these verses in a Bible and say them with your child.

 Younger Preschooler: God told men to write His words. 2 Peter 1:21

 Older Preschooler: God’s Word is forever. Psalm 119:89

**Session 13.** Parent Note for Week of February 26, 2023

Hello, Parents,

We are exploring the book of Lamentations this week in your child’s class at church. Many fun and engaging activities are planned to help your preschooler use the Bible and learn how the Bible applies to his life.

Here’s a glimpse at this week’s Bible focus—

• Session Title: Never-ending Love

• Bible Story & Scripture Reference: Jeremiah’s Broken Heart (Lamentations 1–5)

• Text Truth: God’s love for people never ends.

• Bible Verse: Lamentations 3:22

**PARENT TIP**

Over the past few weeks, your child has heard about Jeremiah and the things God told Jeremiah to do. This week, teachers will tell children about Jeremiah’s sadness when the city of Jerusalem was destroyed. It was indeed a very difficult time for Jeremiah.

 Jeremiah wrote five poems of lament expressing his sorrow. But Jeremiah acknowledged God’s never-ending love. This truth is the foundation for the Bible-focused activities your child will enjoy at church.