



LEADER OVERVIEW

Volume Overview—Believing Is Seeing

In these sessions, kids will learn that God loves everyone. When we listen to and obey God, others can be impacted, and great things can happen. This requires trust that God knows what is best and His timing is perfect. When we trust God, He helps us get through every situation.

<p>SESSION 1: Jonah Goes to Nineveh— Jonah 1:1–2; 3:1 to 4:2 Faith Fact: God loves everyone.</p>	<p>SESSION 2: Daniel in the Lions’ Den— Daniel 6:10–27 Faith Fact: God listens when I pray.</p>
<p>SESSION 3: Esther and the King— Esther 4:10 to 5:4 Faith Fact: God knows what’s best.</p>	<p>SESSION 4: Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall— Nehemiah 2:11–20 Faith Fact: God wants me to trust Him.</p>

SESSION OVERVIEW



*In this session, preschoolers discover that **God knows what’s best**. Sometimes we don’t understand what is going on around us, or a situation comes up that we don’t have an answer to. Often, we think God has forgotten us or He isn’t concerned about our situation. However, we know from reading the Bible that God is aware of our situation, and He knows what’s best even when we can’t see it.*

Bible Lesson	Faith Fact
Esther and the King Esther 4:10 to 5:4	God knows what’s best.
Faith Verse	
2 Corinthians 5:7 (NLT) For we live by believing and not by seeing.	

Bible Engagement Project Preschool curriculum is connected with the intentional, yearlong ministry strategy for elementary kids available at KidminRoadmap.com.

PREPARING FOR THE SESSION

You Will Need	Getting Ready
<p>Preservice Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tablecloth • Toys related to royalty (kings, queens, crowns, etc.) • “Fancy” paper plates and cups • Centerpiece for snack table • Snack <p>Large Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • Worship songs (Song suggestions: “Jump Around” by KidSpring; “Faithful” by Gateway Kids Worship; “Jump into the Light” by Jana Alayra; “Ready Set Go” by Yancy & Little Praise Party) • For groups not using a phone or tablet only, add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projector or TV ○ Laptop ○ Countdown 5-Minute Video ○ Theme Intro Video ○ Bible Lesson Video A ○ Bible Lesson Video B ○ Faith Fact Sound video (bell ringing) ○ Faith Fact Slide or Motion Graphic ○ Faith Verse Slide or Motion Graphic <p>Small Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Group Group Connection Page • Small Group Activity Page, one per kid • Small Group Hands-On Learning Page, one per kid plus one for sample craft • Items for an obstacle course (cones, ropes, boxes, etc.) • Rolled up paper (scroll) with Faith Verse written on it with a marker • Marker • Crayons or markers • Marker • Scissors • Tape or stapler • Glue sticks • Paper towel roll, one per kid, optional 	<p>Preservice Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out toys and snacks. <p>Large Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Download videos and slides if needed. • Select worship song(s) and have them ready to play. <p>Small Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print the Small Group Group Connection Page and cut apart the photos. • Print the Small Group Activity Page, one per kid. • Set up obstacle course from one side of the room to the other (cones, ropes, boxes, etc.). • Write the Faith Verse in large letters on paper and roll it up like a scroll. • Print the Small Group Hands-On Learning Page, one per kid plus one for sample craft. • Create a sample craft. Color and cut out the scepter on the Hands-On Learning Page. Use either card stock rolled into a long tube or a paper towel roll. Cover with aluminum foil if desired. Tape, staple, or glue the scepter to the tube. Decorate with sticker jewels (optional).

- *Card stock, optional*
- *Sticker jewels, optional*
- *Aluminum, optional*

Check out all the promotional and extra media files available for this theme. To access Bible Engagement Project from a computer, visit App.BibleEngagementProject.com.

PRESERVICE ACTIVITIES (30 Minutes)

See what's needed at the beginning of the session.

Bible Story Warm-Up

Welcome the kids and show them the toys related to royalty. While the kids are playing, introduce the Bible story.

Today, we are going to hear about a young woman who became a queen. Her name was Esther. Do you ever pretend that you are a queen or a king? It is really fun. Part of a queen's job is to take care of her people. In today's story, we will hear how Esther helped her people by trusting that God knew what was best.

Do you always know how to do the right thing?

What happens when we do the wrong thing?

Does God know what's best?

God helped Queen Esther do the right thing because **God knows what's best.**

Snack: Banquet

Set up today's snack time like a banquet. Have the kids help you place a tablecloth over the snack table. Use "fancy" paper plates and cups for snack time. Put a centerpiece in the middle of the table. Choose your own snack option or provide fruit slices and bread. These would have been staples at a banquet in Bible times.

Today, we are going to hear about a queen in the Bible who invited the king to a banquet.

Free Play

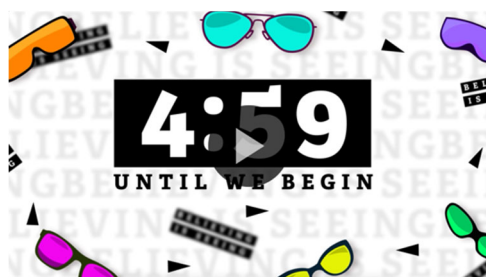
Any extra time can be spent playing with toys.

LARGE GROUP (25 Minutes)

See what's needed at the beginning of the session.

INTRODUCTION

- Optional: Play the **Countdown 5-Minute Video**.
- Use this time to pick up toys and transition to the large group area.



Welcome

Hi, kids! My name is _____. Today is a special day because we are all together and get to hear a Bible story. Who is excited to learn about God today? How do we learn about God? (*Hold up the Bible.*) That's right! We learn about God from the Bible.

Each story in the Bible tells us something about God, and today, we are going to learn that **God knows what's best**. If you are ready to start our story, look at me through your binoculars. (*Make two circles with your hands and place them over your eyes like binoculars.*) Oh good! Now that everyone can see me through their binoculars, we are ready to begin.

- Play the **Theme Intro Video**.



BIBLE TIME | Esther and the King (Esther 4:10 to 5:4)

Bible Video A

When we're together, we get to hear something awesome from God's Word. It is important that we take time to see what the Bible tells us. Today, we are going to learn that **God knows what's best** no matter what. Lizzy and her grandpa will help us with that. Let's check in with them now.

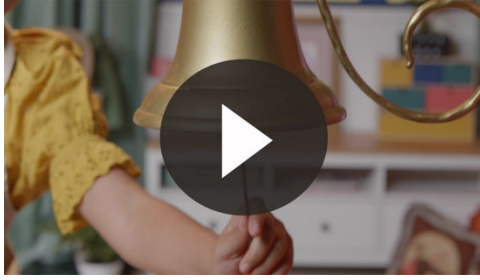
- Play **Bible Lesson Video A**.



Faith Fact

That was fun! You did a great job helping Lizzy solve all the clues. The crown and the X were each a piece of our Bible story. We learned that **God knows what's best** even when we don't know what to do. Sometimes it is hard to do things that are uncomfortable or new to us, but we have to trust that **God knows what's best**.

- Play the **Faith Fact Sound video**.



- Show the **Faith Fact Slide** or **Motion Graphic**.



Perfect timing! Let's shout out our Faith Fact. **God knows what's best.**

WORSHIP

Let's spend some time singing songs and thanking God for knowing what's best!

Praise

Are you glad God made you and me? Jump up high. *(Group response)*

Are you glad God loves you? Touch your toes down low. *(Group response)*

Are you glad God knows what's best? Wave your hands up high. *(Group response)*

Who wants to thank God? Clap your hands. *(Group response)*

Prayer

Now let's bow our heads and pray.

Dear God, thank You for loving me and for always knowing what is best. Thank You for helping me when I am worried or don't know what to do. Thank You that I can trust You to know what's best. Amen.

Sing

Another way to give God thanks is worshipping Him by singing.

- *Lead the kids in singing one or two songs. See the suggestions at the beginning of the session.*

BIBLE TIME continued | Esther and the King (Esther 4:10 to 5:4)

Bible Video B

Let's check back in with Lizzy.

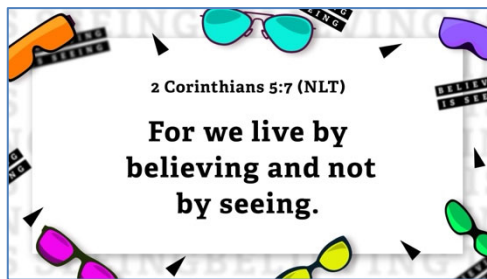
- Play **Bible Lesson Video B**.



Faith Verse

Did you know that we worship God by saying words from the Bible? Let's practice our Faith Verse together.

- Show the **Faith Verse Slide** or **Motion Graphic**.



2 Corinthians 5:7 (NLT)

For we live by believing and not by seeing.

Response Time

Consider playing a worship song softly in the background while the kids pray.

I love that God showed us that if we believe His Word then He will take care of us. Even when we can't see the right thing to do, we can believe that He knows what's best. Is there something you need God's help with today? Let's pray together and ask Him because He knows what's best!

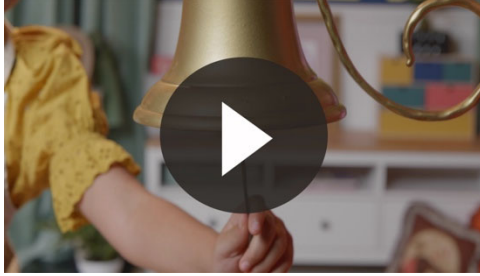
- Take time to hear the kids' prayer requests and say a short prayer.
- If your group is large, you may ask for kids to raise their hands if they have a sick family member, a bump or bruise, a sick or lost pet, etc. This gives all the kids a chance to participate.

Dear God, I believe what you tell me in Your Word. Thank you for taking care of me, just as you took care of Queen Esther and Your people. Amen.

Closing

Did you have fun in our group today, kids? We've heard all about how **God knows what's best** no matter what is going on. We've worshipped God by praising, praying, and singing. We are practicing our Faith Verse too. Just remember that God loves you!

- Play the **Faith Fact Sound** video.



- Show the **Faith Fact Slide** or **Motion Graphic**.



Now, what are we supposed to do when we hear that sound? (*Shout out the Faith Fact.*) Let's say our Faith Fact now. **God knows what's best.**

Great job, friends!

Dismissal to Small Groups

Now it's time to head to small group with your friends and do some more fun activities!

- *Dismiss the kids by groups.*

Leader Tip: This can be done by assigning colors to teams or by age groups. Note that some preschoolers may not know their age. Using a colored sticker, jersey, or wristband will help separate the kids and help identify their small groups.

SMALL GROUP (25 Minutes)

See the supplies and prep instructions at the beginning of the session or in each activity below.

Leader Tip: All groups can do each activity at the same time. If you choose to rotate, you will need at least one leader per group.

Circle 1

GROUP CONNECTION

What's Best?

You Will Need	Getting Ready
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Connection Page 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print the Group Connection Page and cut apart the photos.

Goal: Kids will play a fun, engaging game that reminds them of today's Faith Fact.

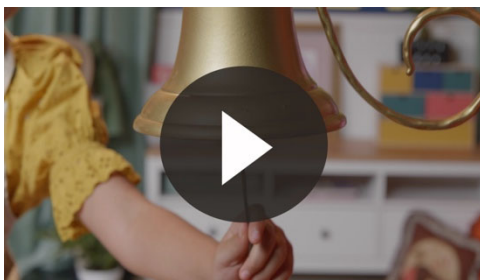
We are going to play a game called What's Best? Stand in a group in the middle of our area. I'm going to show you a picture of two different things, and you are going to choose which one you think is best. If you think the one on this side is best, stand on this side of me. If you think the item on the other side is best, stand on this side of me.



- Many of the preschoolers won't know their left from right, so you may just point to the side they can move to.

Now, let's pause to say the Faith Fact again.

- Play the **Faith Fact Sound** video.



- Show the **Faith Fact Slide** or **Motion Graphic**.



God knows what's best. That's a great job!

Circle 2

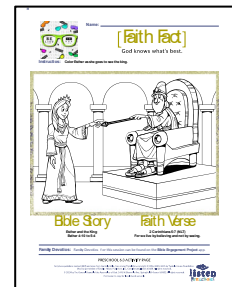
ACTIVITY PAGE TIME

Throne Room

You Will Need	Getting Ready
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity Page, one per kid • Crayons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print copies of the Activity Page, one per kid.

Goal: Kids will color the throne room scene where Esther walked in to see the king to remind them that **God knows what's best**.

When Esther first learned about what was about to happen to the Jewish people, what did she do? (*Group response*) Did she change her mind? (*Group response*) In the end, Esther put what she thought was best aside. She trusted that God knew what was best and would be with her. God protected Esther and saved her people!



Let's see how beautifully you can color the king's throne room.

Circle 3

FEET-TO-FLOOR GAME TIME

Deliver the Message

You Will Need	Getting Ready
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items for an obstacle course (cones, ropes, boxes, etc.) • Rolled up paper (scroll) with Faith Verse written on it with a marker • Marker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up an obstacle course from one side of the room to the other. • Write the Faith Verse in large letters on paper and roll it up like a scroll.

Goal: Kids will review the story and practice the Faith Verse.

While Esther was living in the king's palace, her cousin Mordecai used messengers to deliver notes to her. Today, we have an important message to deliver to one of our leaders, but you have to get through these obstacles. Here is the message we need to deliver, but I am also going to whisper the message to you. When you complete the obstacle course, share the message with the leader.

- Have a leader stand at the end of the obstacle course to receive the message.
- As each kid goes through the obstacle course, hand him or her the scroll.
- Encourage the kids to say the Faith Verse, if they are able.

- After saying the Faith Verse to the leader, the kid should take the scroll back to the next kid in line for the obstacle course.
- Play until everyone has had a chance to go through the obstacle course.

Circle 4

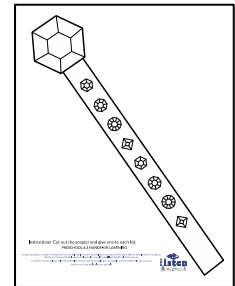
HANDS-ON LEARNING

Create Your Own Scepter

You Will Need	Getting Ready
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands-On Learning Page, one per kid plus one for sample craft • Crayons or markers • Scissors • Tape or stapler • Glue sticks • Paper towel roll, one per kid, optional • Card stock, optional • Sticker jewels, optional • Aluminum foil, optional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print the Hands-On Learning Page, one per kid plus one for sample craft. • Create a sample craft. Color and cut out the scepter on the Hands-On Learning Page. Use either card stock rolled into a long tube or a paper towel roll. Cover with aluminum foil if desired. Tape, staple, or glue the scepter to the tube. Decorate with sticker jewels (optional).

Goal: Kids will review the Bible story as they complete a craft.

In today's Bible story, we learned that Esther was asked to go before the king uninvited. She was scared because she knew that could get her into trouble. When she entered the room, the king held his scepter out to her. A scepter is a small staff that a king carries. It looks kind of like this. (*Show sample scepter.*)

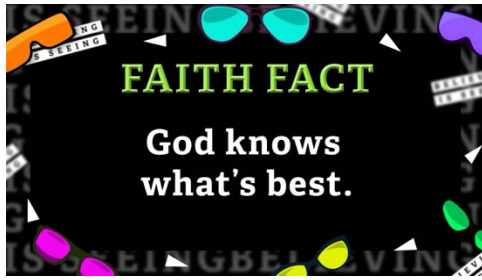


When the king held out his scepter like this, it was a way of inviting that person into the room. Even though Esther wasn't sure she would be invited into the room, she trusted that God knew what was best and would protect her. Because she trusted God, Esther had the courage to speak to the king and save her people.

We are going to make our own scepters to remind us that even when something seems scary, we can trust that **God knows what's best.**

FAITH FACT RECAP

- Display the **Faith Fact Slide** or **Motion Graphic** as parents are coming into the room.
- Maximize the time you have with your kids, so that parents see what their kids have learned. Have the kids repeat the Faith Fact and then dismiss them to their parents.



One of the important things we all need to remember from today is our Faith Fact. When someone asks you, "What did you learn today?" you can respond with the Faith Fact. Let's say the Faith Fact together: **God knows what's best.**

DISMISSAL

- *Send home the **Activity Page** and craft.*
- *Remind parents that there are **Family Devotions** available on the app to do with their kid.*
- *Tell everyone the date and time for the next session.*