

GOD IS EVERYWHERE



IPHC KIDS CURRICULUM
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GOD IS EVERYWHERE

YEAR 3, UNIT 10

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GOD IS EVERYWHERE

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

YEAR 3, UNIT 10 - ELEMENTARY

WEEK 1

LESSON MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece | Blindfold | *Focus Verse Cards* Activity Page (1 per child) | Cardstock | Markers or Crayons | Scissors | Metal Rings (1 per child) | Hole Punch | Dry-Erase Board | Dry-Erase Markers | Eraser | Game Die |

WEEK 2

LESSON MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece | Combination Locks (1 per team) | Blank Stickers of Different Colors (1 per team) | Paper | *God is Everywhere Poem* Activity Page (1 per child) | Smooth Stones, approximately 3 ½" x 2 ½" (1-2 per child) | Paint Pens (various colors) | Crayons or Markers |

WEEK 3

LESSON MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece | Plastic Disposable Cups (3 per team) | Ping Pong Balls (1-2 per child) | Masking Tape | White Cardstock (1 per child) | White Wax Crayon (1 per child) | Watercolor Paints | Paint Brush (1 per child) | Cups of Water | Whiteboard | Dry Erase Marker | Ball |

WEEK 4

LESSON MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece | Plastic or Foam Letters | Small Buckets (2 per class) | *God is with David Wheel* Activity Pages (1 set per child) | Cardstock | Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils | Brads (1 per child) | Scissors |

GOD PROTECTS DAVID

BIBLE PASSAGE

1 Samuel 19 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is Everywhere

FOCUS VERSE

“Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? If I go up to the skies, you are there. If I lie down where the dead are, you are there. If I rise with the sun in the east, and settle in the west beyond the sea, even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.” Psalm 139:7-10 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Blindfold | *Focus Verse Cards* Activity Page | Cardstock | Markers or Crayons | Scissors | Metal Rings | Hole Punch | Dry-Erase Board | Dry-Erase Markers | Eraser | Game Die |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Do you like playing *Hide-And-Seek*? Why or why not?
- Where is your favorite place to play *Hide-and-Seek*?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “God’s Word says, ‘This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad today!’ [Psalm 118:24] What does it mean to rejoice? [Allow for responses.] Great! When we rejoice, we show God we are happy and thankful for what He has done for us! Let’s worship our God; while we do, praise Him for creating us and this day!”

“Everywhere I Go” by Every Nation Church Malaysia Kids is a great theme song for this unit. You can find it on YouTube.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather for prayer, and remind the children that God is always with them, that He knows each of them by name, and that He will never leave them.

Sample Prayer: “Dear God, thank You for loving us and being with us wherever we go. We are grateful that You are always by our side. Help us to listen closely to Your Word and learn more about You. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “This month, we will learn about a man named David who spent a lot of time hiding from people who wanted to hurt him. Thankfully, God was with David no matter where he ran because God is everywhere! I’m so grateful that God can be with me, and you [point to a child], and you [point to another child], and you [point to another child], no matter where we go! Only God can be with ALL of us at the SAME time! He is amazing! Now, who would like to put up our first puzzle piece for this unit?”

TRANSITION: Say, “Let’s play a fun game to help us prepare to learn about how God was with David wherever he went.”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Blindfold |

Say, “We’re going to play a very old game called *Blind Man’s Bluff*. Some people think it’s over 2,000 years old! That’s wild. Let’s get started!”

GAME GOAL: To search and find all the children while blindfolded.



IF A BOY OR GIRL DOESN'T WANT TO PLAY, OFFER TO LET THAT CHILD BE YOUR "HELPER." FOR EXAMPLE, WITH THIS GAME, SOMEONE COULD HELP YOU DETERMINE WHICH STUDENTS ARE TAGGED. AS THE CHILD FEELS INCREASINGLY SAFE AND CONNECTED, THEY WILL LIKELY BEGIN TO PARTICIPATE ON THEIR OWN.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Choose a volunteer to be “It.” Put the blindfold on this child.
2. The remaining children will create a circle around the blindfolded child. Once they are in their spots, they may not move their feet.
3. Spin the blindfolded child around at least three times, and let them try to tag one of the children in the circle.
4. As long as they do not move their feet, the children in the circle may move, bending or contorting, to avoid the tagger.
5. Once someone has been tagged, the blindfolded child gets three guesses to determine who they have tagged. If they are correct, the tagged child trades places and becomes “It.”
6. If the blindfolded child does not guess correctly after three guesses, he must try again with another player.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job, everyone! We played ‘Blind Man’s Bluff’ because today’s story involves someone searching for someone else. However, this time it wasn’t a game. Let’s gather for our story so I can tell you more about it.”

LEARN — 10 MINUTES

Say, "This month, we will learn that God is omnipresent. [Have the children repeat the word with you.] This is a big word! Does anyone want to guess what it means? [Allow for response.] Yes, it means that God is everywhere.

"No matter where we go, God is with us. We can go to another country, be on a ship in the ocean, or even go to the moon, and God would still be there. This is great because we need Him; He takes care of us. Because He is omnipresent [everywhere], we are never alone. Let's say that word once more. [Repeat "omnipresent" once again.] Now, you can share this word with your family or friends when they pick you up today! They won't believe you know that word!

"Today's story is about a man named David. You may remember his most famous story about when David killed the giant, Goliath, with only a slingshot and a few rocks."



THIS STORY IS A LITTLE LONG, SO WE RECOMMEND YOU TELL SOME OF IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS BY FAMILIARIZING YOURSELF WITH 1 SAMUEL 19. CHILDREN GENERALLY PREFER TO HEAR SOMEONE TELL A STORY OVER IT BEING READ TO THEM. MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH THE BOYS AND GIRLS, AND PAY ATTENTION TO THEIR BODY LANGUAGE AS YOU SHARE. EMPHASIZE CERTAIN WORDS AND PHRASES TO KEEP THE STORY INTERACTIVE AND EXCITING.

Say, "Our story takes place a few years after David killed Goliath, but before he was king. [Remind the children of last month's lessons when we learned that God had told the prophet Samuel that David would one day rule His people.] Saul was king and sent David to fight their nation's enemies. God was with David, so he won lots of battles and became a famous hero. The people even sang this song: 'Saul has killed thousands, but David has killed tens of thousands.' King Saul was angry because he was jealous of David; he thought David was trying to take over his kingdom. One day Saul told his son Jonathan and his servants that he wanted them to kill David."

Ask, "Have you ever been jealous of a friend? How did that change your feelings for your friend? [Allow for responses.] Do you see how Saul's jealousy led to even more sin?"

"Jonathan was David's best friend, so he warned David of his father's plan. Jonathan told David to hide until he could change his father's mind. So, David fled and hid from Saul, but the Lord saw David. He was watching over him. Meanwhile, Jonathan tried to convince his father not to kill David...." Read 1 Samuel 19:4-5.

⁴ Jonathan talked to Saul his father. He said good things about David. Jonathan said, "You are the king. Don't do wrong to your servant David. He did nothing wrong to you. What he did has helped you greatly. ⁵ David risked his life when he killed Goliath the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel. You saw it, and you were happy. Why would you do wrong against David? He's innocent. There's no reason to kill him!"

Say, "Saul listened and agreed not to kill David, and Jonathan brought David back to the king's house. Then war broke out, and David went to battle. The Lord helped David again, and he defeated the Philistines. When David returned, Saul was even more jealous. He became so angry that Saul threw a

spear to kill him as David played music for him. David moved quickly, and the spear missed, but he ran out of the room and to his house. Let's see what happens next." Read 1 Samuel 19:11-12.

11 Saul sent men to David's house. They watched it, wanting to kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, warned him. She said, "Tonight you must run away to save your own life. If you don't, you will be killed tomorrow morning." 12 Then she let David down out of a window. So he ran away and escaped.

Ask, "What do you think David thought and felt as he ran away? Do you think he knew God was with him? [Allow for responses.]

"When Saul sent his servants to get David, Michal told them that David was sick. When they returned to Saul with the news, he sent his servants back to bring David to him. That's when they discovered that David was not there. David ran to a town where the prophet Samuel lived. Samuel took David to another city, but Saul heard that David was with Samuel and sent messengers three different times to capture David. Saul finally went himself, but each time God protected David.

JOINING TO JESUS

David's story reminds us that the Lord was with him at every moment. God is everywhere. He was with David on the battlefields. He was also with him in all the places where he hid from Saul: in his house, in caves, in the town with Samuel, and even when David was in Saul's presence. Years later, David became a great king who loved and followed God. He is considered the greatest human king Israel ever had, but David wasn't perfect. If you read more about his life, you'll discover he was sinful, just like we are. However, the perfect King was coming. And this King is the greatest of all. He is Jesus, "Emmanuel, God is with us." (See Matthew 1:23.)

TRANSITION: Say, "God loves each one of us and has promised never to leave us. He knows exactly where we are, and He is always with us. So, when you feel afraid or sad, please know He is near you."

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Let's review the story we just heard.

1. What does it mean that God is omnipresent?

Response: It means that God is everywhere.

2. Why did King Saul want to kill David?

Response: He thought the people liked David better than him or that David would try to take his place as king; he was jealous of David.

3. How was Jonathan an excellent friend to David?

Response: Jonathan warned David to run and hide. He also convinced Saul not to try to kill David.

4. Why did the people like David so much?

Response: David was a mighty and famous warrior. With God's help, he won many battles.

5. Where did David hide after he left his house?

Response: He went to the town where the prophet Samuel lived.

6. What does this story teach us about God?

Response: God is everywhere. God is with us wherever we go. God helps us. Jesus [God] is the great Emmanuel.

TRANSITION: Say, "You gave such good answers! I can tell you were listening! God is everywhere, and He wants to take care of us. Now, let's make something to take home to help you learn this month's memory verse."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Focus Verse Cards* Activity Page (1 per child) | Cardstock | Markers or Crayons | Scissors | Metal Rings (1 per child) | Hole Punch |



BEFORE CLASS, MAKE A SAMPLE MEMORY RING AND KEEP IT IN THE CLASS THROUGHOUT THIS UNIT. WE WILL REFER TO IT IN MEMORIZE OF WEEK 4. ALSO, PRINT ONE *FOCUS VERSE CARDS* ACTIVITY PAGE PER CHILD ON CARDSTOCK.

Say, "We will make a craft you can take home and use to practice our Focus Verse for this month. Each lesson in this unit will remind us that God is everywhere, precisely what David wrote about in these verses from Psalm 139."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child an activity page, crayons or markers, scissors, and a metal ring.
2. Have the children cut out each card and color the pictures.
3. Punch a hole in the cards, and help the children attach the cards to the metal ring. Read the verse together.

TRANSITION: Say, "We know that **God is Everywhere!** He is with us wherever we go. Isn't it wonderful to know that we can never outrun God!"



THE FOCUS VERSE FOR THIS UNIT IS LONGER THAN USUAL. HOWEVER, MOST CHILDREN MEMORIZE EASILY AND WILL LIKELY SURPRISE YOU WITH HOW QUICKLY THEY LEARN THESE VERSES. TODAY'S CRAFT PROVIDES THE CHILDREN WITH SOMETHING THEY CAN TAKE HOME TO PRACTICE DURING THE WEEK.

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Dry-Erase Board | Dry-Erase Markers | Eraser | Game Die |



WRITE THE VERSE ON THE BOARD BEFORE YOU BEGIN TODAY'S MEMORY PRACTICE.

Say, "We just made a special craft to help you memorize our Focus Verse, and now I've written it on our board. Let's read it together. [Repeat the verse aloud as a group.] Now, we are going to take turns rolling this game die. If you roll a one, you get to erase one word. If you roll a two, you will erase two words, etc.

After each roll, we will read the verse, filling in the missing word. We will continue to do this until each of you has had a turn or we run out of words. Let's get to it!" Play the memory game together. Say, "Our new Focus Verse teaches us that God is everywhere! If we fly high in an airplane, He is there. He is there if we go across the ocean to Africa or Australia. There is nowhere in the universe where God is not present. He is always with us and always loving us. That is such good news! Now, let's learn the hand motions that go with our verse."

Where [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I go to get away from your Spirit?** [Put your pointer finger and thumb together and make a wavy motion moving from chest height to above your head.] **Where** [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I run** [Move your arms back and forth in a running motion.] **from you? If I go up to the skies** [Point to the sky.], **you are there.** [Stand straight.] **If I lie down where the dead are** [Close your eyes and lean your head to one side.], **you are there.** [Stand Straight.] **If I rise with the sun in the east** [Raise your right hand to the sky.], **and settle in the west** [Starting with your left hand above your head, lower it until it is by your side.] **beyond the sea** [Make a wave motion with your hands.], **even there you would guide me.** [Point straight ahead.] **With your right hand** [Hold out your right hand.] **you would hold me.** [Hug Yourself]"
Psalm 139:7-10, ICB (Hold hands open like a book.)

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Today, we learned that David had to run for his life, and I'm sure there were times when David felt afraid. Sometimes I feel afraid, don't you? However, we must remember that God loves us and is always with us, no matter where we are. That is because He alone is omnipresent. That means **God is Everywhere**. As we pray, thank Him for being our Emmanuel – God with us!"

SAMPLE PRAYER: "Dear God, we love You. Thank You for being with us no matter where we go. Help us trust You when we are afraid, and remember that You will never leave us alone. We love You, Jesus. Amen."

RELEASE — 5 MINUTES

If you have extra time, the children can replay the ENGAGE or MEMORIZE games. As the children are dismissed, remind them that God is everywhere, and give their parents (or guardians) a copy of the monthly Parent Guide (downloadable).





● "Where can I go
to get away from
your Spirit?"

● Where can I run
from you? ...

● even there you
would guide me.

● With your right
hand you would
hold me."

● Psalm 139:7&10
(ICB)

GOD LEADS DAVID

BIBLE PASSAGE

1 Samuel 25 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is Everywhere

FOCUS VERSE

“Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? If I go up to the skies, you are there. If I lie down where the dead are, you are there. If I rise with the sun in the east, and settle in the west beyond the sea, even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.” Psalm 139:7-10 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Combination Locks | Blank Stickers of Different Colors | Paper | *God is Everywhere Poem* Activity Page | Smooth Stones | Paint Pens | Crayons or Markers |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Which state would you most like to visit?
- Where is the farthest you've ever traveled in this country?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “I enjoyed hearing about the places you want to visit. Traveling to new places can feel adventurous and exciting. Coming to church is a different type of adventure. Here we can explore God’s Word and learn about the great story He has been creating since the beginning of time. It’s a story about God rescuing His people, and those people include you and me! Let’s worship and praise God for giving us this grand adventure of knowing Him. Let’s sing together.”

“Everywhere I Go” by Every Nation Church Malaysia Kids is a great theme song for this unit. Additionally, you may want to try “God is Always With Us” from Lifetree Kids. You can find both songs on YouTube.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Say, “We worship God when we sing and when we pray. Would you bow your heads for prayer now?”

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Dear God, no matter where we go, You are with us. We love You for caring for us and trust You always to be near. In Jesus’ name. Amen”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Last week, we learned that David had to run and hide because King Saul was trying to kill him. However, we also learned that God was with David everywhere he went, and He protected him. David could hide from Saul, but he couldn’t hide from God, which is good because God loved David. Today, we will hear another story about David and how he trusted God in a scary situation. He knew God was with him no matter where he went because God is everywhere! Now, who would like to put up our second puzzle piece?”

TRANSITION: Say, “Before I tell you our story, let’s play a game to help us remember that God is everywhere.”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Combination Locks (1 per team) | Blank Stickers of Different Colors (1 per team) | Paper |

Say, “Today, we will play a game where you and your team must find a hidden object and then work together to be the winner. Let’s see how you do!”

GAME GOAL: To be the first team to return an open lock

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Before the children arrive, place stickers on the back of the combination locks. Each lock should have a different colored sticker. Place the corresponding sticker on a piece of paper with the combination numbers written out of order. Next, hide the locks in the room.
2. To begin, divide the class into teams of three or four children and give each group a piece of paper with a sticker.
3. When you say “GO,” each team will search for the lock with the matching sticker on the back.
4. When the team finds their lock, they will work together to decipher the combination by trying different number combinations.
5. The first team to return an open lock wins.



GIVE A QUICK TUTORIAL ON HOW TO OPEN A COMBINATION LOCK BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE GAME.

CHALLENGE: To make the game more difficult, hide the papers with the scrambled combination numbers, and the children will have to find matching papers and locks before they can decipher the combination.

TRANSITION: Say, “I am so impressed with how you worked together to find your locks and decipher the combinations! That was awesome! Now let’s get ready for a story about how no one or nothing can be hidden from God because God is everywhere!”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, “Last week, we began learning about David, one of the greatest kings of Israel. Before becoming king, David had to hide from King Saul, who was trying to kill him. God was with David, however, and He protected him. This story taught us that God is omnipresent. Who remembers what that word means? Yes, it means that **God is everywhere**.

“In today’s story, David is on the run again, still hiding from the king. David and his men escaped to the desert and encountered a rich man there. This man’s name was Nabal. In addition to being rich, he was foolish and cruel, but he had a faithful wife named Abigail. Unlike her husband, she was wise and kind.

“David heard that Nabal was nearby cutting wool from his sheep, so he sent ten young men to ask Nabal for food. He instructed his young men to greet Nabal kindly and remind him how David’s men had protected his flocks and servants. David hoped Nabal would provide his men with much-needed food and hospitality. However, David’s request angered Nabal, and he refused to give the men food. Let’s read about what happened next.” Read 1 Samuel 25:9-13.

⁹ When the men arrived, they gave the message to Nabal. But Nabal insulted them. ¹⁰ He answered them, “Who is David? Who is this son of Jesse? Many slaves are running away from their masters today! ¹¹ I have bread and water. And I have meat that I killed for my servants who cut the wool. But I won’t give it to men I don’t know.” ¹² David’s men went back and told him all Nabal had said. ¹³ Then David said to them, “Put on your swords!” So they put on their swords, and David put on his also. About 400 men went with David...

Say, “David was so mad that he immediately got ready to battle Nabal. Fortunately, Nabal’s servants ran to Abigail and begged her to do something. Let’s keep reading.” Read 1 Samuel 25:14-20.

¹⁴ One of Nabal’s servants spoke to Abigail, Nabal’s wife. He said, “David sent messengers from the desert to greet our master. But Nabal insulted them. ¹⁵ These men were very good to us. They did nothing wrong to us. They stole nothing from us during all the time we were out in the field with them. ¹⁶ Night and day they protected us. They were like a wall around us while we were with them caring for the sheep. ¹⁷ Now think about it, and decide what you can do. Terrible trouble is coming to our master and all his family. Nabal is such a wicked man that no one can even talk to him.”

¹⁸ Abigail hurried. She took 200 loaves of bread, 2 leather bags full of wine and 5 cooked sheep. She took about a bushel of cooked grain, 100 cakes of raisins and 200 cakes of pressed figs. She put all these on donkeys. ¹⁹ Then she told her servants, “Go on. I’ll follow you.” But she did not tell her husband. ²⁰ Abigail rode her donkey and came down into the mountain ravine. There she met David and his men coming down toward her.

Ask, “What do you think about what has happened so far? [Allow for responses.] If God is everywhere and He sees all that is going on, what might He be thinking about the behavior of Nabal, David, and Abigail? [Answers will vary.] I love hearing your thoughts. Let’s keep reading.” Read 1 Samuel 25:23-31

²³ When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey. She bowed face down on the ground before David. ²⁴ She lay at David's feet. She said, "My master, let the blame be on me! Please let me talk to you! Listen to what I say. ²⁵ My master, don't pay attention to this worthless man Nabal. He is the same as his name. His name means 'fool,' and he is truly foolish. But I, your servant, didn't see the men you sent. ²⁶ The Lord has kept you from killing and punishing people yourself. As surely as the Lord lives and as surely as you live, may your enemies become like Nabal! ²⁷ I have brought a gift to you. Please give it to the men who follow you. ²⁸ Please forgive my wrong... ³⁰ The Lord will keep all his promises about good things for you. He will make you leader over Israel. ³¹ Then you won't feel guilty. You won't have problems about killing innocent people and punishing them yourself. Please remember me when the Lord brings you success."

Ask, "What did Abigail do when she saw David? [Reread verse 23.] Yes! She bowed down face down before him. [Demonstrate this action.] She did this because she knew David was very powerful. He could have killed her right then, so she bowed to show him she knew he was very important.

"Do you see how God used Abigail to give David wise advice when he was about to do a terrible thing? Let's finish reading to see how the story concludes." Read 1 Samuel 25:32-35.

³² David answered Abigail, "Praise the Lord, the God of Israel. He sent you to meet me. ³³ May you be blessed for your wisdom. You have kept me from killing or punishing people today. ³⁴ As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, he has kept me from hurting you. If you hadn't come quickly to meet me, no one belonging to Nabal would have lived until tomorrow." ³⁵ Then David accepted Abigail's gifts. He told her, "Go home in peace. I have heard your words, and I will do what you have asked."

Ask, "How did God help David? [Answers will vary.] God gave Abigail the right words to help David calm down and decide not to hurt Nabal's family. This story reminds us that God is with us wherever we go. He is with us when we are in danger and is present to help us make good decisions. This doesn't mean that we will never have problems. As long as we live on earth, hard times will come and go, but because He is everywhere, Jesus knows about our problems and is with us. He knows our name, sees us, and loves us more than we can imagine."

JOINING TO JESUS

As Abigail bravely confronts David, begging for undeserved mercy, she also points us to the work of Jesus. The world teaches us to defend ourselves and take revenge on people who hurt us, but Christ flips this narrative and says to love our enemies. Then, He embodied His own message by dying for us – even for the worst sinners. In this Old Testament story, Abigail points us to Jesus – our merciful and humble Savior: "Very few people will die to save the life of someone else. Although perhaps for a good man someone might possibly die. ⁸ But Christ died for us while we were still sinners. In this way God shows his great love for us." (Romans 5:7-8)

TRANSITION: Say, "Aren't you thankful that God knows everything about us? He also knows exactly what we need right where we are. **God is everywhere!**"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about the story you just heard."

1. Why was David hiding?

Response: David hid from King Saul, who wanted to kill him.

2. How would you describe Nabal?

Response: Answers will vary.

3. What did David do when Nabal refused to help him?

Response: He was ready to go to war against Nabal and his family.

4. How was the war prevented?

Response: Nabal's servants begged Abigail, Nabal's wife, to help. She sent food to David, and then she bravely went to him herself and pleaded with David not to hurt anyone. (Note that this was a terrifying and dangerous situation for Abigail.)

5. Why did David change his mind?

Response: God used Abigail's wise words to help David calm down and make the right decision.

6. What does this teach us about God?

Response: **God is everywhere.** God gives us wisdom. God helps us be brave. God guides us. God is trustworthy, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "You listened so well! This lesson reminds us that God is interested in everything that happens to us and will help us make wise decisions. Let's make something to take home that will help us remember that **God is EVERYWHERE!**"

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *God is Everywhere Poem* Activity Page (1 per child) | Smooth Stones, approximately 3 ½" x 2 ½" (1-2 per child) | Paint Pens (various colors) | Crayons or Markers |



GATHER STONES IN YOUR YARD OR AT A LOCAL CREEK. YOU CAN ALSO PURCHASE THEM AT A CRAFT STORE OR ONLINE. IF YOU CHOOSE TO USE ROCKS FROM OUTSIDE, BE SURE TO WASH AND DRY THEM AHEAD OF TIME.

Say, "**God is everywhere!** He is right beside us to help and guide us. If we fly high in an airplane, sail across the ocean on a ship, or even try to hide behind a big rock, He sees us, and we are so thankful that He watches over us. Now, let's decorate our stones. Then, they can remind us that **God is everywhere!**"



THE PAINT PENS MAKE THIS ACTIVITY EASY AND RELATIVELY MESS-FREE.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a stone, and have the children share the paint pens.
2. Instruct the children (assist as needed) to write "God is Everywhere" on their stones. Allow them to dry.
3. Finally, give the children a copy of the *God is Everywhere Poem Activity Page* to color.
4. Read the poem aloud, and encourage the children to place their stones and the poem where they can be a reminder that God is always with them.

TRANSITION: Say, "It's helpful to have little reminders of God's truth. Why do you think it's important to remember that **God is everywhere**? [Allow for responses.] Thank you for sharing your thoughts. Now, let's practice this month's Focus Verse."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "This month's Focus Verse is a great passage to memorize, so we will always know we are never alone. God is with us, and **God is everywhere**. Let's practice the words together."

Where [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I go to get away from your Spirit?** [Put your pointer finger and thumb together and make a wavy motion moving from chest height to above your head.] **Where** [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I run** [Move your arms back and forth in a running motion.] **from you? If I go up to the skies** [Point to the sky.], **you are there.** [Stand straight.] **If I lie down where the dead are** [Close your eyes and lean your head to one side.], **you are there.** [Stand Straight.] **If I rise with the sun in the east** [Raise your right hand to the sky.], **and settle in the west** [Starting with your left hand above your head, lower it until it is by your side.] **beyond the sea** [Make a wave motion with your hands.], **even there you would guide me.** [Point straight ahead.]
With your right hand [Hold out your right hand.]
you would hold me. [Hug Yourself]"
Psalm 139:7-10, ICB (Hold hands open like a book.)

CHALLENGE: Before class, write the memory verse, including the Scripture reference, on the board. After you have practiced the verse several times, have a volunteer turn her back to the board. Have another volunteer point to a word in the verse so everyone can see it except the person whose back is turned. The group will then say the words together, pausing and clapping when they get to the chosen word. The first volunteer should guess which word was skipped. Continue with new volunteers as time allows.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "David hid in his house, and he hid with the prophet Samuel in another town. He even hid in the desert. But David couldn't and didn't need to hide from God because **God is everywhere**. He protected David, guided him, and gave him wisdom. I hope you will always remember that God is with you wherever you go. He will never leave you."



REGULARLY GIVE CHILDREN AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACCEPT JESUS AS SAVIOR. IF YOU AREN'T SURE WHAT TO SAY, SPEND TIME IN PASSAGES LIKE MATTHEW 8:8-12 AND ROMANS 10:9-10. THERE ARE NO MAGIC WORDS, BUT THESE VERSES WILL GUIDE YOU. HERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO INCLUDE IN YOUR SALVATION PRAYER:

- WE ACKNOWLEDGE WE ARE SINNERS.
- WE RECOGNIZE THAT JESUS IS GOD'S SON WHO DIED FOR US, TAKING OUR PUNISHMENT AND SIN.
- WE REPENT OF OUR SINS.
- WE ACCEPT CHRIST AS OUR PERSONAL SAVIOR.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"Dear Jesus, we are so grateful that You are everywhere and watch over us. Thank You for giving us these stories about David to help us know how much You love us. In Jesus' name. Amen."*

RELEASE —

If you have extra time, sing your favorite worship songs or have the children take turns sharing how they decorated their stones.





I'm your little reminder.
Each and every day,
That God is always with you
All along your way.

Remember, God is everywhere
And you can never hide
He is always with you
By your side to love and guide.

GOD IS
EVERYWHERE

GOD MAKES DAVID KING

BIBLE PASSAGE

2 Samuel 5 and 7 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is Everywhere

FOCUS VERSE

“Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? If I go up to the skies, you are there. If I lie down where the dead are, you are there. If I rise with the sun in the east, and settle in the west beyond the sea, even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.” Psalm 139:7-10 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Plastic Disposable Cups | Ping Pong Balls | Masking Tape | White Cardstock
| White Wax Crayon | Watercolor Paints | Paint Brush | Cups of Water | Whiteboard | Dry Erase
Marker | Ball |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Tell me about someone that’s special to you. It could be a friend or a family member.
- What are some things you enjoy doing with that person?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “We have been learning about God’s omnipresence. Do you remember what that means? Right! It means that **God is everywhere**. Because God is everywhere, He is always with us, ready to help, protect, guide, and lead us.

“We’ve also been learning about David. Did you know that besides being a warrior, a shepherd, and a king, David wrote many of the Psalms in the Bible? Some of those Psalms were set to music and used for worship. We still sing them today! Listen as I read from Psalm 147, one of David’s Psalms. ‘Praise the Lord! It is good to sing praises to our God. It is good and pleasant to praise him...³ He heals the brokenhearted. He bandages their wounds. ⁴He counts the stars and names each one. ⁵ Our Lord is great and very powerful...⁷ Sing praises to the Lord.’ Let’s join in with David and worship God as we sing.”

“Everywhere I Go” by Every Nation Church Malaysia Kids is a great theme song for this unit. “King of Me” by RendCo Kids is also an excellent choice for today’s lesson. You can find both songs on YouTube.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather for prayer.



GIVE THE CHILDREN AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNEEL. WE USE OUR BODIES TO SHOW GOD WE LOVE AND HONOR HIM, LIKE WHEN WE RAISE OUR HANDS AS WE SING. BECAUSE PRAYER IS A FORM OF WORSHIP, WE CAN ALSO KNEEL TO SHOW GOD THAT WE RESPECT HIM MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Dear God, thank You for loving us and promising never to leave us. We love You for taking care of us wherever we go. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Our lessons this month have been about David. We’ve seen God protect him as he ran from evil King Saul and guide him to give grace instead of taking revenge on foolish Nabal. Today’s lesson will teach us about David’s life as a king and how God helps him become a great leader. First, let’s put up this week’s puzzle piece.”



SOMETIMES, A CHILD WHO STRUGGLES TO BEHAVE IS JUST WAITING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW YOU THEY CAN BE RESPONSIBLE. ASSIGN AN “IMPORTANT” JOB, LIKE POSTING THE PUZZLE PIECE OR PASSING OUT SUPPLIES, TO A CHILD WHO HAS DIFFICULTY OBEYING. SHOW THEM YOU BELIEVE IN THEM, AND SEE IF THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN HOW THEY RESPOND AT OTHER TIMES.

TRANSITION: Say, “Before we begin our story, let’s play a game!”

ENGAGE — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Plastic Disposable Cups (3 per team) | Ping Pong Balls (1-2 per child) | Masking Tape |

Say, “In today’s game, you will be divided into two teams who will fight a ping-pong battle. Who wants to be on the winning team? Great! Let’s get ready to play!”

GAME GOAL: To be the team that gets the most balls in their opponent’s cups

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Divide the class into two teams and give each team three plastic disposable cups.
2. Line the cups up in a row, approximately six feet from the teams.
3. Next, give each child 1-2 ping pong balls.
4. Place masking tape to mark the place for the children to stand.
5. The children will take turns pitching or bouncing their balls into their team’s cups.
6. The team with the most balls in their cups wins.

TRANSITION: Say, "Wow! That was fun! This week's story is also about a battle, but not one with ping pong balls. King David faced a huge challenge when it was time to go to war with his enemies. Let's see how God helps him in this week's story."

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, "This month, we have learned that God is everywhere. Why do you think it's important for us to know that **God is everywhere**? [Allow for responses.] How does it change your life when you believe that?" Help the children think about this question. For example, you could remind them that when we understand God is everywhere, we know He hears our prayers no matter where we are. We also know that when we are afraid, God is with us, etc. Give the children an opportunity to discuss their answers.



HAVE THE CHILDREN FOLLOW ALONG WITH YOU IN THEIR BIBLES. HELP THEM FIND THE CHAPTER AND VERSE. YOU CAN ALSO USE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO A QUICK TUTORIAL ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE BIBLE. (FOR EXAMPLE, EXPLAIN THE LOCATIONS AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS.) A CLASS SET OF BIBLES IS IMPORTANT, SO ALL THE CHILDREN CAN PARTICIPATE IN LEARNING MOMENTS LIKE THIS.

Say, "In last week's story, David hid from evil King Saul. Today, we will learn about events in David's life that occurred much later. Saul and his son Jonathan had been killed in battle, and David is now the king. The Bible tells us that David was 'a man after God's own heart.' What do you think that means? [Allow for responses.] Yes, it means that David loved and trusted God. He asked God what to do, and he obeyed Him.

"David wanted to make Jerusalem his people's main city, so he drove out the wicked people there and built his royal palace. It was called 'The City of David,' and the Bible says that David 'became stronger and stronger, because the Lord of heaven's armies was with him.' [2 Samuel 5:10]

"One day Israel's enemy, the Philistines [Remind the children that the giant Goliath was a Philistine.], came to fight David. Let's read from 2 Samuel 5:17-19 to see what King David did."

⁷ Now the Philistines heard that David had been made king over Israel. So all the Philistines went to look for him. But when David heard the news, he went down to a safe place. ¹⁸ So the Philistines came and camped in the Valley of Rephaim. David asked the Lord, "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you help me defeat them?" ¹⁹ The Lord said to David, "Go! I will certainly help you defeat them."

Ask, "What did David do before fighting the Philistines? [Allow for responses.] Yes! He prayed. God told David it was OK to fight and that He [God] would help him defeat his enemy, which He did! David described their victory as a 'flood.' What do you think that means? [Allow for responses.]

" Soon, however, the Philistines returned, and David asked God what to do. This time God told him, 'Don't attack the Philistines from the front. Instead, go around them...You will hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees. Then you must act quickly. I, the Lord, will have gone ahead of you and defeated

the Philistine army.' [2 Samuel 5:23b-25] David did exactly what God told him to do, and they won the battle. The Philistines never came back while David was king."

Say, "After this, Nathan, the prophet, came to David with this message from God. Listen closely because I will have some questions for you at the end." Read 2 Samuel 7:9, 11-16.

⁹ I have been with you everywhere you have gone. I have defeated your enemies for you. I will make you as famous as any of the great men on the earth. ¹¹ ... But I will give you peace from all your enemies. I also tell you that I will make your descendants kings of Israel after you. ¹² "Your days will come to an end, and you will die. At that time I will make one of your sons the next king. ¹³ He will build a temple for me. I will make his kingdom strong forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will use other people to punish him. They will be my whips. ¹⁵ But I will not stop loving him. I took away my love and kindness from Saul. I removed Saul when I turned to you. ¹⁶ But your family and your kingdom will continue forever before me. Your rule will last forever."

Say, "Nathan was a prophet, which meant God gave him messages to share with others. This message was for David."

"What kinds of things did Nathan say to David? What do you think David thought as Nathan told him what God had said about him and his family? (Allow time for responses and reread the verses if needed.) God said that he was making a covenant (an agreement) with David and that his family and kingdom would last forever. David was surprised and grateful to hear that God would do this for his family." Read 2 Samuel 7:18-20, 28.

¹⁸ Then King David went in the tent and sat in front of the Lord. David said, "Lord God, why have you made me so important to you? Why have you made my family important? ¹⁹ But that was not enough for you, Lord God. You have also said these kind things about my future family. I am your servant. Lord God, this is not the usual way you talk to people. ²⁰ "What more can I say to you? Lord God, you love me, your servant, so much!... ²⁸ Lord God, you are God, and your words are true. And you have promised these good things to me, your servant. ²⁹ Please, bless my family. Let it continue before you forever. Lord God, you have said these wonderful things. With your blessing let my family be blessed forever."

Say, "Do you see how God has always been with David everywhere he went? The Lord was with David when he fought Goliath, as he hid from evil King Saul, and when David was a victorious warrior and king. God is everywhere.

"David had some scary and lonely times in his life. We know there were moments when he didn't feel like God was with him. [See Psalm 13:1.] Fortunately, it doesn't matter if we think God is with us. The truth is, He is. **God is everywhere**, loving us just as He loved David. In today's story, David had been following God long enough to look back and say, 'Lord God, you are God, and your words are true.' God tells us that He is everywhere, and we can believe it."

JOINING TO JESUS

Throughout the Old Testament, individuals like King David foreshadowed Jesus. These people usually provided some (temporary) salvation or redemption for God's people. Additionally, they pointed to the need for an ultimate Savior. For example, David is from Bethlehem and was chosen by God to be king. David had a band of "mighty men" who followed and learned from him. Jesus is known as the Good Shepherd, which would have reminded the Jewish people of their favorite Old Testament king who began as a shepherd boy. In today's lesson, we see David, the warrior, defeat the Israelites' enemies, reminding us of a time when Christ would defeat the overarching enemy of sin and death. While you may not go into this much detail with your children, help them see how even 1000 years before Jesus was born, God was preparing His people to see Jesus for who He is: The Good Shepherd, the Mighty Warrior, the King of Kings.

TRANSITION: Say, "If you want to know God better, follow David's example and pray whenever you think of the Lord. No matter where we are, God sees us, loves us, and is with us."

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about our story."

1. **What did David do every time the Philistines tried to attack?**
Response: David prayed (asked God what to do).
2. **Why do you think David and his army won so many battles?**
Response: Because David did exactly what the Lord commanded him to do.
3. **What did Nathan, the prophet, tell David?**
Response: He told David that God said his kingdom and family would continue forever.
4. **Tell me about David's prayer to God.**
Response: Answers will vary. See 2 Samuel 7:18-20, 28.
5. **David was thankful for Nathan's message because it reminded him of God's love. How much does God love you?**
Response: God loves you more than you can ever imagine. He sent Jesus to us to show us how much He loves us.
6. **Sometimes, David doubted God. Did David's feelings change the truth?**
Response: No, our feelings don't change what is true. The truth is the way things really are, no matter how we feel. **God is everywhere**, no matter how we think about it.
7. **What does this lesson teach us about God?**
Response: **God is everywhere.** God is always with us. God loves us. God hears us when we pray, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "I'm so glad God loves us and that He is everywhere! Aren't you?"

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | White Cardstock (1 per child) | White Wax Crayon (1 per child) | Watercolor Paints | Paint Brush (1 per child) | Cups of Water |

Say, "We are going to write secret messages to God. If you'd like, you may share your message with the class when you are finished."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a piece of white cardstock and a white crayon.
2. Have the children use their crayons to write thank you notes to God. This can be as simple as "I love You, Jesus!" or a picture of a heart. Allow the children to be creative.
3. Next, explain that they will use watercolors to paint over the whole paper. This process will reveal their secret messages.
4. Give the children an opportunity to share their notes with the class while respecting the wishes of those who want to keep their messages private.

TRANSITION: Say, "Today, we saw how David had learned to follow God, even in stressful times, like when his enemies were about to attack his people. He knew He could trust God completely because He believed the truth about God. David's story is one big reminder that **God is everywhere**, He is with us, and He loves us more than we can imagine."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Whiteboard | Dry Erase Marker | Ball |



WRITE THE FOCUS VERSE ON A WHITEBOARD BEFORE THE CHILDREN ARRIVE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A WHITEBOARD, WRITE IT ON A LARGE POSTER BOARD OR CHART.

Say, "I hope you have been practicing our Focus Verse at home. This month's verse is actually four verses that remind us that God is everywhere, and He will always be with us no matter what. Let's begin by reading the verses together."

Where [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I go to get away from your Spirit?** [Put your pointer finger and thumb together and make a wavy motion moving from chest height to above your head.] **Where** [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I run** [Move your arms back and forth in a running motion.] **from you? If I go up to the skies** [Point to the sky.], **you are there.** [Stand straight.] **If I lie down where the dead are** [Close your eyes and lean your head to one side.], **you are there.** [Stand Straight.] **If I rise with the sun in the east** [Raise your right hand to the sky.], **and settle in the west** [Starting with your left hand above your head, lower it until it is by your side.] **beyond the sea** [Make a wave motion with your hands.], **even there you would guide me.** [Point straight ahead.] **With your right hand** [Hold out your right hand.] **you would hold me.** [Hug Yourself]"
Psalm 139:7-10, ICB (Hold hands open like a book.)

CHALLENGE: After the class has reviewed the memory verse several times, erase the board. Next, have the children sit in a circle. Begin by saying the first word of the verse and rolling the ball to a child who has to say the next word or phrase. That child, in turn, will move the ball to another child who will say the next word or phrase. Continue the activity until the children have finished the verse. Offer help when the children get stuck.



LEARNING THE MEMORY VERSE SHOULD ALWAYS BE A FUN, LOW-STRESS ACTIVITY. WHILE MOST CHILDREN MEMORIZE EASILY, PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR STUDENTS. SOME WILL STRUGGLE. ADJUST AS NEEDED, AND ALWAYS GIVE CHILDREN THE OPTION OF QUIETLY OBSERVING. THEY WILL STILL BE LEARNING.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “God loves us so much! He wants us to trust Him and talk with Him all the time, especially when we have a problem. Whether or not we feel like it, the truth is that He always sees us, always hears us, and is always with us. Let’s ask God to help us believe the truth. Also, let’s pray for one another. Who has a need they’d like for us to pray about together?” Give the children time to share their prayer requests.



THIS MAY BE A GOOD TIME TO SHARE ABOUT A TIME GOD ANSWERED A PARTICULAR NEED IN YOUR LIFE. AS YOU DO, ENCOURAGE THE CHILDREN TO PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING AND TO TURN ALL THEIR ANXIOUS THOUGHTS INTO PRAYERS.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Dear Jesus, we praise You for You are everywhere, and You are good. Please hear our prayers for our friends and help us know and believe that You are always with us. We love You. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.”*

RELEASE —

If you have extra time, you can replay one of the games from today’s lesson. (See ENGAGE and MEMORIZE.)



GOD FORGIVES DAVID

BIBLE PASSAGE

2 Samuel 11-12:25 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is Everywhere

FOCUS VERSE

“Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? If I go up to the skies, you are there. If I lie down where the dead are, you are there. If I rise with the sun in the east, and settle in the west beyond the sea, even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.” Psalm 139:7-10 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Plastic or Foam Letters | Small Buckets | *God is with David Wheel* Activity Pages | Cardstock | Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils | Brads | Scissors |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What does it mean to forgive?
- Name something that would be hard to forgive.

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “God is everywhere, and nothing can be hidden from Him. He sees the good and bad we do. Thankfully, God also loves us very much and wants us to obey Him because that is good for us. But even when we mess up, and we all do, our kind God is ready to forgive us and guide us in the right direction. All we have to do is ask. Let’s sing to the Lord because He is good, and His love for us lasts forever!”

“Everywhere I Go” by Every Nation Church Malaysia Kids is a great theme song for this unit. “You Forgive Me” by LifeTree Kids also pairs well with today’s lesson. You can find both songs on YouTube.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

As you gather for prayer, ask if anyone would like to share a special need. Invite the children to lead in prayer.

Sample Prayer: “Dear God, thank You for loving us. Remind us to talk with You daily and trust You to help us make the right decisions. [Include any special requests the children shared.] We pray all these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



WRITTEN PRAYERS CAN HELP CALM NERVES AND PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO PRAY. THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER IS TO FACILITATE AN ONGOING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. TEACH THE CHILDREN TO PRAY RESPECTFULLY, HONESTLY, AND WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT OUR CREATOR LOVES US FAR MORE THAN WE WILL EVER REALIZE.

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “This is our last week to talk about the stories of David and how they teach us that **God is everywhere!** Who can tell us something you’ve learned about David this month? [Allow for responses.] Great job! Yes, we learned how God was with David when he was running from King Saul and how He gave David wisdom to be merciful to Abigail and her family, even though her husband Nabal had mistreated David’s men. Last week, we saw how David recognized that God had always been with him when the Lord made a special promise [covenant] with David.

“We have one last story about David. Who is ready to hear what happens this week? Great! First, let’s add our new puzzle piece to the wall.”

TRANSITION: Say, “Why do we put a puzzle piece on the wall each week? [Allow for responses.] We do it to show that God’s story all fits together. If we read God’s Word carefully, we’ll see glimpses of Jesus in every part of the Bible, even the stories that happened before He came to Earth as a baby. From the beginning, God loved His people and planned to send Jesus to save them. Our puzzle wall helps us remember these important truths.”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Plastic or Foam Letters | Small Buckets (2 per class) |



BEFORE CLASS, BE SURE YOU HAVE ENOUGH PLASTIC OR FOAM LETTERS FOR THE GAME. FILL TWO BUCKETS WITH AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF SMALL PLASTIC OR FOAM LETTERS. ENSURE THAT

Say, “Today we will have a competition, and to win, you must work quickly as a team! Are you ready? Let’s play!”

GAME GOAL: To be the first team to find the letters and spell the word FORGIVENESS

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Place the two buckets on one side of the classroom.
2. Divide the class into two teams, and have each group form a line across from the buckets.
3. Then, help each team designate two members who will not run. Instead, these children will be the team’s “spellers.” They should stand behind the relay line.
4. When you say “GO!” each team will send their first teammate to their bucket, where they will choose ONE letter from the bucket.

5. The runner will then take the letter to the spellers, who will begin looking for the letters they need to spell "forgiveness."
6. Repeat the process until the team has attained all the needed letters and the spellers have assembled the word correctly. At that point, the team should shout, "FORGIVENESS!"
7. The team correctly spelling and shouting the word first wins the game.

TRANSITION: Say, "I loved seeing you work together to form one of the most important words from today's lesson. Can you say it with me? [Have the children shout "forgiveness."] That's right! Now, let's get ready to discover why this word is so important to today's lesson."

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Ask, "This month, we've been talking about a man from the Bible named David. What are some things you have learned about him? [Allow for responses, and take a few minutes to review. Encourage the children to lead the discussion.]

"Although David was a wise king and loved God, he didn't always do the right thing. Our lesson today shows us about one of those times. We can find today's story in 2 Samuel 11-12.

"It was springtime, and David had sent his men to fight, but he didn't go with them. It was late one afternoon when he saw a beautiful woman on a rooftop. Her name was Bathsheba. When David asked someone who she was, he was told that she was the wife of a man named Uriah, who happened to be one of David's best soldiers.

"David knew it was wrong, but he wanted to marry Bathsheba, so he decided to put Uriah in the most dangerous place so he would be killed in battle; then he could marry Bathsheba." Read 2 Samuel 11:14-17.

¹⁴ The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by Uriah. ¹⁵ In the letter David wrote, "Put Uriah on the front lines where the fighting is worst. Then leave him there alone. Let him be killed in battle." ¹⁶ Joab watched the city and saw where its strongest defenders were. He put Uriah there. ¹⁷ The men of the city came out to fight against Joab. Some of David's men were killed. And Uriah the Hittite was one of them.

Say, "Uriah died in battle because David used his power in an evil way. After Uriah's death, David married Bathsheba. When this happened, God sent Nathan, a prophet, to give David a message. Let's read the story Nathan told David straight from God's Word." Read 2 Samuel 12:1-4.

¹ The Lord sent Nathan to David. When Nathan came to David, Nathan said, "There were two men in a city. One man was rich, but the other was poor. ² The rich man had very many sheep and cattle. ³ But the poor man had nothing except one little female lamb he had bought. The poor man fed the lamb. It grew up with him and his children. It shared his food and drank from his cup. It slept in his arms. The lamb was like a daughter to him.

⁴ "Then a traveler stopped to visit the rich man. The rich man wanted to give food to the

traveler. But he didn't want to take one of his own sheep or cattle to feed the traveler. Instead, he took the lamb from the poor man. The rich man killed the lamb and cooked it

Ask, "What do you think about that story? [Allow for responses.] That rich man did a terrible thing, didn't he? It was selfish and mean. When David heard what the rich man had done, he was furious! He wanted the rich man to be punished. That's when Nathan answered David: 'You are just like that rich man. You made sure Uriah would be killed in battle so you could marry his wife.'

"At that moment, David realized what an awful thing he had done. He knew he deserved to be punished, so he prayed, admitting he had killed Uriah and taken his wife. He asked God to forgive him. David's actions made God angry, but they also made Him sad. He loved David very much, so He listened to David when he prayed. The Lord knew David was sorry, and He forgave him. Sadly, David and Bathsheba's first baby died. It was a horrible time for David, and he and Bathsheba grieved the loss of their baby.

"God later gave David and Bathsheba another baby boy. Although this boy would never replace the baby they had lost, they did take great joy in him. This child's name was Solomon, and he would later become the next king of Israel."

JOINING TO JESUS

Because God is everywhere, He is always with us, which means He knows us better than anyone else. Just as he did with David, God stays close, even when we do things that we shouldn't (sin). We don't have to be afraid. He sees us when we mess up but is also thrilled to forgive us. This doesn't mean there won't be consequences or discipline, but we can trust God to love us with a love that will last forever. That's why He sent His Only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. He is always willing to forgive us when we ask Him and believe in Him."

TRANSITION: Say, "Aren't you thankful that **God is everywhere**? This means that no matter where we are, God can forgive us. We don't have to wait until we get to church or are with our pastor. He can forgive you right now." Ask the Holy Spirit to show you if you need to pause and give the children an opportunity to pray for forgiveness.

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about our story."

1. What does it mean that God is omniscient?

Response: When we say "God is omnipresent," we mean **God is everywhere**. (Remind the children that this is the "grown-up word" they learned in the previous lessons.)

2. What happened in today's story?

Response: Answers will vary. Have the children put the story in their own words.

3. What story did Nathan tell David?

Response: Answers will vary. Have the children retell Nathan's story.

4. What happened when Nathan told David the rich man was like him?

Response: David finally understood the terrible thing he had done.

5. What did David do next?

Response: David repented – He prayed, admitting what he had done, and asked God to forgive him.

6. Did God forgive David?

Response: Yes! Even though there were consequences to David's sin, God loved David more than we can imagine, and He forgave him.

7. What does this story mean for us?

Response: God is the same. He never changes. He is still a loving, forgiving God, and just as he forgave David, He can forgive you.

8. What does this lesson teach us about God?

Response: **God is everywhere.** God is always with us. God loves us. God forgives, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "I am so thankful that **God is everywhere.** He sees us when we mess up but is always there, ready to hear our prayers. Now, let's make a craft to help us remember all the true things we have heard today."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *God is with David Wheel* Activity Pages (1 set per child) | Cardstock | Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils | Brads (1 per child) | Scissors |



BEFORE CLASS, PRINT BOTH PAGES OF *THE GOD IS WITH DAVID WHEEL* ACTIVITY PAGE ON CARD STOCK.

Say, "We will make an activity wheel for today's craft to remind us that God was with David no matter where he was."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child both pages of the craft.
2. Instruct the children to color both pages of the Activity Page.
3. Next, tell them to cut out both wheels.
4. Help the children assemble their projects so that page one is on top of page two.
5. Finally, secure the brads into both wheels (overlapped). Assist the children as needed.

TRANSITION: Say, "We have been learning that **God is everywhere.** We also learned that God loved David and was with him in the good and bad times. God does the same for us. I hope your crafts will remind you of this truth."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "If you were here three weeks ago, you might remember that we made a 'memory ring.' [Show the class a sample.] Even though this is the last week we will practice this Bible passage, you can keep your

memory ring in a special place so you can go back to it whenever you want to remember that God is with you. For now, let's practice saying the words together."



FOR THE CHILDREN NOT PRESENT IN WEEK 1, OFFER THEM THE SUPPLIES NEEDED TO MAKE THE MEMORY RING AT HOME.

Where [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I go to get away from your Spirit?** [Put your pointer finger and thumb together and make a wavy motion moving from chest height to above your head.] **Where** [Shrug shoulders and put palms up.] **can I run** [Move your arms back and forth in a running motion.] **from you? If I go up to the skies** [Point to the sky.], **you are there.** [Stand straight.] **If I lie down where the dead are** [Close your eyes and lean your head to one side.], **you are there.** [Stand Straight.] **If I rise with the sun in the east** [Raise your right hand to the sky.], **and settle in the west** [Starting with your left hand above your head, lower it until it is by your side.] **beyond the sea** [Make a wave motion with your hands.], **even there you would guide me.** [Point straight ahead.] **With your right hand** [Hold out your right hand.] **you would hold me.** [Hug Yourself]"

Psalm 139:7-10, ICB (Hold hands open like a book.)

CHALLENGE: Divide the class into groups of 2-3 children. Challenge them to create a short, fictional story (parable) to illustrate what these verses teach. Remind them that Jesus and the prophets (like Nathan) often told stories (parables) to help people understand God.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

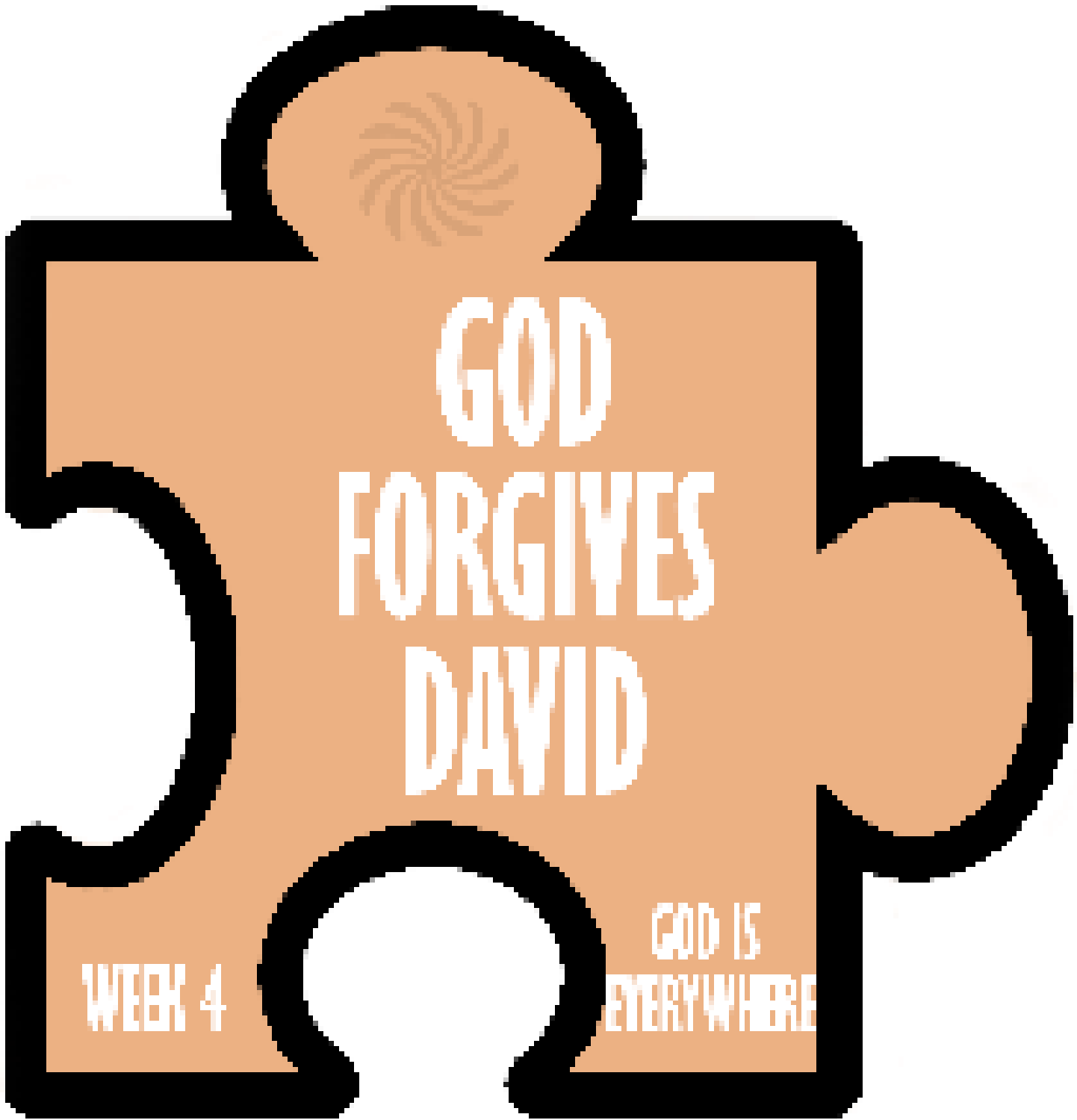
Say, "God loves you so much more than you can imagine. He does see the wrong things you do, and He takes that sin seriously. However, when He looks at you, His heart is full of love. You don't ever have to be afraid to tell God you are sorry because He is so, so good. That's why He sent His Son, Jesus, to come and die for you and me. As we pray, I will give you a few moments of quiet to confess your sins to God silently, and then we will thank Him for loving us so much."

SAMPLE PRAYER: "Dear Jesus, thank You for being with us wherever we go, for watching over us, for knowing us, and for loving us even when we do wrong things. I want to tell you I am sorry for sinning against you and others. [Take a moment of silence as the children privately confess their sins to God.] Now, we receive Your forgiveness and thank You for never giving up on us and never failing to love us more than we can imagine. We love You, too; please help us to love You more. Amen."

RELEASE — 5 MINUTES

If you have time remaining, ask questions to review this month's lesson:

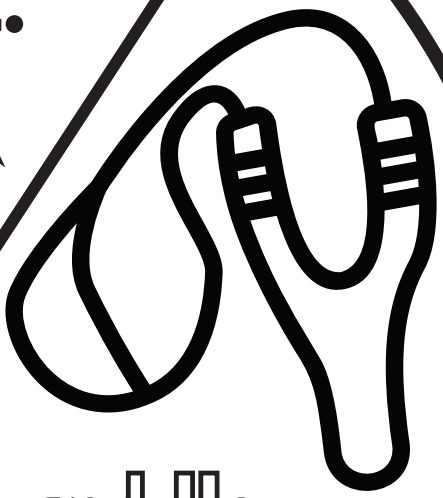
1. What does it mean that God is omnipresent? (**God is everywhere.**)
2. Are there any places where you could go without God? (No)
3. Name some places that God can go but we cannot. (Answers will vary.)
4. How does it make you feel that God is always near? (Answers will vary.)
5. What have you learned from the stories we've read about David? (Answers will vary.)



Puzzle Piece



cut this out!



God is with David, and He
is with me.

GOD IS EVERYWHERE!

