

GOD IS ALL POWERFUL

The crossing of the Red Sea - Small Group

God is awesome

He has a big plan for me

God wants to be my closest friend

THE ESSENTIALS: GOD THE FATHER

Main point: God is all powerful; there is nothing too hard for him.

FOR LEADER ONLY

God can help us in any and all situations. There is nothing too difficult for him and nothing He can't overcome. The Bible is full of stories illustrating this. The children of Israel saw God deliver them from the Egyptians and bring them through a seemingly impossible situation. In the same way, children need to know that they can turn to God in any and all situations and that God is powerful to help them through it. Then, they will be confident to trust God. They will turn to him when they need help. Then, others will see the peace in their lives and get a glimpse of the awesome God we serve.

OFFERING

Ask the children to place any offering that they brought in the specified location.

PRAISE

Sing one of the songs that you have been singing in the large group session together as a group. Ask to use the poster board with the words written on it to hold up for the children while you are singing.

DECLARATION

The declaration is an opportunity for everyone to declare how the material that they learned today affects what they believe. Have the kids repeat the declaration after you phrase by phrase.

We're going to declare what we believe today. Please repeat after me:
There is nothing too hard for God. He is all powerful. He can help me in every circumstance. I trust in God.

suggested
ages:

6 + **MEMORY VERSE SCRAMBLE**

We suggest to only include this game if your class is 20 students or less. Otherwise, it would be a better idea to host a shouting competition between the girls and boys, have the kids shout the verse a few times and see who can do it louder.

The point of this game is to review the memory verse in a fun manner. The game can be played more than once - for example, the best 2 out of 3.

MATERIALS NEEDED

the memory verse scramble pieces cut out of poster board (For 4 - 6 year olds, write each word of the memory verse on a separate piece. For 7 and up, write each letter on a separate piece.)

enough bags containing the pieces of the memory verse so that each group (of no more than 8 children per group) can have their own bag

We are going to play a game that will test our memory of the memory verse this week. First I'm going to give you all of the instructions and then we'll get started. So for now, just listen. In just a few minutes, I am going to split you up into teams. Each team will receive a bag. Inside the bag are all the words/letters to the memory verse, but they're all mixed up. The contest will be which team can lay out the memory verse in the correct way the fastest. You'll have to work together as a team. The team to get the memory verse written out the fastest wins. Are there any questions?

Okay, so once again, the object is to arrange all the words/letters of the memory verse in the correct order. First we'll form our groups.

Split the group into two or more "teams" of no more than 8 children per team. This can be boys versus girls, the left versus the right side of the room, etc. Once the groups are formed, hand each team a bag and let them go at it!

*Once they think they've formed the memory verse, check it: **Nothing will be impossible with God. Luke 1:37***

If they've correctly formed the memory verse correctly, give a couple more minutes to the other team to see if they can finish. If they look as though they will not get it, call time. Let the winning team read the verse aloud together and then practice the memory verse once as a class altogether.

suggested
ages:

5 - 8 **GRAB THE BALL**

The objective of this game is to review what the children learned during the lesson and reinforce the idea that God is all powerful and there is nothing too hard for Him.

MATERIALS NEEDED

a ball

a list of questions prepared in advance

What the teacher must do

Bring the ball to the circle and help the children sit down in a circle. Then, pass the ball to a child. As soon as the child receives the ball, both the teacher and that child should stand up and run a full circle around the children to sit back in their spot. The teacher will ask a question to either him/herself or the child (whoever sat down last). Whoever answered the question should then pass the ball to another person and the process begins again.

If any child runs twice in a row, after the second time, they must answer the question and then can pass the ball to another child without having to run again. That child must then pass the ball to another child and two new people run. This keeps one slow child from getting stuck running many times.

What to tell the kids

Good morning, kids. I want to play a fun game. First, I'll need everyone to come over here and sit in a circle.

In just a minute, I will pass the ball to someone. That person must get up from the spot they are sitting in and run around the circle one time and sit back in their spot. Whichever one of us gets back to our spot last must answer a question about the lesson. When both people have sat down in their spot again, I am going to ask a question about our lesson to the person who sits down last. When I ask the question, don't answer it yet! The person who sat down last must answer the question.

Now, if any of you should have to run twice, after answering the second question, you may pass the ball to another child and you don't have to run anymore. That kid will pass the ball to another kid and the two of them will run.

So, remember - if you get the ball passed to you, as soon as you catch it, you must get up and run around the circle and back to your spot. Run fast! Are there any questions? Let's begin.

1. Who was the leader of the children of Israel?
2. Where did the children of God live as slaves?
3. What was the name of the King of Egypt?
4. When the people of God needed help, who did they ask for help?
5. What good things did God do for His people?
6. What did Moses and the children of Israel see in front of them as they left Egypt that made them stop?
7. Who did the people of God hear in the distance?
8. What did Moses do when he saw Pharaoh's army coming after them?
9. What did God ask Moses to do with his hand?
10. What happened when Moses extended his hand over the sea?
11. What kind of land was the dirt underneath the sea that the Israelites walked on?

12. After the children of Israel had crossed the Red Sea, who did they see following them?
13. What did God tell Moses to do so that the Egyptians wouldn't follow them?
14. What happened to the Egyptian army?
15. The things that seem impossible to us - are they difficult for God?
16. Is there anything too hard for God?
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.

suggested
ages:

Feel free to add your own questions about the lesson.

9 + **TIC TAC TOE EXTREME**

The object of this game is to reinforce the lesson and main point through review while at the same time encouraging kids to think creatively and work as a team.

MATERIALS NEEDED

9 squares of poster board cut to be 1 meter x 1 meter

INSTRUCTIONS

The game is exactly like Tic Tac Toe, but played on a larger scaled and with a twist. The players will be playing on a life sized game board and the children will be the game pieces. The teams will alternate turns. Each turn, the team will select a team member and place that person on a square on the game board. Then, the team must answer a question or complete a task. If the team answers the question correctly or completes the task, then the team is able to keep their player on the square. However, if the team doesn't answer the question correctly or doesn't complete the challenge, then the team must remove their team member from the game board and the other teams begins their turn. The idea is to place three team members in a row just like Tic Tac Toe. Which ever team places three players in a row first wins the game.

The best way to play this game is girls vs boys, but the children could be split up in any way. The important thing is to differentiate between the two teams. A bandana could easily do this. This game can be played more than once. If you have time play the best out of three rounds, think of more questions to ask and challenges to present. To decide which team goes first, flip a coin. If there is a deadlock, have the last two players come up to the front of the room. Ask a question. The first child who raises their hand and answers the question correctly wins for the whole team.

What an awesome time we had in large group! What an incredible story about how God is all powerful. Our God is all powerful and there is nothing too hard for Him! Well, we are going to play a super fun game. Are you ready to play?

Wait for a strong yes.

Ok, I need the boys to line up on this wall and the girls to line up on the opposite wall. Can someone help me to place the squares three across the top and three down?

Wait for the class to split up and someone to help place the squares on the floor. Make sure you are being encouraging and directing the children the entire time.

Great! Thanks so much. You guys are so good at this! Ok this is how we are going to play the game, but you need to listen up so that you can understand the rules.

This game is very easy. In fact, it's just like tic tac toe but it's a lot bigger. You are going to have to work as a team in order to win. Each turn a team will be able to place one of their team mates on one of the big squares. But, in order to stay on that square, the team will either have to answer a question from the lesson or the whole team will have to complete a task. If you get the question wrong or do not complete the challenge, you will your team member will not be able to stay on the space and the other team will get a turn. However, if you answer the question correctly or complete the challenge, then your team member gets to stay on the square. Now, the whole point of this game is to use strategy and place three of your teammates in a row on the board before the other team does. Whichever team gets three of their teammates in a row wins the game. It's just like tic tac toe, only you have to work as a team and be able to answer questions correctly and complete challenges.

Are there any questions?

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGES

If you plan on only playing the game once, pick the questions and challenges below that you like the best. Or, even better, come up with some of your own questions from the lesson and fun team challenges.

- Who was the leader of the children of Israel?
- Where did the children of God live as slaves?
- What was the name of the King of Egypt?
- When the people of God needed help, who did they ask for help?
- What good things did God do for His people?
- What did Moses and the children of Israel see in front of them as they left Egypt that made them stop?
- Who did the people of God hear in the distance?
- What did Moses do when he saw Pharaoh's army coming after them?
- What did God ask Moses to do with his hand?
- What happened when Moses extended his hand over the sea?
- What kind of land was the dirt underneath the sea that the Israelites walked on?
- After the children of Israel had crossed the Red Sea, who did they see following them?
- What did God tell Moses to do so that the Egyptians wouldn't follow them?
- What happened to the Egyptian army?

- The things that seem impossible to us - are they difficult for God?
- Is there anything too hard for God?
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WRAP IT UP

Wow, what a fun game! That was so awesome. You guys did great and obviously you paid attention. Don't forget that God is all powerful and there is nothing too hard for Him. Our God is awesome and He has a big plan for you.

suggested
ages:

9 + WHITE BOARD BRAINSTORM

PREPARATION

The idea behind this activity is help kids understand why it is important that God never changes and how this can affect them in their everyday life. This is one of the most important parts of the morning because through it, the lesson becomes personal and doable for the kids.

The focus of the activity is to encourage the children to think about two questions:

- 1. What difficult things have you experienced in life? and*
- 2. How did God help you get through those things?*

Before you begin the activity, think about a difficult thing that you encountered in life and how God helped you through it. Brainstorm some difficult things that you have lived through and how God helped you through them. Spend some time thinking about difficult things in the lives of children and how God could help them through them.

If you have a personal story that has to do with a difficult time in life and God helping you through it, write it out and prepare to share it with the children. A personal story will make the lesson stick in their minds much better.

MATERIALS NEEDED

*white board
markers
eraser or paper towel*

INSTRUCTIONS

Gather the kids around you as close as you can. Split the white board in two by drawing a vertical line. On one side of the white board, you will write the ideas that the kids share as to the changes that happen in their life. On the other side of the white board,

you will write the ways that God can help. Encourage the children as they participate, give suggestions yourself, and expand upon what they say.

Hi kids. I need your help. Today we're talking about our all powerful God and how there is nothing too hard for Him. We're going to think about some difficult things that each of us have experienced in life and we're going to remember how God helped us through them. Who can tell me a story of a difficult time in their life and how God helped them through it?

Try hard not to do all the talking. Really encourage the children to think and speak.

Great comments. There are many things in life that change. You know what the great news is in all of this? We serve an awesome God and our God is always ready to help us. What are some ways that God can help us?

Here you might have to offer some answers or suggestions. This depends a bit on the age of the kids. Following are some examples.

*Difficult things kids may encounter
I changed to a new school
My friends started doing bad things
My teachers changed
My mom or dad moved out*

*How God may help them
God gave me favor with people
God gave me new friends
God comforted me
God helped me to be strong*

suggested
ages:

6 + **DIFFICULT THINGS**

This is a really key part in the lesson. Here we are going to help the kids process the lesson and apply it to their lives. We want the kids to view the difficult things that they encounter in life differently - not as things that paralyze them, but as opportunities for them to ask God to help them. The goal is to have the kids concentrate on one hard thing in their life and then help them see how to pray for it.

MATERIALS NEEDED

*coloring sheets
writing utensils*

What to do

Study this activity before the class begins! Pass out the activity sheets (the coloring sheet is on the back of this, but ask the children not to turn it over as they will get distracted by the coloring sheet). Do not pass out the crayons yet. Pass out writing

utensils (pens or pencils). Explain the activity. Help the kids with the activity. Conclude by praying with the class, asking the kids to repeat the prayer after you.

Say this to the Kids

Today in our lesson, we heard that Moses and the children of Israel found themselves in between one problem - the red sea - and another huge problem - the Egyptian army. However, we also saw how our awesome and powerful God worked a miracle for His people and saved everybody. We know that there is nothing too hard for our God. Even what seems impossible isn't difficult for Him.

Right now, I'm going to pass out a page to you. Please don't turn it over right now. When we have hard times in life - just like Moses - we can pray and ask God to help us and He will help us. Right now I want you to think about something in your life that is really hard or difficult. On your sheet, you'll see a box where you can write down that one difficult thing in your life. Maybe the difficult thing in your life is that your parents argue, or maybe it is that your friends want you to do the wrong thing. Maybe that difficult thing is doing well in school. I want you to go ahead and write down one thing that is difficult for you in your life right now.

suggested
ages:

For the following wrap up of this activity, there are different instructions listed for the two different age groups.

- 6 - 7 After we write that down we are going to pray as group for all of our problems and ask God to help us through difficult things.

Pray this with the Kids

God, you are all powerful and there is nothing too hard for you. Just like you helped Moses you can help me. Father God I ask that you help me through all the difficult situations. You are all powerful and able to do all things. Thank You for loving us, and caring for us. Nothing is too hard for you. In Jesus' name we pray.

Wrap up

God is all powerful. He can do anything and He wants to help us with all the difficult things in our lives because He is awesome. God has an awesome plan for you and He wants to be your friend. All we have to do is ask for His help and believe He can do it and He will come quickly to help us.

This week, let's take the time to think about hard thing in our lives and pray our prayer to God asking Him to help us. Aren't you so thankful that we have such an awesome God who loves us? God is good! All the time!

suggested
ages:

- 8 + After we write that down, I want you to write down a prayer to God. All we have to do is ask God to help us. It can be really simple. It does not have to be long. If you need help writing a prayer, I can help you.

Here is an example prayer: God, you are all powerful and there is nothing too hard for you. Just like you helped Moses you can help me. Father God I ask that you help me with my relationship with my parents. Help me to respect them and them to love me. You are all powerful and able to do all things. Thank you for loving me, and caring for me. Nothing is too hard for you. In Jesus' name I pray.

I want you to write a prayer right now to God asking Him to help you with whatever it is in your life that is difficult.

Wrap up

God is all powerful. He can do anything and He wants to help us with all the difficult things in our lives because He is awesome. God has an awesome plan for you and He wants to be your friend. All we have to do is ask for His help and believe He can do it and He will come quickly to help us.

This week, let's take the time to think about hard thing in our lives and pray our prayer to God asking Him to help us. Aren't you so thankful that we have such an awesome God who loves us? God is good! All the time!

suggested
ages:

5 - 8 COLORING SHEET

Give the children time to color the coloring sheet. Ask them what is happening in the picture and other questions to remind them of what happened in the lesson while they color. Encourage them as they color as well.

suggested
ages:

9 - 12 COMIC COLORING SHEET

Okay, you can flip over your activity sheet. On the back is a comic strip. You'll notice that the first two scenes from our lesson are filled in and one is left blank. You need to fill in that last scene. Draw what happened at the end of the story and then you can color in all three scenes.

PRAYER

God, you are all powerful and there is nothing too hard for you. Thank you that you are a God who saves your people. We thank you for saving Moses and your people when their enemies were chasing them. We know that you can help us too in any situation. Thank you that we can trust you completely with our whole lives. In Jesus' name we pray.