



Busy Bible Builders

Adam and Eve Ruin Everything

BIG IDEA: God made everything and it's very good.

BIBLE BASIS: Genesis 3

KEY VERSE: "As for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."
Joshua 24:15 (NirV)

SCHEDULE

PLAY TIME ACTIVITIES

10:30-11:00

LARGE GROUP LESSON

11:00-11:30

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

11:30-12:00

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LEADER DEVOTIONAL

Alexander the Great is regarded as one of the most powerful rulers in history. Legend holds that one of Alexander's beloved generals had a daughter engaged to be married. Because Alexander so valued his general, he offered to pay for the entire wedding.

When the general sent Alexander the total, it was astronomical. He had booked the most expensive venue available and withheld no expense. The messenger delivering the bill feared that Alexander would be so angry at the extravagance that he would take his life for even bringing him such news. When Alexander received the bill, however, he laughed and said, "Pay it!" Though surprised and greatly relieved, the messenger inquired as to the unexpected response.

"Don't you see," said Alexander, "by asking me for such an enormous sum he does me great honor. He shows that he believes I am both rich and generous."

I think that's how God feels when we come to Him for forgiveness, regardless of how big the "tab" is. We do Him great honor, for we show that we believe He is both rich in mercy and generous in lavishing it upon us. Far from being angry, He is delighted to demonstrate His extravagant love.

Certainly, the appropriate response to God's mercy is obedience. But no matter how often we fail, His mercy never runs dry.

Casey Jordan
GO! Contributor



LARGE GROUP SKILL BUILDING

How to Prepare Like a Champ for Large Group

Here's a short story for you: A man gets up in front of a room full of kids and with no forethought or preparation he delivers a spellbinding and life-changing message. The kids are so grateful that they carry the man out of the room on their shoulders as confetti cannons explode. Great story, right? Unfortunately, you'll find it under "fiction." Great messages don't just happen without a little work on the part of the communicator. In short, your goal as the Large Group Leader is to communicate God's truth to kids in an engaging way so that life change can happen. To do that effectively, though, you've got to do a little prep work. Here are a few ways you can prepare:

Live the message. Authenticity is one of the most important traits of a good communicator. When we tell kids that they need to be pursuing God, they need to know we're doing that ourselves. That doesn't mean you have to be perfect; it just means that you have to be working towards living out the message in your own life.

Memorize. Sounds scary, right? It doesn't have to be. We'll spend more time in the future talking about how to memorize, but for now let's just say this: Effective communicators memorize. When you're tied to a script, you lose eye contact and your body becomes less animated. And when that happens, your level of engagement goes down. If you've never memorized before, start small. Pick a section of the lesson to memorize and pay attention to the difference it makes with your audience.

Rehearse. In short, don't let service time be the first time you've ever delivered your message. It might seem awkward at first, but run through your message a few times in advance. If possible, do it in the actual space where you'll be teaching.

Pray. When we deliver God's message, we're not alone. Ask for the Holy Spirit to be your co-teacher!

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



UNIT DESCRIPTION

Let's get busy building! During "Busy Bible Builders," preschool kids will look high and low for the colored building blocks around the room. Each block contains a picture from the Bible story. As the blocks stack up, so does the story. When the stacking stops, the preschoolers will have discovered how God has made them and given them a family to love.

SET-UP INSTRUCTIONS

- Find a set of 5 boxes that are a little larger than a piece of 8½ x 11 paper.
- Print the "Large Number Set" on 8½ x 11 paper. Attach one large number to each of the 5 boxes.
- Print the "Bible Story Pictures" on 8½ x 11 paper. Attach one picture to each box on the opposite side as the large number. The pictures also have numbers on them. Be sure the picture and the large number correspond with each other.
- Build a small block tower in the storytelling area. Provide a few additional blocks to be added during the lesson.
- Ahead of time, draw the outline of a heart in red on a dry erase board. Place the dry erase board in the storytelling area along with a dark colored dry erase marker and a dry erase board eraser.
- Create a "Super Duper Bible Box" and place your storytelling Bible inside. This box will be used every week. See the Resource Folder for details on how to make the "Super Duper Bible Box."
- If using the non-video options for the Topher segments of the lesson, print the Topher's Story Time Rules signs and Topher's Big Idea signs on 8½ x 11 cardstock paper and place in the story time area. See "Getting Started" in the Resource Folder for the printable signs and for more instructions on how to perform the non-video options.
- Note: Any media repeated throughout the unit, such as the Topher videos and the title slide, is located in the Lesson 1 Resource Folder only.

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



★ LARGE GROUP LESSON

WELCOME AND MUSIC

As children enter the story time area, give them a high energy welcome — smile, wave, give high fives, and tell them you're glad to see them. For added energy during the transition, play a fun song that the children are familiar with. When the children have all arrived, play one or two upbeat worship songs of your choosing and lead the kids in singing.

Music: Play one or two upbeat worship songs

BIG IDEA AND BIBLE VERSE

Large Group Leader: Hello everybody — I'm so glad you're here for another week of "Busy Bible Builders!" Today, we're going to get busy building our Bible story with blocks.

Say: Today's true Bible story is going to teach us that **God made everything and it's very good**. That's our Big Idea for the day. Let's say it together. *(Repeat Big Idea with children.)* **God made everything and it's very good**. It's true! **God made everything and it's very good**. In fact, that's what today's memory verse tells us. Let me teach it to you.

*"As for me (point to self with thumbs)
and my family (trace a circle in front of you with fingers),
we will serve (march in place)
the Lord (point up)."
Joshua 24:15 (extend hands like holding a book).*

Say: Let's do that together. *(Repeat Memory Verse with children 2 or 3 times.)*

STORY TIME RULES

Say: Wow — nice job! I think you are ready for the Bible story. Before we get started, though, I think we should go over our three story time rules.

Video: Play "Topher the Gopher Story Time Rules" video

(Note: Play the "Topher the Gopher Story Time Rules" video or use the Story Time Rules script found in the Resource Folder.)

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



BUSY BIBLE BUILDERS INTRO

Say: Have you ever worked really hard on building something? *(Ahead of time, build a simple block tower in the storytelling area. As you say the next lines, add a few more blocks.)* Imagine you had worked all day long building this block tower. You carefully added block after block. The tower got taller and taller. And when you got done, you thought, "This is the most beautiful tower I have ever built!" Then you leave your room to get your mom so she can see it too, but while you're gone, your little brother comes into your room and knocks it down. *(Knock down tower.)* You built something so, so beautiful, but then someone ruined it! How would that make you feel? *(Children answer.)*

Say: That's kind of what happens in today's true Bible story. In today's story, God builds something so, so beautiful, but Adam and Eve ruin it. If you're ready to hear that story, wiggle your fingers in the air. *(Children wiggle fingers.)* Great! First, let's get our Bible out of the Super Duper Bible Box. *(Move to the Super Duper Bible Box.)* I need your help getting the Bible out, though. We need to say our special Bible words together. Repeat these special words after me: It's true, it's true, the Bible is true!

Slide: Show the "Adam and Eve Ruin Everything" slide

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



BIG BIBLE STORY — ADAM AND EVE RUIN EVERYTHING

(Note: Ahead of time, place the numbered story blocks all around the room so they are visible from the seating area. Place the blocks so the numbers are visible, but not the pictures.)

Say: In the very beginning of time, God created the whole world and it was perfect. Let's get busy building. Let's find the **blue #1** block so we can see God's best creation. *(Once found, retrieve the story block and place it in the storytelling area with the picture facing the children.)* Adam and Eve were the first two people that God created. God put them in a special garden called the Garden of Eden. He gave them one very important rule to follow. God told Adam and Eve, "You may eat fruit from any tree in the garden. But you may NOT eat the fruit from the special tree in the middle of the garden. If you eat fruit from that tree, you will surely die." Adam and Eve were careful to obey God's rule, but then one day, a strange visitor arrived.

Say: Let's find our next story block. Can you find the **green #2** block? *(Retrieve the block and place it on top of the previous block with the picture showing.)* What do you see in this picture? What do you think is happening? *(Take answers.)* One day, a sneaky snake slithered up to Eve. The snake lied to her and said *(speak like a sneaky snake)*, "You won't die if you eat fruit from the special tree. God is just jealous. He knows you'll become like Him if you eat the fruit." It wasn't true, but Eve believed the sneaky snake's lie and wanted to be like God.

Say: Let's find our next story block. Can you find the **yellow #3** block? *(Retrieve the block and place it on top of the previous block with the picture showing.)* What do you see in this picture? What do you think is happening? *(Take answers.)* Eve picked a piece of fruit from the special tree — the tree God said not to eat from. Eve took a bite of the fruit. It tasted so delicious. Eve gave it to Adam and he took a bite too. Suddenly, they felt something they had never felt before — they felt sadness and they were embarrassed because they had no clothes on.

Say: Let's find our next story block. Can you find the **red #4** block? *(Retrieve the block and place it on top of the previous block with the picture showing.)* What do you see in this picture? What do you think is happening? *(Take answers.)* Adam and Eve sewed leaves together like clothes so they wouldn't be naked anymore. When God saw them wearing clothes, He knew what had happened. God said to them, "Did you eat the special fruit that I said not to eat?" Adam pointed to Eve *(point one way)* and said, "She made me do it." Eve pointed to the sneaky snake *(point another way)* and said, "He made me do it." But God knew that no one made them do it. They had both made their own bad choice.

Say: Let's find our last story block. Can you find the **purple #5** block? *(Retrieve the block and place it on top of the previous block with the picture showing.)* What do you see in this picture? What do you think is happening? *(Take answers.)* It was a very sad day. God's amazing creation had been ruined. Because of Adam and Eve's bad choice, now the world was filled with sadness, and sickness, and hurt. And because of that, they could no longer live in the beautiful garden.

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



MUSIC AND CLOSING

(Encourage the children to stand up. Lead them in a worship song of your choice. Following the song, use the rhyme from earlier to help the children sit down again.)

Music: Play one worship song

Say: In today's true Bible story, Adam and Eve sinned. Can you say "sin" with me? *(Repeat word with children.)* When you "sin," that means you disobey God and do something bad. We all sin sometimes. Your mommies and daddies sin. Your grandmas and grandpas sin. I sin and you sin too. Can you think of some sins or bad things a little kid might do? *(Ahead of time, draw the outline of a heart in red on a dry erase board. For each example of sin that is shared, color part of the heart in with a dark dry erase marker. Don't color too close to the edges of the heart so you can easily erase it.)*

Say: This is kind of what happens to our heart when we do bad things. Sin makes our hearts become dark and icky. But do you think God stops loving us when our hearts are dark and icky with sin? *(Children answer.)* No way! God loves the world so much that He gave us His one and only Son. Who is God's Son? *(Children answer.)* You're right — it's Jesus! When we ask Jesus to forgive us, He wipes away the sin in our hearts. *(Use a dry erase board eraser to wipe the dark color from the heart.)* If your heart is wiped clean by Jesus, you can live with Him someday in a perfect place called Heaven.

Say: Even though sin ruined God's beautiful creation, **God made everything and it's very good!**

1.2 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



TOPHER'S BIG IDEA

Say: Hey — that's our Big Idea for today! I think we should tell it to our parents when we see them. Maybe we should practice first. (*Appear to be thinking.*) Hmm...who could we practice telling? I know! We could tell our friend, Topher the Gopher. Let's see if we can find him.

(*Play "Topher's Big Idea Video 1" or, for a non-video option, print out the "Topher's Big Idea Cards" ahead of time and hold up card #1. See the "Topher's Big Idea" document in the Resource Folder for more suggestions on how to perform the non-video option.*)

Video: Play "Topher's Big Idea Video"

(**Whisper.**) Uh-oh. It looks like Topher is asleep. I think we should wake him up. When he wakes up, we can all tell him that **God made everything and it's very good**. On the count of 3, let's all yell, "Topher the Gopher, wake up, wake up!" (*Count to 3 and yell with kids. Then play "Topher's Big Idea Video 2" or hold up card #2.*)

Topher: Hey, what's the Big Idea?

Children and Large Group Leader: **God made everything and it's very good.** (*Repeat the Big Idea several times. When finished, play "Topher's Big Idea Video 3" or hold up card #3.*)

Topher: Wow! That is a Big Idea! Thanks for telling me! Goodbye kids. (*Encourage kids to wave goodbye to Topher as he disappears back into his hole.*)

Large Group Leader: Let's say a prayer together and thank God for wiping our sins away. (*Encourage kids to repeat the following prayer after you.*)

**Dear God,
Your creation is so beautiful.
I'm sorry for disobeying you.
Please forgive me.
And wipe my sins away.
Amen.**