



SEPTEMBER 2024

## September 1

### I Am Known

#### 1 year olds - 4 year olds

#### Leader Notes

**Bible Passage:** The Pharisee and the Tax Collector- Luke 18:9-14

**Bottom Line:** God knows my real thoughts.

**Leader Context:** In Luke 18:9-14, Jesus told a story about two men praying in the temple. The Pharisee, a religious leader, was proud and thought he was impressive. The tax collector, who was looked down upon in that culture, prayed with humility and recognized his need for God. We can learn in this story that God knows and cares about our real thoughts. When kids are asking, Does anyone know the real me? we get to teach them that God does. He knows everything about them, even their thoughts and He gives them what they really need- a relationship with Jesus.

**THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS:** Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

#### Social

#### Games and Music (10 minutes)

**What You Need:** Sept 1 Social Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instructions, painter's tape or masking tape, beanbags

**What You Do:**

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

**Say:** That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

#### Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

#### Bible Story Recap- Say This!

Thanks, Super Crew! Thanks, Bark!

That was such a great Bible story. In our Bible story today, one man prayed to God but thought too much of himself, and God knew it. The other man, the tax collector, prayed to God, and his thoughts were focused on God. God knows my thoughts. Can you say that with me? Ready? "God knows my thoughts." Great job! Our *thoughts* are the things we think in our heads. God knows what we do and why we do what we do. God knows everything about us, and He loves us. Today's Super Clue, a lightbulb, helps us remember that God knows me and you.

Let's take a moment to pray. When we pray, we are talking and listening to God. Let's close our eyes so we can focus on talking to God and not get distracted by other things. Ready?

Let's pray in 3-2-1.

*God, thank You for loving us and knowing us so well! Help us remember that You know our thoughts and still love us. Amen.*

Can you say the Big Deal with me?

Guess Who! (*Put both hands up to the side and wiggle fingers.*)

God Knows Me (*Point to yourself.*)

and You! (*Point to someone.*)

#### Videos

**Lightbulb Headband(20 minutes)**

**What You Need:** “Lightbulb Headband” printable (1 per child), Cardstock (several), Scissors (1 per group; adult-use only), Tape (1 per group), Markers or crayons (several), Stapler (1 per group; optional)

**Preschoolers will create a lightbulb headband to help them remember the Main Idea.**

**Craft Instructions:**

1. Before the session, print out the “Lightbulb Headband” printable on cardstock, one per child. Cut out the lightbulbs and headband strips.
2. Distribute a lightbulb, headband strip, and crayons or markers to each child.
3. Invite preschoolers to color their lightbulbs and headband strips.
4. Assist preschoolers in taping their lightbulbs to the headband strips.
5. Fit the headband strip around each preschooler's head and connect with tape or staples.

**What To Do:** Let's make a craft to help us remember today's Main Idea. Today's Main Idea is, **“God knows my thoughts.”** Let's say it together. **“God knows my thoughts.”** Great! Who remembers our Super Clue from today? *(Allow responses and model thinking while you are waiting for responses.)* Oh, that is right! It's a lightbulb. It's a what? *(A lightbulb!)* In shows or videos we watch, we often see lightbulbs pop up over someone's head when they think of a new idea or have a new thought. Our craft is going to be similar to that because we want to remember that God knows our thoughts. Each of you has a few strips of paper, a lightbulb, and a few crayons to share. You are going to color the lightbulb and the strips of paper. Once you are done coloring, a leader will help you tape them together. Then a leader will help fit the headband to your head and tape it together. This is going to be so much fun! I can't wait to see you in your headbands!

**Leader Tip:** Precut the headband strips. Use tape to adjust the size of the headband for each child.

**Loud And Clear:** Look at all your lightbulb headbands. You look amazing! I love how creative you were as you colored them. It is so fun to have this reminder that God knows our thoughts. **God knows my thoughts.** Can you say that with me? Ready? **“God knows my thoughts.”** Great job! Just like in our Bible story today, God knew the thoughts of both men while they were praying. He knew that only one man, the tax collector, was really focusing on God and that he was sorry for the wrong choices he had made. Wow! You all look so great. It looks like you all have an idea with your lightbulbs over your heads. Your headbands will be such a fun way to remember that God knows your thoughts.

## Small Talks

Talk with preschoolers and review the Bible story by asking the following questions. This is a time for side-by-side learning, where all preschoolers have the opportunity to connect and participate.

1. Who remembers what our Super Clue is today? (a lightbulb)
2. What does a lightbulb help us remember? (A lightbulb can remind us that God knows our thoughts, even if we don't say anything.)
3. What was the tax collector thinking about when he prayed to God? (He was thinking about God and focusing on his need for forgiveness.)
4. God knows our thoughts. What do you think that means? (God knows what we think— what we do and why we do it.)
5. What did you learn about God today?
6. Who can you tell about our Bible story this week?
7. Do you remember today's Big Deal? Our Big Deal is, "Guess Who! God Knows Me and You!" Let's say our Big Deal together. I'll say it first, and you say it after me. Ready? (Do the motions listed below.) Guess Who! (Guess Who!) God Knows Me (God Knows Me) and You! (and You!)

**Keep It Going:** Invite preschoolers to turn to their neighbor, the person beside them, and take turns saying the Big Deal.

## Big Deal Motions:

Guess Who! (*Put both hands up to the side and wiggle fingers.*)

God Knows Me (*Point to yourself.*)

and You! (*Point to someone.*)

Today we learned about two people who prayed to God. One man prayed to God, but thought too much of himself, and God knew it. The other man, the tax collector, prayed to God, and his thoughts were focused on God. God knows our thoughts. He knows what we do and why we do what we do. God knows everything about us, and He loves us.

## Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- Pass out coloring pages for kids to take home.
- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kids and call them by name.