

WEEK 4 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

the messengers



THE BIG IDEA

God's message goes everywhere.

THE BIBLE

Paul Shares the Gospel:
Acts 16:9-15

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Messenger Melodies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Jesus Loves Me Remix" (Kidspring)
 - "Shout It Out" (Yancy)
 - "Let's Go Heroes" (Kidspring)
 - "I am Yours" (Life Church Kids)
 - "We're Not Scared" (Kidspring)

ACTIVITY | Pass the Parcel

- **Have you ever gotten a package delivered to you?**
- Let's play a package delivery game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Form two or more teams and have them line up, front to back. Give each team a medium-sized mailing package or another box marked as though it will be mailed. The goal is to pass the parcel down the line, alternating between passing over the head and between the legs. The first team to finish wins!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use a small box to play the original "Pass the Parcel" (Hot Potato) game.

ACTIVITY | Delightful Delivery

- **How does a package get to your house?** Delivery people! We are going to thank the people for delivering our mail and our packages.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using one of [these templates](#) (or creating one of your own), have kids decorate a thank you note and encourage them to deliver it to their mail carrier or delivery person this week. Consider adding a place for families to write a note or invite their mail carrier to church with them!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give each toddler a small treat that they are going to deliver to a big kid (coordinate with other leaders to know when would be the best time to do this). Walk with the kids and have them each hand out the treat to someone. When you get back, make sure you give them a treat of their own!

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Paul Shares the Gospel

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As you teach the story from Acts 16:9–15, fill a shallow container with grape juice and dunk a piece of cloth in it. Then cut up little pieces of cloth and have kids try, too. Make sure you lay down tarps or trash bags around your space.
- **Who remembers who Paul is?**
 - Paul used to be someone who would chase down people who talked about Jesus and sent them to jail. But one day, he became a follower of God, too! From then on, he started telling everyone about Jesus.
- One day, God told Paul in a dream to go to a place called Macedonia.
 - **Let's say that together: Ma-ce-do-ni-a.**
- Once he got there, he did what he normally did. He told people about Jesus.
 - **Tell someone next to you, "Jesus loves you!"**
- A woman named Lydia heard the good news about Jesus from Paul. She decided to follow Jesus, too!
- Paul didn't know it yet, but God sent him all the way to Macedonia so that Lydia could hear his message.
- Wanna know something cool about Lydia?
 - She made and sold purple cloth! Can you imagine how many people she could tell people about Jesus because she did business with all kinds of people?
 - Come up and try making your own purple cloth. We can talk about Jesus together while we do it!

BIG IDEA | God's message goes everywhere.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare four boxes. On one side, write one word per box: "North," "South," "East," and "West" in large letters. On the other side, write one word per box: "God's," "message," "goes," and "everywhere." Position the boxes so that kids can only see the side with the direction words. Have Special Messenger (SM) enter with an empty wagon.
- **Storyteller:** I'm waiting for our Special Messenger, but not for a delivery. Today, I have packages that I want to deliver to different places. (Read the labels on each of the boxes and indicate which direction they will go.)
- **SM:** (Enters with wagon) Hello, hello! I hear you have some special deliveries you need me to take!
- **Storyteller:** Hello, Special Messenger! Yes, I have these packages that need to go to different places.

- **SM:** Let me take care of those for you. (*Lifts each package one at a time and turns around to place each on the wagon, revealing the words on the back.*)
- **Storyteller:** Hey, look! There's the Big Idea for today! **God's message goes everywhere.** Let's all say it together. **God's message goes everywhere!**

VIDEO | The Messengers, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#)

ACTIVITY | Where Have You Been?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a copy of the printable and call out different places around the neighborhood and have them find it. Then give them dot stickers and have them place them on the places they've been.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use a pre-set sticker set (like [this one](#)) or toys where you can describe different places around their neighborhood.

PRAYER

- God, thank you for sending your love everywhere. Show us how we can share the message of Jesus no matter where we are. We know you want everyone to know you like we do! Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Special Snack Delivery

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a box that looks like a [postal package](#). Fill the box with the snack of your choice.
- **If you could get anything delivered to your door, what would you want?**

ACTIVITY | Love for Lydia

- Paul went to many places to deliver God's message about Jesus.
- In today's story, we read about Lydia. **Do you remember what her job was?** She sold purple cloth. We are going to use this purple cloth to help us remember today's Big Idea.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids glue two popsicle sticks on opposite ends of a piece of cardstock paper. Then using hot glue or tape, connect the sticks with a length of yarn. Then clip on four mini clothespins on the yarn. Precut small strips of purple fabric or paper and write "God's message" and "goes everywhere." on separate pieces with a permanent marker. Kids can hang up the purple fabric on their clothesline.
- **When Paul told Lydia about Jesus, what happened?** She believed and decided to follow Jesus.
- **God's message goes everywhere!**

ACTIVITY | Here, There, Everywhere

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids sit in a circle. Go around the circle and have kids say the name of any place (city, state, county, or even something like the park or school). After each kid says their place, the rest of the group should jump up and yell "God's message can go there!"
- **Is there anywhere God's message can't go? No! God's message goes everywhere!**

MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

- People don't always get God's message all at once. Sometimes, they get the message piece by piece, a little at a time, until they start to understand.
- It's like getting something delivered in separate boxes, like today's memory verse!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Break the memory verse down into seven sections and write each section on an index card. Put the index cards inside seven identical boxes, labeled 1-7 on the bottom. Shuffle them around and have kids come up one at a time and try to figure out which box is number 1. Do this until someone picks the right box, then take the card out and read it out loud. Then remove box 1 from the mix. Shuffle the remaining boxes around and continue until all the memory verse parts are found. Recite the entire verse together at the end.
- **"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!"**

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTION:** Print and distribute this week's coloring page along with crayons or markers. Discuss today's Bible story and Big Idea as kids color.

ACTIVITY | Fingerprint Map

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a printable. Provide blue and green stamp pads. Let kids take turns placing fingerprints on the map, green on land and blue on water. Try to fill the entire map! For less mess, give them an object they can use as a stamp such as a pencil eraser.

ACTIVITY | Extra! Extra!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare rolled-up newspaper the kids can practice throwing into a target (e.g., laundry basket or cardboard box). Each time they make it in, have kids yell, "Extra! Extra! Read all about it! God's love goes everywhere!"

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.