

3-6 | May 31

Bible Story: Heaven • *Revelation 21:3-5*

Bottom Line: God will make everything right in the end.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* • Galatians 6:9 NIV

1. Opening Activity

What You Need:

- Offering container

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Instruct the group to stand in a circle, shoulder to shoulder.
- Instruct everyone to reach into the circle and grab the hands of two different people, but not the people standing directly next to them. The result will be a large, human knot.
- Explain the challenge: "Without letting go of the hands you are holding, work together to untangle yourselves and form a single, unbroken circle."
- This will require a lot of communication, twisting, turning, and stepping over and/or under arms.
- Encourage kids not to give up, even when it seems impossible.

What You Say:

"That was seriously challenging! There were moments when you felt completely stuck, right? But you had to persevere and talk to each other to figure it out. You couldn't give up. Our journey through life can sometimes feel like a tangled knot, especially when things are confusing, and we don't know the way out. But today's story gives us the ultimate hope for how God will untangle everything in the end. Let's go hear more!"

2. Finish the Drawing

What You Need:

- Bible
- Paper
- Coloring supplies

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Open your Bible and read Revelation 21:3-5 out loud to the kids.
- Share the following points:
 - This is your future that's coming!
 - God is going to move His home, heaven, down to earth, and we will live with Him forever!
 - There will be no more sadness, crying, or pain in our forever home.
 - God's going to fix everything that's broken to make it new!
- Give each kid a piece of paper and a marker.
- Say, "Our story today is about our forever home! There are a lot of things that we don't know about our forever home. But God did tell us some things about it in these verses! We do know that God is going to fix what's broken and make it new! 'New' starts with the letter N! On this piece of paper, draw the letter N."
- Say, "Now use your imagination and turn your letter N into something brand new!"
- Give the kids a few minutes to use their imagination.
- Let the kids who want to share show their new drawing to the group.
- Remember, our forever home is the new earth where God has fixed what is broken. And the New Jerusalem has come down too!"

What You Say:

"Wow, look at all these creative pictures! They look brand new! They don't even look like the letter N anymore!"

"Our true story from the Bible tells us that in our forever home, there will be no more crying or sadness. One of our Bible verses from today says, *He who was sitting on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' (Revelation 21:5a NIV)*. How incredible is that? At the end of time, God's rescue plan will be complete. He will make things exactly as He always wanted. God will live with people, just like in the Garden of Eden! And God will take away all the sadness, sickness, and death that entered the world after the fall. He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Everything that's hard and painful will be made right again. **[Bottom Line] God will make everything right in the end.**"

3. Remove the Tears

What You Need:

- Bible
- Blue paper plates
- Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Draw a sad face with a tear on the blue side of each plate.
- On the back side of each plate, draw a big happy face.
- Scatter the plates all over the floor with the sad side facing up.

During the Activity:

- Open your Bible and read Revelation 21:3-5 out loud to the kids.
- Share the following points:
 - This is your future that's coming!
 - God is going to move His home, heaven, down to earth, and we will live with Him forever!
 - There will be no more sadness, crying, or pain in our forever home.
 - God's going to fix everything that's broken to make it new!
- Tell the kids that today's Bible Story says that one day, in our forever home, God will wipe away every tear. There will be no more sadness.
- Explain the game: "This room is full of sad tears! Let's get rid of them. When I say, 'Go!' your job is to race around and flip over all the plates so that only the happy faces are showing."
- Say "Go!" and let the kids race to flip all the plates.
- Cheer them on as they work together to "remove the tears."
- Challenge:
 - Time the kids to see if they can beat their previous time.
 - Break the group up into two teams and see which team has the fastest time.

What You Say:

"You did it! Look! All the sadness is gone, and now we only see happy faces. This is what the Bible promises our forever home with God will be like. No more crying, no more being sad or hurt. It's the best promise ever, and it gives us hope to keep going.

"If you're going through something hard, ask God for help. He will go with you every step of the way. And then let your future with God, that's going to be so good, help you get through the hard things now! We know that **[Bottom Line] God will make everything right in the end.**"

EveryChild Pro-Tips

- *Arrange plates on a table so all kids can reach the plates.*
- *Play in a smaller, designated area of the room to make the activity less overwhelming for kids who may have sensory sensitivities to large, open spaces.*

4. Pray

"Dear God, thank You for the promise of heaven. Thank You that one day, You will wipe away every tear and make all the sad things new again. Help us to have hope and to keep going because we know You will make everything right in the end. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."