

LEADER'S GUIDE

YOUNGER CHILDREN

BIG PICTURE:

PSALMS

BIG IDEA:

ENTER HIS GATES

BIG POINT:

PRAISE GOD WITH A THANKFUL HEART

BIG WORD:

"FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE FOUNDATION OF TRUE WISDOM. ALL WHO OBEY HIS COMMANDMENTS WILL GROW IN WISDOM. PRAISE HIM FOREVER!" PSALM 111:10 (NLT)



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DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture PSALMS. It contains an outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

The BIG 'Psalms, Proverbs, Parables - Wisdom for Life' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.



Learning Outcomes

- At the conclusion of this lesson children will:
- Discover the book of Psalms.
 - Understand that when we live with gratitude we praise God with thankful hearts.
 - Learn about the life of king David.

BIG POINT:

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KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

CONNECT TIME

What is something that always makes you smile?

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. What is something you're thankful for?

We can be thankful for almost anything! We're thankful for our family and friends. We're thankful for sunshine and laughter, puppy dogs and kitty cats. We can be thankful to God for really big things, like healing someone who was sick. We can also be thankful to God for things that might seem small, like being able to visit the beach or for enjoying our favourite food. When we live with gratitude we praise God with thankful hearts.

2. What kind of heart did king David have?

King David had a heart that loved God and was thankful. Psalm 100:4 (NIV) "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."

David praised God with a thankful heart no matter what situation he was in, he was thankful to God for just about everything!

3. Where can we find wisdom for our life?

God's word is full of wisdom for our lives. Some of the books of the Bible are called "wisdom books". One of these is the book of Psalms. In the Psalms we see the story of God and His people, we learn thankfulness and praise, prayer and hope. We discover God and His nature and we see His plan unfold. And in the Psalms we see Jesus, through prophesy that foretold what was to come. God's word gives us wisdom for life. Psalm 119:66 (CEV) "Give me wisdom and good sense. I trust your commands."



ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the activity sheets in this time.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: To encourage the children to think about things that they are grateful for.

Directions: Give each child an 'Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving' page. Help them to cut along the solid lines and fold along the dotted lines. Children can colour in the design of the gates on the front of their page and then open up the card to draw some things that they're thankful to God for.

Explanation: There is so much to be thankful to God for! When we live with an attitude of gratitude, we praise God with a thankful heart. Psalm 100:4 (NIV) "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."

BIG WORD

"Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom. All who obey his commandments will grow in wisdom. Praise him forever!" Psalm 111:10 (NLT)

Give each child a 'Big Word Heart Puzzle' page to colour in. While they are colouring, repeat the verse together four times. Next, children can cut along the solid lines to make a puzzle! Ask them to mix up the pieces and then try to put their Big Word heart puzzle together. Now repeat the verse again before giving each child an envelope to write their name and put their puzzle pieces in to take home.

GAME

Snapshot

Before the lesson mark out a circle using masking tape on the ground or have the children stand in a circle and choose one child to be the Photo Snapper. Children must stay within the circle space you have marked out. The child in the middle is given a digital camera, show them how to snap a photo and position their finger over the button before placing a blindfold over their eyes. The rest of the children stand in a circle around the snapper and count to ten whilst trying to avoid being caught in any pictures. The photo snapper listens for where the children are and tries to take photos of them. When they get down to zero, check how many children were caught in the photos, the photo snapper is given 10 points per child in each photo. Play again giving a different child a turn to be the photo snapper in the middle.

PRAYER

Dear God,

You're mighty, powerful, loving, kind and worthy to be praised. Thank You that You give us so much to be thankful for, help us to keep an attitude of gratitude!

In Jesus name, Amen

Supplies Needed:

'Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving' page (printed double sided) for each child from the print material files, scissors, coloured pencils.

Supplies Needed:

'Big Word Heart Puzzle' page printed for each child from the print material files, scissors, coloured pencils, envelope for each child (to keep their puzzle pieces in).

Supplies Needed:

Digital Camera, blindfold, masking tape or chairs.