

LEADER'S GUIDE

PRESCHOOL AND TODDLERS

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.

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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.

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. In what book can we find God's wisdom?

The Bible! God's Word gives us wisdom for life. Psalm 119:66 (CEV) "Give me wisdom and good sense. I trust your commands."

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."

PLAYTIME LEARNING ACTIVITY

Before the lesson make some paper plate faces by drawing different emotions (happy, sad, worried, sick, joyful) on each plate and attaching a craft stick to the back of the plate.

Hold up each paper plate face and ask the children to say what emotion they think it is showing. Next, hold up each paper plate and say "When you're _____ (happy, sad, worried, sick, joyful)" and the children respond by saying "Praise God with a thankful heart".

We learn from the Psalms that David had a thankful heart and we can too! When we live with an attitude of gratitude we praise God with a thankful heart no matter how we're feeling. Psalm 100:4 (NIV) "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." Praise God with a thankful heart!

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.