

WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON



Need to Know: *I Can Believe God*

Bible Story: *Zechariah's Unbelief (Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to church.
2. SAY: *Hey, Junior Rangers! My name is (YOUR NAME), and I'm your small group leader! (SHOW the pocket die) I want to meet each of you rangers, so when it's your turn, you can tell us your name and roll this die. Then we can all act like whatever the die lands on. I'll go first!* (SAY your name again, ROLL the die, and TELL everyone to do the motion on the **Pocket Die Card** that is facing up)
3. PASS the **pocket die** around the group. ALLOW each child to introduce themselves to the group and roll the **pocket die**. Then HAVE everyone do the motion that the **die** landed on.
4. After all kids have been introduced, SAY:
 - *Junior Rangers, if I said, "I promise I'm a real snowflake," would you believe me?* (No)
 - *No! You can see that I'm not really a snowflake! People don't always keep their promises, but I know who does! Do you think God keeps His promises?* (Yes)
 - *Yes! God keeps all of His promises, and we can always believe what He says. So here's what we need to know today. Say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)
 - I Can* (thumbs to chest)
 - Believe* (pat heart)
 - God* (both hands point up)

Read the Bible



If teaching at home- watch today's preschool video playlist on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5XgLEk2Z4V1ao8nWEGaLBw>

If teaching at church- go to large group time

Let's Practice



1. SAY: *God loves you and wants the best for each of you. We're going to play a fun game to help you and me remember that, "I Can Believe God."*
2. PLACE **Snowball Pictures** inside the **bucket**.
3. SAY: *When it's your turn, you will have three tries to get the snowball (SHOW snowball) into the bucket. Then you can pull out one Picture from the bucket for me to read to the group. Let's play!*
4. ALLOW each child to have three turns tossing the **snowball** into the **bucket**. MOVE the **bucket** closer or farther away from the child to assist as needed.
5. After the child has had three turns, ALLOW him/her to select one **Snowball Picture** from the **bucket**. SHOW and READ the **Picture** to the group, and ALLOW the group to respond.
6. CONTINUE until each child has had a turn, or until all **Snowball Pictures** have been discussed. Then SAY:
 - *Great job! God wants you and me to always believe that He will do what He says He will do. Let me hear you say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)
 - I Can* (thumbs to chest)
 - Believe* (pat heart)
 - God* (both hands point up)

Memorize It 4

1. SAY: *When we believe God, we can follow Him, and our friendship with Him will grow! There's a verse from God's Word that I want to teach you. We can say this verse to God any time.*
2. SHOW the **Memory Verse Card**, and HAVE kids repeat the verse after you several times.
 - "God, (both hands point up)
 - You are my God.* (thumbs to chest)
 - I want to follow You."* (pretend to pray)
 - Psalm 63:1* (make book with hands)

Let's Pray 5

PRAY with your group, having them repeat after you in short phrases:

- *Dear God, thank You for loving me. Please help me remember that I can always believe You! I love You! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

Stay Together 6

1. KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:
 - PLACE the **crayons** in the center of the group. GIVE kids **Memory Verse Coloring Sheets** to color and take home. As kids color, ASK:
 - *Does God love you all the time or only sometimes?* (All the time) *Yes! God wants you to believe that He will always love you.*
 - (SHOW pocket die from "Circle Up") *Which of these would you like to see if you were walking in the snowy forest?*
 - ROLL the **jumbo number die**. HAVE kids repeat the memory verse after you, based on what number the die lands on:
 - 1 - As fast as they can, just like rabbits
 - 2 - As quiet as falling snowflakes
 - 3 - As slow as a sleepy polar bear
 - 4 - In a low, deep voice like a wise, old owl
 - 5 - In a squeaky, high-pitched voice like a tiny mouse
 - 6 - In a singing voice, like angels
 - EXPLAIN and PLAY "Polar Bear, Polar Bear! Where Are You?" Game
 - One child will sit in the center of the group, with his/her eyes closed, and the **polar bear** in front of him/her.
 - While the child has his/her eyes closed, GIVE the **polar bear** to another child in the group to hide (in hand, under leg, in pocket, behind back, etc.).
 - Once the **polar bear** is hidden, you and the group SAY: *"Polar bear, polar bear! Where are you?"*
 - The child sitting in the center of the group can open their eyes and will have three chances to guess who has the **polar bear**.
 - If the child guesses correctly or at the end of the three guesses, the **polar bear** will be revealed and the two children will switch places.
 - CONTINUE until each child has a chance to sit in the center and guess.
 - USE the **polar bear** to play "Polar Bear Says" with the following moves, or come up with your own.

*NOTE: SAY, "Polar bear says," before each motion.

 - Touch your toes - Spin around - Flap arms like an owl - Pat knees
 - Touch your nose - Reach up high - Stomp feet - Clap hands